

Necropolis 1131

Chapter 1131: Punishment

This outcome of the Inception prince challenging the nine divine sects was wholly unexpected. He'd picked a fight with the Nirvana princess over a friend!

The delegations of the six sacred palaces exchanged awkward glances while the nine divine sects delighted in schadenfreude. The only one unhappy was the fire elemental divine sect, since it was their greatest genius under Lu Yun's foot.

"You're a stubborn one." Lu Yun increased the pressure on his foot and ground Chi Wuxia's head into the mud. "I'll let him go if you let Wei Yuan go." He stared coldly at the Nirvana princess.

The six sacred monarchs didn't say anything, but the Nirvana monarch looked murderously at the princess, a glare that was tinged with deep resignation. He'd personally ordered that Wei Yuan be sent to the Nirvana Sea of Flames for further cultivation, but he hadn't thought that the Nirvana princess would appear to agree, only to imprison the boy.

However, he didn't thunder into an immediate rage. He wanted to take advantage of this opportunity to see how many stood on the princess' side.

Quite a few sighs of relief could be heard in the Nirvana contingent when their monarch remained quiet. The monarch was such a noble and exalted being—how could he possibly take up arms for a mortal realm disciple? The Inception prince interfering with internal Nirvana affairs was a provocation in and of itself!

"Wei Yuan betrayed the palace and lied to the monarch. As the princess of Nirvana Palace, I naturally have the right and obligation to punish him. You have defeated my son in the arena. Kill him or humiliate him, do as you will." The Nirvana princess looked tenderly at her son. "Wuxia, do you remember what you once said? Everything you're experiencing now is just tempering for your heart and mind. It will strengthen you and build you up. Everything remains possible as long as you are alive.

"I will protect your soul force well. Fret not, you will one day win back vengeance with your own hands. If he destroys your bloodline, then I will make it whole with Wei Yuan's." She'd stripped Wei Yuan of his nirvana phoenix bloodline to prepare it for her son.

"Mhmm!" Chi Wuxia's mouth was a mess of blood and bone after Lu Yun knocked out all of his teeth. However, unyielding ruthlessness glinted out of his eyes. He swept a glance over Lu Yun and nodded firmly.

"In that case, you can't blame me for this then." Lu Yun could tell that, in order to obtain the Thousand Obliteration Formation of the Six Royals, the Nirvana princess would stop at nothing and never let Wei Yuan off the hook.

"Your Majesty of Nirvana Palace, Chi Wuxia isn't one of yours. Nothing I do today should count as an insult toward Nirvana Palace, correct?" he suddenly called out to the towering figure among the Nirvana delegation.

"He is a Nirvana disciple only after becoming a sovereign," the monarch responded expressionlessly.

“That’s good.” Lu Yun took a deep breath and his voice took on a hollow, ethereal quality. “I recall a combat art that draws upon the retribution within a life form’s body to destroy its five senses and six sensory organs.”

The five senses were of taste, touch, hearing, sight, and smell, while the six sensory organs were the eyes, ears, nose, tongue, skin, and consciousness.

When Wayfarer—Fuxi—arrived in the world of immortals and ran afoul of its demon, he’d had to cast off his own senses and organs, allowing them to become living entities of their own. Only his consciousness had remained with which to perceive the world around him.

The Nirvana princess shifted slightly uneasily at Lu Yun’s words, but she remained unmoved. Someone had once used the same method to try and locate a weakness in the nirvana phoenix art of rebirth. But once a nirvana phoenix was reborn, all previous injuries and wounds were erased.

Thus, the nirvana phoenixes were almost an indestructible race within the chaos. They could be weakened, but never fully exterminated. As long as a strand of soul force remained, they could be reborn an infinite number of times and continuously erase any injuries they’d received.

A wily hare has three holes to his burrow, so nirvana phoenixes would separate out nine strands of soul force and hide them in nine different places. Given how fragile soul force was, most of them were hidden within Nirvana Palace. The Nirvana princess had located all nine of Wei Yuan’s and destroyed them all.

Within the Tomb of Heaven and Earth, Wei Yuan had always acted like he feared death the most out of the group. But after the Six Royals swore friendship to each other, he was always the first to charge forward to protect the others in crucial moments.

Lu Yun wouldn’t have set himself against the Nirvana princess like this otherwise.

.....

The Nirvana princess still didn’t think much of Lu Yun’s words, but Chi Wuxia registered them with great dismay.

Retribution!

When Lu Yun destroyed Chi Wuxia’s weapon, he’d done so by reducing it to ashes through triggering the latent retribution in the weapon. Chi Wuxia had gotten a handle on how Lu Yun’s art operated, which was why he set foot in the arena with full confidence. As long as he hid his own retribution, Lu Yun wouldn’t be able to use the same art on him.

Thus, all of his hairs stood on end when Chi Wuxia heard the word “retribution”. Lu Yun’s discovered the retribution I’ve hidden in my body!

Only one thing was on his mind now—self detonation. He could be reborn through one of his strands of soul force and escape this situation.

But just as the thought occurred to him, Lu Yun stomped on his chest and broke apart the agitating ball of energy within his body so that Chi Wuxia couldn’t self detonate.

“Princess of Nirvana Palace, your son is afraid. He wanted to self detonate just now. Do you really not want to think things over a bit more?” Lu Yun asked again.

“Hmph!” A cold snort was her only response.

“Chi Wuxia, the method beyond the chaos that you practice is the one contained within the treasure that cursed the chaos dragons. Its sharpest edge comes from the power of retribution.

“Last time, I destroyed the weapon by igniting the retribution within it. And now, though you’ve concealed the retribution within your body, I can fish it back out again.” Lu Yun leered at Chi Wuxia with an incredibly sinister smile.

“Mother!! Save me!!” Chi Wuxia suddenly screamed, a pleading note in his voice.

He really was afraid. He knew that Lu Yun truly did have the ability to strip away his five senses and six sensory organs, and to take them away forever. While he would still be alive and could be reborn, he would be essentially the same as dead! His consciousness would be banished to complete nothingness.

A faint black sparkle was already materializing on Lu Yun’s finger tip. Since he was now in the empyrean realm, his death arts had evolved a number of times. The originally one note Judgement of Life and Death now possessed many more nuances to it.

The Judgement of Life and Death wasn’t an art to kill someone, but to deliver punishment. As long as there was retribution in Chi Wuxia’s body, Lu Yun could use it to carry out numerous punishments on him. Stripping him of his senses was one such punishment, and a rather cruel one.

“Don’t worry, my son. There is no one in the chaos or even the third realm beyond who can bypass our art of rebirth,” the Nirvana princess reassured with equanimity. “The Nirvana monarch wanted to kill me a long time ago, but he can’t overcome my art. Therefore, I remain the princess and he the monarch.”

The Nirvana monarch’s face spasmed after these words and shocked gasps echoed through the Nirvana crowd.

“Since the Nirvana princess has said as such, then I won’t hold back.” Lu Yun pointed at the center of Chi Wuxia’s brows.

Chapter 1132: Avici Hell

“Stop!” A fiery figure bounded onto the Inception Spiritrial Arena.

“Huo Zongxing?? What’s he doing back here?” Surprise rippled through the crowd. Lu Yun had thrown him off the stage with one kick earlier, but here he was again. Was that first round of humiliation not enough?

“So you’ve come back.” Lu Yun retracted the finger pointing at Chi Wuxia and cracked a half smile at Huo Zongxing. “To think that I would misjudge people sometimes too. You’re the strongest out of the nine divine sects.”

“What??” More incredulity rose and fell among the crowd. The strongest out of the nine divine sects?

Huo Zongxing?

He was Huo Shentong's nephew and usually used his uncle's name for all manner of wrongdoing. He was the walking definition of a good-for-nothing and only sixth level mortal realm. Since when did he become the strongest out of the nine divine sects?

It might be understandable if he was the greatest genius, but strongest of them all?

The six sacred monarchs looked at each other, their worry evident. Huo Zongxing's existence was a concern to them all.

.....

Huo Zongxing ignored the general reaction and looked steadily at Lu Yun. "Will fellow daoist show me some face and let him go?"

"I can show you face, but she doesn't show me any." Lu Yun pointed in the direction of the Nirvana delegation.

"The six monarchs have stepped forward to be your backers, making it so that the experts of the nine divine sects don't dare suppress you. Just this alone means that it'll be an easy task to rescue your friend." Huo Zongxing crinkled his red brows.

The fire origin divine sect suddenly felt that he was very unfamiliar to them. Though he still looked the same and held himself in the same way, he was somehow completely different and no longer who he was before. Standing in the middle of the fire origin delegation, a livid Huo Shentong looked on with a deep streak of worry.

"Oh?" Lu Yun snorted with laughter and tapped the air with his crooked finger, sending a ray of black light into Chi Wuxia's body.

The disciple wailed and coughed out a mouthful of black smoke.

"Out with whatever crap you've got, I don't have time to waste with you. I just stripped him of his sense of taste. If you keep up with this shit, I'll just strip him of all five senses and six organs." Lu Yun turned frostily aloof.

The Nirvana princess had been clear just now that there was nothing her monarch could do to her, which was why both of them remained at peace with each other.

In Lu Yun and Qing Yu's calculations, the only way to save Wei Yuan was to threaten her with her son Chi Wuxia. This unexpected interference from a random Huo Zongxing set Lu Yun on edge.

Eyes slightly closed, the Nirvana princess didn't care what was happening in the arena. She was fully confident in the art of the nirvana phoenixes. Losing one's five senses and six sensory organs? Nirvana phoenixes could recover from even death, so these injuries were nothing at all.

.....

"Prince of Inception Palace, you can do whatever you'd like if you want to create trouble for your palace and the other person behind you," Huo Zongxing continued. "I'm not saying this for Chi Wuxia's, but for your own good. You can't afford to provoke the heritage that Chi Wuxia received.

“If you continue down this misbegotten path, the one behind you won’t be able to protect you. Inception Palace will be reduced to dust, and even the five other sacred palaces will be cursed unto eternity.

“My warning ends here, take care.” Huo Zongxing leapt off the Inception Spiritrial Arena.

Chi Wuxia brightened when he heard these words, recalling something as well.

“Pressuring me with groundless fabrications?” Lu Yun shook his head and tapped the air again, taking Chi Wuxia’s sense of smell. “Princess of Nirvana Palace, it looks like you think I’m blowing hot air. Well then, you can’t blame me for doing this.”

Lu Yun sighed softly when he saw that his Nirvana counterpart remained completely unmoved. Wei Yuan... was in no danger of losing his life for now, but undergoing torment and torture was a given. Whatever Lu Yun did to Chi Wuxia now would be repaid in full, and then some, onto Wei Yuan. I hope he can stay strong through it all and treat it as some kind of tempering of body and mind.

The consciousness and memories of the sacred clan were protected by the highest orders. No one could scan their mind, or Wei Yuan would’ve already died ten times over.

Lu Yun deployed the punishments within the Judgment of Life and Death to their utmost, taking Chi Wuxia’s vision, hearing, touch, and the organs associated with them.

Chi Wuxia suddenly discovered that he could no longer sense the outside world, including his own body. His mind had been exiled to a void of nothingness.

He couldn’t walk or move. He had a mouth, but couldn’t form any words. Ears, but couldn’t hear. A nose that couldn’t smell, and eyes that couldn’t see. His body no longer registered sensation and even his consciousness had vanished. In this world of the mind, everything about him and the world around him was gone. He was just a ball of thoughts, adrift in a wash of eternity.

Never ending, never dying, sealed away in a dream. Interminable in body, form, and time. This was the most terrifying portion of the human dao hell—the Avici Hell.

Lu Yun had always thought that the final, eighteenth level of hell was the Avici Hell. But when his Judgment of Life and Death reached these heights, he realized that his previous understanding was incorrect.

The Avici Hell wasn’t a tangible hell. If one possessed retribution in their bodies, this hell was everywhere to be found.

.....

An expressionless Lu Yun stood next to Chi Wuxia’s prone form. If the nine divine sects were to march on the underworld, Chi Wuxia would certainly be a lethal killing machine. Thus, Lu Yun would’ve had to find a way to remove him from the picture even if it wasn’t for Wei Yuan.

Chi Wuxia currently lay still in the arena, his presence completely vanished. If it wasn’t for the rise and fall of his chest, he would be no different from dead.

Finally, Lu Yun kicked him off the Inception Spiritrial Arena, greatly surprising the fire origin divine sect. The Inception prince really had left their genius alive after only stripping him of his senses!

Lu Yun didn't say another word as he sat down cross-legged, mentally putting everything back in order.

His past self practiced the great dao of the mythological realm, a path that may not be suitable for current methods. He would one day be beset by disaster if he continued relying on his past self in all things. The greatest meaning in the existence of his past self was the dao fruit, and not its experiences.

Thus, Lu Yun wanted to make use of this challenge to the nine divine sects to add to his current self's experiences and combine it with his past. He would keep only the purest essence and expel the dross.

Silence reigned among the nine divine sects. The Inception Spiritrial Arena had cut through space to block their doors, but there was no one among them who dared step forward to answer the challenge anymore.

If Lu Yun's battle with Jin Gushen had allowed them a wisp of hope, his face slaps of Chi Wuxia spoke despairingly of overwhelming domination.

The sacred prince of Inception Palace had become an inescapable nightmare for all cultivators of the nine divine sects.

Chapter 1133: Rebirth of a Nirvana Phoenix

Lu Yun sat silently in the middle of the Inception Spiritrial Arena, not shifting an inch. He'd stilled all of the nine divine sects with his strength alone. No one dared step forward in challenge—all of their courage was swept away by his fearsome face slaps.

The nine divine sect's original plan had been to conquer the underworld first and use it as a springboard with which to destroy the world of immortals, then slowly devour the rest of the worlds.

But now, in this moment, all of their courage had utterly vanished. Under these circumstances, no one dared confront anyone anymore, not unless someone could defeat Lu Yun in the arena.

The more that the Tomb of Heaven and Earth assimilated into the underworld, the smaller that realm became. Cultivators of the nine divine sects that'd made inroads into the underworld had no other choice but to retreat out of the battlegrounds and return to their own sects. They weren't able to complete their conquest in time.

.....

Nirvana Palace.

The Nirvana princess couldn't be bothered with Lu Yun in the arena. He was invincible on its stage, but it'd be all too easy to kill him once he left it.

All she cared about was her son.

"How is he?" she politely asked an elder in front of her.

This old man's name was Mo Youdao and he was the foremost pill dao grandmaster within the chaos. His pill dao had long since reached mystical heights, to the point of turning the foul and rotten into the rare and ethereal. No matter how severe the ailment, his pills could heal it from the root.

Even the six sacred monarchs treated Mo Youdao with respect when meeting the old man.

Out of concern for her son, the Nirvana princess had spared no expense to bring Mo Youdao to Nirvana Palace.

"Sir Chi hasn't suffered any physical injury." The old man shook his head after a careful observation. "From the surface, it looks like someone's robbed him of certain soul parts."

"What?!" Horror crossed the princess' face.

Though Chi Wuxia could be reborn, he would have to start over from the beginning if he utilized that combat art. Since he was still alive, the princess wanted to cure him if possible. Though Lu Yun had explained that he was going to strip Chi Wuxia of his five senses and six sensory organs, none other than Chi Wuxia could fully understand the experience.

"Strange, very strange... All signs point to his soul parts being taken, but his soul is complete without any harm. How very odd." Mo Youdao's brows drew together in a tight frown after some calculations, at a bit of a loss.

"The rat said he was stripping my son of his five senses and six sensory organs!" the princess hurriedly explained.

"His five senses and six sensory organs?" Mo Youdao widened his eyes and placed two fingers at the center of Chi Wuxia's brows. He continued after a long pause, "This person is most likely an awe-inspiring personage. Did one of the sacred monarchs do this?"

Though all of the chaos knew that Lu Yun had blockaded the doors of the nine divine sects, Mo Youdao spent his days studying pill dao and completely abstained from the affairs of the outside world. He wouldn't even have come this time if it wasn't for the Nirvana princess personally extending an invitation.

"...the prince of Inception Palace did this." The Nirvana princess' heart sank when she heard Mo Youdao's analysis.

"I see," Mo Youdao murmured. It remained unknown as to whether or not he truly knew of this sacred prince. "There are many ways to take the five senses and six sensory organs, the most common of which is through attacking the physical body.

"The eyes, for example, can be stabbed or dug out. That will rob the victim of their sight and organ of sight at the same time. A situation like this can be remedied by pills to regrow the eyes and recover vision.

"A more sophisticated method would be to employ secret arts to hoodwink the nascent soul and sever its connection with the physical body. That will also affect the five senses and six organs, and such an art can be voided by swapping out for a new body." Mo Youdao shook his head as he examined Chi Wuxia in detail.

“Then my son...”

“When beings reach third level mortal realm, they can utilize the orders of the chaos to refine a true spirit from the soul.” Instead of answering the Nirvana princess, Mo Youdao continued muttering to himself, “The so-called soul is a combination of true spirit and soul parts. It forms the basis of the living being.”

The Nirvana princess continued frowning. She knew everything that the pill grandmaster spoke of, and he spoke of everything but what was afflicting her son.

“Many people think that all creatures have a chance of rebirth once they form their true spirit, as long as the true spirit remains. However, that notion is incorrect.

“The true spirit is the essence of the soul parts as derived by the orders of the chaos. Thus, the true spirit bears the seeds of the soul parts. As long as that remains, the true spirit can reform the three ethereal souls and seven corporeal souls, making the soul whole again.”

Mo Youdao stroked his beard of pure silver and looked keenly at Chi Wuxia, sending two rays of white light glittering out of his eyes.

The Nirvana princess’ patience was rapidly running out, but she had to soldier on for the sake of her son.

“Everyone thinks that the five senses and six organs come from the physical body, but that is a mistaken notion.” The grandmaster had finally reached his main point. “The physical body is a shell, and the nascent spirit a transport for the soul. Everything that pertains to the physical body comes from the soul.

“Sir Chi’s physical body is unharmed, his nascent spirit undamaged, and even his soul parts intact...”

“His true spirit!” shrieked the princess. “That rat harmed my son’s true spirit??”

“Correct.” Mo Youdao nodded. “I suspect that the Inception prince used a unique combat art to harm the seeds of the soul parts inside Sir Chi’s true spirit. The five senses and six organs come from the soul parts, but their true core lies within those seeds!

“Of this, this old man can do nothing,” sighed Mo Youdao. “However, there are two methods within the chaos that can save your son.”

“Which two?” The Nirvana princess looked on hopefully.

“The first method utilizes the talents of the nirvana phoenixes. When your art of rebirth is employed, even a scattered true spirit can be resurrected. However, that means the complete loss of your son’s cultivation and starting over entirely from the beginning.”

“The second?” The Nirvana princess asked hastily.

“The six sacred monarchs can direct the six greatest orders and shift the thousands of other orders within the chaos to recast your son’s true spirit.”

"I can't say for certain about the other five... but the old fart in charge of Nirvana will never agree to that." A ghastly smile spread across the princess' face. "It looks like I'm unable to save my son's cultivation in the end."

Bam.

Having run through her options, she acted decisively and reduced Chi Wuxia's body to dust with one blow. His soul parts and true spirit scattered upon the air. She then beckoned with her other hand and formed a tiny gray flame in her palm. There seemed to be a tiny phoenix slowly growing larger there.

Rebirth!

One of the innate combat arts of the nirvana phoenixes, the art of rebirth.

The little phoenix was the size of the palm after just a hundred breaths—the nirvana phoenix version of the art was extremely fast and didn't require the user to return to the egg.

"Hmm?!" Standing next to the Nirvana princess and observing the process of rebirth. Mo Youdao jerked with shock. "The injuries of Chi Wuxia's true spirit still exist... his senses and organs haven't returned!"

Chapter 1134: In Order To Untie A Bell, the One Who Tied It Is Necessary

The Nirvana princess glowered menacingly at the declaration, but didn't say anything. She fixed her eyes on the tiny phoenix in front of her. It grew steadily bigger within the divine nirvana fire and in the end, a Chi Wuxia returned to human form lay quietly in the void.

His eyes were slightly open, but there was no light in them.

"My son, can you see your mother?" The Nirvana princess whispered quietly next to his ears. However, Chi Wuxia remained listless. If it wasn't for the rise and fall of his chest, he would be as good as dead.

The art of rebirth had failed.

Or rather, using the art of rebirth to restore his five senses and six organs had failed. With the disappearance of the five senses, Chi Wuxia could no longer see, hear, smell, taste, or touch. The further destruction of his six sensory organs cut off all mobility and perception of the outside world to him.

"Will he really recover if the six monarchs are willing to utilize the six highest orders to reforge his true spirit?" The princess whirled around and looked pleadingly at Mo Youdao.

"No," the old man sighed. "If even the art of rebirth of the nirvana phoenixes has failed, then the result will be the same even if the monarchs make an attempt."

The light faded from the Nirvana princess' eyes as she stared helplessly at Mo Youdao.

"Is there really no other way?" A tiny bit of hope still flitted around her voice. She shook and trembled like a woman drowning, trying to grab onto any driftwood in the area. "I'll pay any price there is, even if it means my life!"

All of a sudden, any method beyond the chaos or the Thousand Obliteration Formation of the Six Royals was inconsequential compared to her son.

Pity flashed through Mo Youdao's eyes to see the Nirvana princess this way.

"There are two personages in the chaos whose existence has exceeded our realm," he sighed. "One of them is the insubstantial sword, Violetgrave, and the other is Senior Lu within the chaos sea.

"No one knows where the sword may be. It may be in the third realm or in the worlds... But Senior Lu once appeared within the chaos sea and I was so fortunate as to meet him then. Perhaps if he was willing, he'd be able to save Chi Wuxia.

"However—"

"We go to the chaos sea!" The Nirvana princess interrupted and picked up Chi Wuxia, ready to be on her way.

"The chaos sea has already vanished." Mo Youdao shook his head. "It's Senior Lu's treasure. When I came here, I saw him retract it and charge into the depths of the chaos with it. I don't know where he's gone."

The Nirvana princess sank to the floor, all of her strength escaping out of her limbs.

"There's a much easier way to save him." Mo Youdao frowned to see her bleak expression. "In order to untie a bell, the one who tied it is necessary. You should go talk to the Inception prince, perhaps he will have a way."

"Right, right! The prince of Inception Palace!" Light and hope flooded back into her face. "If he could take my son's senses and organs, then he can bring them back! ...Wei Yuan! Right, he wants Wei Yuan! I just need to give Wei Yuan back to him!"

Still holding her son, the Nirvana princess vanished on the spot.

Staring at the spot where she'd vanished, Mo Youdao sighed softly. "Perhaps Senior Lu wouldn't be able to help Chi Wuxia either. The only one who can do so is the prince of Inception Palace.

"...so he's the Inception prince," the old man murmured to himself. Plainly, he knew Lu Yun.

.....

Three years.

Three years had passed in the world of immortals. Lu Yun had also sat in the Inception Spiritrial Arena for three years.

There was no passage of time in the chaos, so three years wasn't much to the chaos creatures.

He sat silently in the arena during this period of time. Only once did an ancient heavyweight—about to break through to sovereign realm—come to challenge him. Lu Yun defeated him in the simplest way possible and sent him into the next cultivation realm.

And then, sovereigns from the Inception Palace took the challenger away.

No one dared challenge Lu Yun after that.

On this day, the Nirvana princess reappeared on stage with Chi Wuxia in her arms. A sheepish Wei Yuan followed behind them.

“Prince of Inception Palace, I was in the wrong before. I now return Wei Yuan to you, so please free my son!” The Nirvana princess carefully placed Chi Wuxia in front of Lu Yun and bowed to the prince, sending shocked gasps and murmurings through the nine divine sects and six sacred palaces.

Previously full of confidence and self assurance, the Nirvana princess had come back with Chi Wuxia!

In addition, everyone noticed that Chi Wuxia was now a mortal soul. There were no ripples of cultivation emanating from his body. Plainly, he’d undergone a cycle of rebirth. However, the great genius remained in deep sleep—or rather, a fake death. The rebirth art of the nirvana phoenixes had failed!

Not only had the Nirvana princess returned with Wei Yuan, but she was admitting fault to Lu Yun!

“Alright, just leave Chi Wuxia here and go back with Wei Yuan. He’s one of yours, all you need to do is treat him right in the future.” Lu Yun waved a hand.

“...understood.” The Nirvana princess didn’t dare give a hint of dissatisfaction, deathly afraid that Lu Yun would change his mind.

“Thanks, brother.” Wei Yuan naturally knew that everything taking place at the moment and Chi Wuxia’s current stage was all for him.

Lu Yun grinned at the newly freed Six Royal. “You’ve fallen behind, Wei Yuan. The five of us are all sixth level mortal realm now. You’re the only one not here yet.”

“Don’t worry, I’ll be right there!” Wei Yuan answered confidently.

.....

Wei Yuan left with the Nirvana princess, leaving only Chi Wuxia in front of Lu Yun. However, the princess didn’t go far. She only returned to the Nirvana delegation and closely observed the events of the arena.

“Look at you, you were a fine person to begin with, but you’ve been destroyed by that cursed method. You probably knew of its failings too, which was why you didn’t pass it on to your mother.” Lu Yun looked over Chi Wuxia and lightly knocked on his forehead three times. “If you really were fool enough to teach that method to your mother, then your family wouldn’t be the only ones struck with misfortune. The entire nirvana phoenix race would likely pay the price.”

Chi Wuxia’s body seemed to tremble.

“The nirvana phoenixes are creatures born from the order of nirvana. Your divine nirvana fire is incredibly strong. If your race continued down that path, it would only be a matter of time before you ascended beyond the chaos.

“Why imitate the chaos dragons and use an outsider’s method over your own?” Lu Yun continued knocking on Chi Wuxia’s forehead. The genius trembled with every knock.

“Oh, I get it.” A sudden thought occurred to Lu Yun. “It wasn’t actually your opportunity that the weapon cursing the chaos dragons came into your hand. Someone orchestrated it all, didn’t they? Someone like... Huo Zongxing?”

“Just forget it, forget it all. What the nirvana phoenixes cherish as their Profound Scripture of Rebirth is a massive trap. Just look at what it’s done to you and how weak you are.

“Forget that piece of crap as soon as possible. That’s better for you and everyone else.” Though Lu Yun’s voice wasn’t loud, it traveled clearly into everyone’s ears.

“Someone arrest Huo Zongxing of the fire origin divine sect!” shrieked the Nirvana princess.

Chapter 1135: Imparting Dao

The Nirvana monarch gave the same order at the same time, sending out four sovereigns from Nirvana Palace. But when they set foot in the fire origin divine sect, they found no trace of Huo Zongxing.

He hadn’t returned to the sect after his second departure from the Inception Spiritrial Arena.

“Find him, even if you must turn the chaos upside down!” the Nirvana monarch’s stilted voice sounded again.

“Your Majesty, Huo Shentong and a whole host of others connected to Huo Zongxing still remain within the fire origin divine sect,” someone raised in reminder, causing everyone of the sect to tense.

“There’s no need to embroil innocent bystanders into this. Huo Zongxing was the one behind this, no one else was involved,” Lu Yun suddenly spoke up from the arena.

“Mmhmhm.” The Nirvana monarch nodded, setting the fire origin divine sect at ease.

“What’s that about the Profound Scripture of Rebirth?” asked the Nirvana monarch as he looked at Lu Yun.

The monarch of Nirvana Palace was human, not a nirvana phoenix. The nirvana phoenixes were a top race within the nirvana sacred clan. If anything happened to this race, it’d be a devastating blow to the Nirvana Palace.

That the Nirvana princess had retained her position all this time was in part due to the monarch’s inability to break her art of rebirth, but also due out of consideration for this race. They were currently the ones looking most nervously at Lu Yun.

“The Profound Scripture of Rebirth limits the potential of the nirvana phoenixes,” sighed Lu Yun. “This method is also the catalyst of the chaos dragon curse. After all these chaos tribulations, Chi Wuxia is the only one who’s truly grasped the true meaning of this method. Thus, he immediately received the cursed method’s heritage when he entered the Tomb of Heaven and Earth.

“Though the cursed method is one beyond the chaos, it’s an inauspicious method that will result in entanglement by retribution. Practicing it will collect retribution on the wielder and levy a cursed power to curse one’s entire race!

“The chaos dragons’ curse comes from this method as well, but they didn’t practice it. They were affected by the cursed weapon. If the nirvana phoenixes took up this method, they would end up very much like the chaos dragons.

“Chi Wuxia probably discovered this, which is why he didn’t share it with the rest of his kin.” Lu Yun continued knocking on the forehead of the inert body in front of him as he talked.

“Forget the Profound Scripture of Rebirth while you’re at it. The nirvana phoenixes hail from the order of nirvana and possess the divine nirvana fire. Your dao and path is a natural one. Simply following the fire’s guidance will lead you down the proper way, so why cultivate someone else’s?”

The nirvana phoenixes had been taken in by another’s pretty words and gone down the wrong path a long time ago.

“Ah, forget it. If it wasn’t for Wei Yuan being a nirvana phoenix, I wouldn’t be bothered with all this. Listen up now!” Lu Yun suddenly spoke in booming tones that rolled throughout the gathering.

All fell silent throughout the chaos as pure white flowers floated down from above—images of the Dao Flower. Lu Yun was imparting dao!

Just as he once had in the Dao Academy, lecturing on the various combat arts and cultivation methods that he’d derived, so was he now discussing the order of nirvana within the chaos! The sacred prince of Inception Palace was teaching the order of nirvana to the nirvana sacred clan of the Nirvana Palace!

If this had taken place at any other time, he would’ve been laughed off the stage. No one was laughing now.

Petals danced wildly through the air as he spoke and exotic fragrance filled the nose, accompanied by holy music. Plainly, his lecture regarding the order of nirvana truly encompassed this highest order within the chaos.

That only made sense as his past self had cultivated all six orders at the same time and thus ascended beyond the chaos.

Even the Nirvana monarch sat down cross-legged to carefully take in Lu Yun’s lecture. Anyone who noted that sight began to doubt their very lives. However, more and more numbers of chaos creatures were gathering in this area to listen to Lu Yun speak.

The order of nirvana was one of the highest orders of all within the chaos. These six highest orders represented the mainstream daos of the realm. Anything and everything had to do with them. Even those who didn’t walk that path would benefit enormously from this lecture.

Most importantly, Lu Yun was incorporating the immortal dao into the order of nirvana as he spoke, thus planting a seed of immortal dao in everyone who listened to him.

.....

He finally stopped talking after an indeterminate period of time. Masses of beings teemed around the arena, and they remained in deep contemplation when his lecture concluded.

“Thank you for your help, fellow daoist.” Laying in front of Lu Yun all this time, Chi Wuxia had stood up at some unknown point, free of the Profound Scripture of Rebirth and cursed method that’d plagued him.

Resolved by the order of nirvana, the only thing left on him was the purest form of that great dao.

This also marked Chi Wuxia’s true entrance into nirvana. When stripped of his five senses and six sensory organs, he’d entered a state of undefined nothingness. That state was true nirvana.

With Lu Yun’s help, he’d returned to himself with true knowledge of his great dao. Though he didn’t possess any cultivation at the moment, he was almost one with the ultimate truth.

Lu Yun inclined his head with acknowledgement. Chi Wuxia remained by his side, not showing any signs of leaving.

The Nirvana princess had noticed the moment her son awoke, but she didn’t make it known. Instead, she quietly digested what the Inception prince had just taught them.

“Trouble’s coming, and it’s here for you,” Lu Yun suddenly said to Chi Wuxia.

“This karmic relationship does indeed need to be taken care of.” Chi Wuxia nodded at their incoming visitor and smiled ruefully. “I need your help, fellow daoist. I can’t do anything right now.”

The experience of dao that he’d just comprehended had resulted in changes to his mentality. Everything he’d undergone before really had tempered his heart and resolution. He now knew himself and his limitations well.

“Alright then.” Lu Yun nodded. “You can leave.”

Chi Wuxia raised a cupped fist salute and bounded off the arena, returning to the Nirvana delegation.

The sect leader of the fire elemental divine sect watched this broodingly. Chi Wuxia had originally cultivated both the Profound Scripture of Rebirth and the fire elemental way. However, Lu Yun had struck the latter from the genius and he possessed only the dao of nirvana now.

.....

“Prince of Inception Palace, I told you that there are some consequences that you cannot endure.” Huo Zongxing stood in the air and looked down loftily, remotely at Lu Yun. “Your patron, the one in the chaos sea, is now too preoccupied to help you. Thus, today is your death day.”

He slowly descended until he stood firmly on the Inception Spiritrial Arena. The arena shook, trembled, and crumbled away in a pile of broken rocks, leaving both Lu Yun and Huo Zongxing standing in mid air.

It couldn’t suppress Huo Zongxing’s cultivation.

“What level is this Huo Zongxing at? The arena couldn’t keep him down!” Inception experts exchanged shocked glances with each other. Even sovereigns would be constrained to sixth level mortal realm if they set foot in an Inception Spiritrial Arena.

In all of history, only eight people had been unfettered by the treasure—the six monarchs, Wahuang, and Fuxi. Today saw the arrival of a ninth, Huo Zongxing, someone who should’ve been complete trash!

A disturbance ran through the fire origin divine sect as well.

“Who says the sacred lands are less than the sacred palaces? Today, I will destroy the sacred palaces on behalf of the sacred lands! From this day forth, there will be only the sacred lands in the chaos!” proclaimed Huo Zongxing.

Chapter 1136: Lu Qing

The six monarchs looked at each other and slowly materialized in full.

With the destruction of the Inception Spiritrial Arena, Lu Yun’s blockade of the nine divine sects had come to an end. Huo Zongxing was plainly provoking the six sacred palaces, so their rulers had to take a stand.

This Huo Zongxing was a very uncanny character. He was sixth level mortal realm, but his true strength had likely reached peak sovereign realm and rivaled the six monarchs. Even they had to tread with caution.

.....

“You didn’t leave earlier because you were running away. You left to do something about the one in the chaos sea, didn’t you?” A smiling Lu Yun tilted his head up at Huo Zongxing. He didn’t know who the personage in the chaos sea was, but had connected some dots based on recent happenings.

Huo Zongxing ignored Lu Yun, looking only at the six monarchs. Compared to the Inception prince, those were the real threats. Removing them from the picture meant that the six sacred palaces could be entirely erased from the chaos.

Lu Yun continued staring at Huo Zongxing, his brows drawing together in a frown. Finally, he sighed gently. “Though the Inception Spiritrial Arena has been destroyed, my battle isn’t over. Please don’t do anything, Your Majesties.”

“Eh?” Leize and the other five paused.

Five figures walked out from the Burgeon, Creation, Opposition, Nirvana, and Ethos delegations. Sparkling radiance shimmered over Ying Luo, Wang Shu, Wei Yuan, Li Xue, and You Huoran. The light connected with Lu Yun’s body, forming the Thousand Obliteration Formation of the Six Royals.

Within the Six Royals, Wei Yuan was the weakest as he’d yet to reach sixth level mortal realm. However, a pillar of hazy purple light suddenly descended from above and sank into his body.

It suddenly seemed like he’d endured countless chaos tribulations! His presence fluctuated and grew stronger, swiftly increasing to that of sixth level mortal realm.

Lu Yun started, then lifted his head and looked at a corner of the void. A faint, graceful smear of purple was slowly vanishing there.

Violetgrave had made a move.

She'd previously used that strange purple light to help the little fox and Qing Yu comprehend the Dragonquake Scripture. This time, she used it to raise the weakest Wei Yuan to the same level as the others.

Huo Zongxing looked back as well, but didn't catch Violetgrave's figure.

"Six ants wish to march on a divine dragon?" He refocused on Lu Yun and the others, disdain curving his lips. So what if Wei Yuan had suddenly ascended into sixth level mortal realm? An ant always remained an ant, and Huo Zongxing wasn't alone.

With the Thousand Obliteration Formation of the Six Royals in place, the six wielded combined strength of unfathomable levels. It was a brand new power formed by the melding of the six highest orders of the chaos, but Huo Zongxing was still contemptuous.

"So the creation seed's come alive and grown into a living being—you do indeed have the right to express such sentiments." Lu Yun nodded.

"What?! The creation seed's come alive?" General shock reigned at Lu Yun's words.

The creation seeds were ultimate treasures that could form the foundation of a sacred land and retain a powerful order of the chaos. This was common knowledge, and many also felt that creation seeds could help one reach creator realm.

That a treasure could come alive and turn into a real, living being with a soul? That was far out of everyone's understanding. Even the six monarchs were taken aback.

"I'd always thought that some formidable entity was behind the creation seeds, but never considered that the seeds themselves were a potent existence!" Leize gravely regarded the revelation.

Despite Lu Yun's words, he and his peers remained on the scene. Though they didn't possess a daunting formation like the Six Royals, they had their own ways of working together. Before they were the six sacred monarchs, they were also friends with bonds forged through life and death.

.....

"What are you blathering about?!" Huo Zongxing flew into a rage and raised his hand high, bringing it down on Lu Yun's head.

It was wreathed in blazing flames, as if all of the orders of fire within the chaos were concentrated in this strike. The stars of the chaos were falling, and they would land on Lu Yun's head in another thousandth-blink of an eye.

"Danger!" The six monarchs moved at once.

But as soon as they shifted into motion, eight figures suddenly landed in front of them. The powers of the five elements and earth, water, and wind origin flared in unison, crashing into the monarchs while they were midair.

The six monarchs landed back in their original positions, expressions flickering uncertainly.

“We won’t move if you don’t move. If you move, we’ll slaughter your six palaces,” intoned the figure wrapped in the energy of earth origin.

These eight were the same as Huo Zongxing, transformed from creation seeds. Their level was the same at sixth level mortal realm, but their strength rivaled the limits of sovereign realm. This cultivation level meant that they skirted the limits of what the chaos could tolerate. Any further meant ascending beyond the chaos and breaking into the third realm.

The six monarchs glowered ominously. With these eight working together, they could absolutely slaughter everyone in the sacred palaces. Apart from Wahuang, no one would be able to withstand them, not even palace sovereigns. And other than a few in residence, most of the palaces’ sovereigns were in the Dubiety Realm facing the chaos beasts.

The six monarchs had never dared to march on the nine sacred lands because they’d detected the presence of the creation seed beings. To think that these unknowns would make an appearance at this time!

With the two sides locked in a stalemate, no one dared shift a foot.

.....

Boom—

The palm strike landed not only on Lu Yun, but also engulfed the rest of the Six Royals. Their indomitable formation was as fragile as paper in front of the horrifying blow. What remained unnoticed by all was thirty-six balls of hazy purple light gathering from all corners of the chaos and sinking into Lu Yun’s body a split second before the palm strike arrived.

Hummmm.

A purple ladder barrelled out of his body and pulverized the strike, like it was a purple dragon swooping down on a rabbit. The shattered Six Royals formation immediately reconstructed in the blink of an eye.

“KILL!” Lu Yun roared, the shadow of a sword shooting out from his hand and following the purple ladder’s trail to Huo Zongxing.

His five sworn friends jumped up as well, charging Huo Zongxing from five different directions and operating the Thousand Obliteration Formation of the Six Royals at its maximum. The purple ladder spun around in midair and disassembled, bolstering the formation with untold power and raising it to brand new heights.

“The sky ladder!” shrieked Huo Zongxing with incredulity. “What’s Lu Qing’s sky ladder doing here?! That’s his personal treasure, why would he gift it to you!!”

“Lu Qing...” Lu Yun’s face spasmed when he heard the name.

Chapter 1137: Imparting Method

Lu Qing!

The name brought to mind some things that the little fox had once mentioned, abruptly resolving all of Lu Yun's recent questions and frustrations. If this Lu Qing was that Lu Qing... then... a fox...

.....

While certain waves of emotion roiled in Lu Yun's heart, he didn't hesitate. The moment the sky ladder bolstered the Thousand Obliteration Formation of the Six Royals, the Six Royals surrounded Huo Zongxing and bombarded him with attacks.

Caught off guard and overwhelmed by the power of the sky ladder, Huo Zongxing soon fell back to a disadvantageous position. Dismay crossed the faces of the eight figures standing in front of the six monarchs—they hadn't imagined that the situation would take this kind of turn. Supposedly situated in the chaos sea, Lu Qing's personal treasure was here instead!

"We won't move if you don't move. If you move, we'll slaughter your nine divine sects," the Nirvana monarch uttered, returning their words from earlier.

"Hmph!" the eight snorted, but didn't make a move.

The nine divine sects were the culmination of their efforts in the realm after countless chaos tribulations. If the sects were destroyed now, all of their painstaking plans and energy would be a complete waste. Who knew how long it'd take if they had to start over from the beginning again?

Huo Zongxing lost the ability to retaliate when faced with such a heated offensive; the terrifying sky ladder utterly suppressed his strength. If it wasn't for a strong defense, he would've died several times over in quick succession.

"This guy's got such thick skin, it's thicker than even Chi Wuxia's!" Wang Shu's voice suddenly rang out from the air.

Observing the fight from the sidelines, Chi Wuxia's face spasmed painfully.

"Of course it's thicker than Chi Wuxia's, don't forget that Chi Wuxia's combat arts come from him... them! Their heritage specializes in thick skin!" You Huoran raised his hand high for public view after delivering a hefty face slap. It was indeed quite swollen.

"You bastard!" Huo Zongxing roared upon hearing these words. A ball of blackish-red light rose from his body and barrelled toward You Huoran.

However, a large foot overshadowed Huo Zongxing's face the next second. The ball of light didn't have the chance to shoot too far before the foot scuffed it out. Huo Zongxing fell into a current of pristine chaos energy with a loud shriek.

"AhhhhHHHHH!!" he raged, finally understanding how Chi Wuxia had felt before, to be slapped, stepped on, and kicked!

Just who had these six learned from to like attacking one's face so much? The Six Royals of the mythological realm hadn't shown this preference!

Huo Zongxing struggled to rush out of the current of energy, but six big feet stomped on his face again and sent him reeling back.

Frustration and humiliation like he'd never felt before boiled in his veins. If it wasn't for the sky ladder suppressing him, he would've slaughtered a dozen Six Royals by now! The sky ladder wasn't a regular ultimate treasure beyond the chaos, it was the personal treasure of one who would be a heavyweight in even the third realm!

That ladder had accompanied the great one before he completed seeking out the dao, all the way to present day!

Even if Huo Zongxing had ascended beyond the chaos, the ladder would still hold him down, to say nothing of him not yet exceeding this realm. In fact, he was rather lost as to why Lu Qing would send his personal treasure here. He was currently in a great deal of trouble himself as he fought off three other entities that rivaled him.

As furious as Huo Zongxing was, he didn't lose his bearings. The nine of them were formed from the creation seeds and contained the fortunes of the chaos. They wouldn't die that easily, and they also had their own patron from the third realm.

He no longer looked for openings to counterattack, but devoted his efforts to a stalwart defense instead.

At the same time, the nine divine sects that had been drawn here began to grow indistinct, shaking off the spatial force and returning to the depths of the chaos. The moment they departed would be when the nine of the creation seeds begin their massacre.

Of course, the six sacred palaces were leaving as well.

Both sides noted the movements of the other, but no one made a bid to stop anyone. Battle intent burned hotly in all factions.

.....

Within the depths of the chaos, Qing Yu sat on a Dao Flower and looked down at the battlefield.

"If a larger fight breaks out, I'm afraid the six monarchs won't be a match for those nine." She frowned after making some calculations.

"I'll go help," Qiu Luoyu quickly offered.

"You'd just be offering up your head on a platter. They'll dig out the creation seed in you, so you and the little fox should stay away from them." Qing Yu looked somewhat dismissively at Qiu Luoyu.

"I, I have the dark fire!" Qiu Luoyu flushed.

"Have you ever heard of using a sledgehammer on a gnat?" Qing Yu curled her lip. "Dark fire can disintegrate experts of the third realm, but you use it on mosquitoes? If Violetgrave knew what you wanted to do, she'd immediately shoot back here and squash you with her own fingers.

"The creation seeds are just power nodes fallen from the third realm. Though the nine are formed from them, they're just the equivalent of reborn minions from the third realm." Qing Yu frowned again, trying to determine the optimal strategy here.

“Experts from the third realm... are great entities beyond the chaos. Why do they interfere with our matters?” Qiu Luoyu couldn’t wrap his mind around it.

“Don’t the lofty eternal overlords of the chaos constantly think about how to destroy the worlds?” Qing Yu burst out laughing. “It’s quite normal for those from the third realm to want to destroy the chaos.”

“The chaos is devouring the third realm?” Qiu Luoyu asked with surprise.

Qing Yu remained quiet.

“No, wait, those nine are the patrons of the nine sacred—divine sects. The nine divine sects are after the worlds! So you’re saying that after the worlds swallow the chaos, they’ll swallow the third realm?” Qiu Luoyu gasped.

“So you’re not that dumb after all.” Qing Yu nodded and continued murmuring to herself. “Though the nine are just minions, their cultivation level and strength are truly beyond the chaos. The combination of the five elements and four origins will still form a terrifying impact.

“Seniors, please accept this method.” She suddenly reached out and scattered six tiny flowers to the center of the monarch’s foreheads. The Thousand Obliteration Formation of the Six Royals that’d belonged to Lu Yun and the others materialized in their minds.

“The Thousand Obliteration Formation of the Six Royals... this is the formation of the Six Royals in the mythological realm. No wonder!” Leize and his peers looked at each other, newfound confidence appearing in their eyes.

“As strong as the formation is, it is still the method of another. Lu Yun and his friends can make use of this method, but seniors must not be overly vested in it. It might hinder your own dao otherwise.” Qing Yu’s voice sounded in their minds.

Lu Yun hadn’t shared the formation with the six monarchs firstly because it belonged to You Huoran, and secondly because it was so strong that it might lead the six monarchs down another path from their own.

Chapter 1138: The Chaos Sea

But since they were nearing a critical point in the situation, Qing Yu couldn’t think of anything else that could be used against the nine of the creation seeds.

The Bridge of Forgetfulness?

That was more ludicrous than deploying dark fire.

“Don’t worry, we’re keeping our capabilities well in mind.” Leize nodded gently. The six monarchs quickly entered a peculiar mental state that enabled them to practice the Thousand Obliteration Formation of the Six Royals millions of times.

Unbeknownst to all, the six sacred palaces and nine divine sects had vanished at some point, and the spatial force surrounding the area dispersed completely.

Whoosh!

Eight figures darted away at the same time and convened upon Hou Zongxing from eight different directions.

“Go!” Lu Yun had been keeping a close eye on the situation. The Six Royals shot into the air the moment the eight figures landed, retreating under the protection of the sky ladder.

“DIE!!” Huo Zongxing’s power rose to another level when the eight gathered together with him. He struck out at the departing Six Royals with energy that was a hundred million times stronger than before, blasting the pristine currents in the area to pieces.

“Your opponent is us!” The six monarchs were hot on their heels and also assembled in the Thousand Obliteration Formation of the Six Royals. Awe-inspiring power blossomed from their bodies and perfectly melded with the six highest orders, forming a completely new strength.

The formation amassed by the six monarchs was an infinite times stronger than when deployed by Lu Yun and the others. This was the true power of the Six Royals and the strongest combination of strength within the chaos.

However, Huo Zongxing and the other eight weren’t the least bit concerned. They also fell into two formations, ones that exploded with the power of the five elements and four origins. This combined power was likewise infinite times stronger than what Huo Zongxing had wielded by himself before.

If Lu Yun and the others hadn’t left, they would’ve been blown apart by the slightest touch of any of this power. Not even the sky ladder could’ve protected them as the difference in cultivation realm and level was too much.

The two formations created by the nine locked together into another formation and crashed viciously into the formation of the Six Royals. The collision was so great that it obliterated everything within this part of the chaos and created a pure vacuum.

.....

“Is this the strength of sovereigns?” Wei Yuan sucked in a sharp breath as he looked back at the empty vacuum and the fifteen people that continuously slammed into each other. Though he was part of the sacred clan, he’d never seen a sovereign fight at full strength before. With his current level of strength, he wasn’t qualified to enter the Dubiety Realm.

That was the true battlefield of the sovereigns.

“It might even be beyond the chaos,” Ying Luo answered shakily. “The six monarchs are the limits of a sovereign’s capabilities. The formation they put together might be beyond our realm!”

“It’s not beyond the chaos.” Lu Yun shook his head. “Power beyond the chaos would pierce through the void with one blow and break straight through to the third realm.

“As strong as the six monarchs and those nine are, there’s still a long way before they can pierce through the chaos.” He frowned slightly with thought.

One needed not only the requisite cultivation level, but also a corresponding standard of strength in order to ascend beyond the chaos and reach the third realm. Lacking either one of the two would mean that one remained in the chaos.

Plainly, though the six monarchs tested the limits of sovereign tolerances, they were still too far away from reaching the third realm. Though Lu Yun had gifted the reflections of his past self to them, they still fell short.

“Let’s go home. With the formation there, the six monarchs can’t be defeated.”

Though their part of the chaos was far from the battlefield, there were many pairs of eyes watching the area. The nine divine sects and six sacred palaces had erupted in open hostilities, and the backers of the nine divine sects had also shown themselves.

From henceforth, sovereigns of the nine divine sects no longer needed to move to the sacred palaces.

Lu Yun could already foresee that eternal overlords suppressing their cultivation within the nine divine sects would soon break through to sovereign realm. There was nothing that the six sacred palaces could do about them anymore.

“My only concern now is that the sovereigns previously taken over countless chaos tribulations might be up to no good,” Lu Yun wondered with worry. “They’ve all been sent to the Dubiety Realm to face off the chaos beasts, but if they do something there...”

The six looked at each other, cold sweat beading their foreheads. The physical structures of the six palaces held down the fort at the entrances to the Dubiety Realm. If something happened to the entrances, the six palaces were sure to fall!

“I’ll send you all back to your home!” Lu Yun brought out the sky ladder. It shimmered with purple radiance and connected to the hidden palaces.

“What about you?” asked Ying Luo when she saw that Lu Yun showed no signs of going back to Inception Palace.

“I’m going to see someone in the chaos sea.” Lu Yun looked at Ying Luo. “You go on back first, I’ll be alright.”

“Mmhm.” Ying Luo nodded. Having seen Qing Yu, she knew that things were impossible between her and Lu Yun. However, she still worried about him.

With a quick twinkle, the sky ladder sent Ying Luo and the others back home. The little fox walked out from behind Lu Yun when everyone was gone, still wearing the string of purple wooden beads on her wrist.

“We’re going to the chaos sea now?” the little fox asked with some trepidation.

“Of course. Haven’t you been badgering me about taking responsibility?” Lu Yun looked sideways at the little fox. In human form, the tips of her ears were bright scarlet.

“Can I not go?” She fidgeted awkwardly.

“Let’s go together. We’ll have to meet him sooner or later,” sighed Lu Yun as he took the little fox’s hand. That prompted an instinctive reaction out of her and she transformed back into a fox, darting up to Lu Yun’s shoulder.

Lu Yun rolled his eyes, but didn't force the little fox back into human form. The sky ladder began to stretch forward and connected them to the void where the chaos sea was.

The chaos sea was boundless without end, the mightiest existence within the chaos. The chaos sun could be found above its waters, but there was currently nothing beneath it but an empty void. There were no pure chaos currents or anything else present, just a wheel of the chaos sun and moon hanging in the void.

"He's not here?" The little fox jumped down in human form again, looking immensely relieved, but also a tiny bit disappointed.

"Mmhm." Lu Yun brought the ladder out and flung it into the void. "I appreciate the thought, but since you're in trouble now, you should take the ladder back."

The sky ladder trembled a few times in the air before shooting upward as a pillar of purple light, piercing through the void and entering the third realm.

"Let's go back." Lu Yun hadn't thought he'd be able to meet... Lu Qing on his trip. He just wanted to return the treasure.

"Go back where?" The little fox was still staring blankly into space.

"The world of immortals."

Chapter 1139: Hey, He's My Son

This jaunt to the chaos had come to an end for Lu Yun. He'd done everything he set out to do, and the remaining battle between the six sacred monarchs and the nine of the creation seeds wasn't something that he could intercede in.

He didn't need to worry about the six sacred palaces either. As the rulers of the chaos, if the six monarchs couldn't handle this tiny uproar, then they would've fallen to the hands of others a long time ago.

.....

"Did you see your son?" Qing Yu asked sourly when she saw Lu Yun and the little fox return together.

"Ahem!" Lu Yun blushed and didn't say anything.

"Nope!" The little fox returned to her true form and darted into Qing Yu's embrace.

...Qing Yu's jealousy quickly evaporated.

"But Lu Yun returned the ladder to him." The little fox nuzzled her head against Qing Yu's chin. Though Miao herself hadn't experienced what her replica had undergone, she still felt guilty toward Qing Yu nonetheless.

"Alright, since that part's over, we should head back." Qing Yu stroked the little fox's head and hugged her tightly before smiling at Lu Yun. She'd never faulted him for what happened with the little fox.

Their journey home was smoother than their trip to the chaos. Tian Qi had fully refined the lake of purple qi between the polluted and pristine part of the realm, so all of the chaos creatures stationed here had left.

There was a clear moat between these two parts of the chaos, and the polluted zone was expanding at a speed visible to the naked eye—turning the clear energy currents turgid. What was called the “polluted” chaos was, in fact, chaos currents formed by the energy of the worlds devouring the pristine chaos currents. These were unspeakably dirty to the chaos creatures, and life threatening if they came in contact with this energy.

When chaos creatures cultivated, they took in the pristine currents of their home. Therefore, not only were the turgid currents physically harmful, but they also deprived the chaos creatures of their future.

Lu Yun, Qing Yu, and the little fox also absorbed the clear currents when they cultivated, but since they practiced the immortal dao of the worlds, the energy from the chaos perfectly melded into the immortal dao and turned into immortal force.

Qiu Luoyu didn’t follow Lu Yun to the world of immortals. He was a sovereign of Inception Palace, and Leize had also promised to create a sanctuary within the palace to harbor the otherkind in the chaos.

The otherkind were still the enemies of the nine divine sects, but now that Inception Palace was taking a stand to protect them, this was an official stamp on a declaration of war between the nine divine sects and six sacred palaces.

By the time Lu Yun and the others returned to the world of immortals, the battle between the six monarchs and nine of the creation seed had ended in a draw. Not only did the nine divine sects refuse to honor the agreement and strike “divine sect” from their name, but they used the momentum from the nine to resurrect the “sacred land” title.

With the reappearance of the nine sacred lands in the chaos, the eternal overlords that hadn’t dared break through before all set foot into sovereign realm. The sacred lands now had nine great patrons backing them, so they no longer feared the sacred palaces.

.....

Mount Buzhou was still their first stop upon returning to the worlds. Hongjun and Fuxi were sitting at the mountain’s peak playing a game of chess. When they saw the trio’s return, the losing Hongjun took advantage of Fuxi’s lapse in attention to scatter the pieces to the ground.

Fuxi chuckled ruefully and didn’t make a fuss.

“How was your trip?” Hongjun smiled at the three.

“Since you two already know, why ask me?” Lu Yun plopped down next to Hongjun and Fuxi, flicking them a sideways glance with an inscrutable expression.

“Ahem!” Hongjun coughed awkwardly and pointed at Fuxi. “He’s the sacred prince of Creation Palace, what he says goes!”

“I knew nothing about refining the creation seed and forestalling the tenth sacred land!” Fuxi jumped and hastily refuted.

“Alright, alright, that’s enough from both of you.” Qing Yu smiled at them and said, “Ah yes, Holy Emperor Fuxi, I’m the sacred princess of Creation Palace now. And he’s the sacred prince of Inception Palace.”

“Umm—” Fuxi and Hongjun looked at each other, their expressions as strange as could be.

The princess of Creation Palace? Prince of Inception? What had these three run into on their trip to the chaos?

Their new positions made them second to only the sacred monarchs, to say nothing of their new cultivation levels.

From their position on Mount Buzhou, Fuxi and Hongjun couldn’t see clearly into the chaos and had no idea what’d taken place. The only thing they knew of was that the light of the immortal dao had rushed out from Mount Xuanhuang.

“How about my dear disciple?” Hongjun smiled merrily at the little fox. She’d originally been a regular fox on Qingqiu Mountain and had only become Tushan Miao after Hongjun enlightened her with the creation seed.

“Hmph.” Sprawled in Qing Yu’s embrace, the little fox lifted her head with utmost ferocity, “I’m in the chaos realm!”

“Oh.” Slight disappointment colored Hongjun’s eyes. The creation seed within her was a power node from the third realm, so it wasn’t much of an accomplishment that she’d returned to chaos realm.

“The one in the chaos sea is my son!” the little fox continued.

“Uh huh, so Lu Yun couldn’t keep it in after all, and you two even have a child.” Hongjun smirked at Lu Yun.

Lu Yun’s cheeks turned bright pink with embarrassment while Qing Yu covered her mouth as she giggled.

“Eh? Did you just say the chaos sea?” Fuxi picked up on the little fox’s words. “Your son’s gone to the chaos sea? Can it be...”

“There’s a great expert in the chaos sea who’s ascended beyond the chaos. Has he chosen your child to be his disciple?!” Hongjun jumped up with a shriek.

The one in the chaos sea was a legendary master! He was the only one known throughout the chaos of ascending beyond the realm. Despite his elevation, he remained holding down the fort within the chaos sea. In Hongjun and Fuxi’s understanding, all of their current problems would be taken care of if he was willing to show his hand.

“That makes sense as well. It’s said that the great master is a fox and carries a human bloodline, so it’s only natural that your son would be chosen by him.” Hongjun stroked his beard with great equanimity. “To think that my grand-disciple would become that one’s disciple!”

The little fox sprang out of Qing Yu’s arms and hopped onto Lu Yun’s head.

“Hey, I said that he’s my son!” she emphasized.

“Of course he’s your son. Even though he’s been chosen, he’s still your son.” Hongjun hadn’t fully recovered.

“Ahem, senior.” Qing Yu snatched the little fox off Lu Yun’s head and stuffed Miao back into her arms. “The little fox means that the great master beyond the chaos that you two speak of is her son.”

Chapter 1140: World of Immortals

“Venerated Dao Sovereign, this kind of joke won’t do!” Hongjun frantically corrected when he heard Qing Yu’s explanation. “That great master is one of the two powerhouses in the chaos that’s ascended beyond. If he’s angered, he can destroy the worlds with a casual backhand!”

“That’s right, uh huh, Little Yu and the little fox are joking!” Lu Yun hastily interjected. “Alright, alright, there’s a ton of things to take care of in the world of immortals. We’ll be on our way now!”

He dragged Qing Yu away in a hasty retreat.

“Ah yes, if the holy emperor has the time, perhaps you could pay a visit home. Seniors Leize and Huaxu miss you very much,” came Lu Yun’s voice from the distance.

“Home...” Fuxi trembled and sighed. “Indeed, it’s time to go home.”

“You’re so lucky to still have a home. Mine was gone a long time ago.” Loneliness flashed across Hongjun’s face.

“Isn’t this your home?” Fuxi suddenly smiled. “This is my home too.”

Hongjun blinked, then smiled back. “You’re right, this is my home. We should pay a visit to the chaos when the Hadal Hell is connected with the world of immortals. How is your cultivation recovering?”

“That kid comprehended the forbidden texts within the Dragonquake Scripture. Thank goodness I erased what I knew before, or I would’ve been caught up in the tribulation as well.” Fuxi lowered his head in deep thought. “The kid used the power of reincarnation to build my foundation and the orders of Inception and Creation are fully contained within. I should be as strong as the monarchs now.

“How about you?” He turned toward Hongjun.

“Mmm, roughly the same,” Hongjun mused. “I lived a life for Lu Yun and also endured a reincarnation tribulation in his place. The cycle of reincarnation has bestowed such blessings upon me that I am stronger than I was in my first life. I am well and truly within sovereign realm now.

“I really do wonder who Lu Yun is, that reincarnation would bequeath blessings to me because of him,” Hongjun sighed with emotion. “It isn’t us who chose him, but he who chose us.”

Fuxi nodded gently as well.

Six miniature dao palaces floated upward when Hongjun opened his hand. Lu Yun had extracted the six chaos stars from them and they’d returned to their origin in Hongjun’s care.

“However, this still isn’t enough. Our cultivation realm is far from enough if we want to fight the dreadful existences within the Hadal Hell!” Hongjun took a deep breath. “Though Lu Yun has stripped these dao palaces of their orders, their essence was formed out of the highest orders. You already possess two of them, so maybe you can comprehend the other four from the dao palaces!”

“Mm.” Fuxi nodded without complaint.

Lu Yun’s idea of connecting the Hadal Hell to the world of immortals was too crazy. However, he still hadn’t given up on the idea after his trip to the chaos! Surely he’d learned what it was during this journey.

Fuxi and Hongjun had no idea where his confidence came from; all they could do now was accumulate as much strength as possible so they could help him. They’d once been the seniors helping him, clearing obstacles out of his way and watching over his development.

With his return from the chaos, a new feeling brewed—they were the ones looking up to him instead. However, their stance remained the same.

.....

“Why didn’t you let me continue?” The little fox struggled with dissatisfaction as they walked down from Mount Buzhou, puffing up with anger. “If they know that that person is my son, my master won’t worry so much everyday.”

“Lu Qing is indeed your son, but you haven’t located that strand of soul force. You haven’t accepted him yet, which is why he isn’t willing to meet you.” Lu Yun smoothed the velvety fur on the little fox’s body.

She blinked, then fell silent.

“You carved these beads for him before he was born.” Lu Yun had noticed the string of beads long ago. Though Miao was in fox form at the moment, the beads still remained on her wrist. “There were thirty-six illusory formations within them that would block disaster thirty-six times for him. You etched them into the beads yourself, and now he’s refined them anew and regifted them back to you. There are also thirty-six great formations within them.”

The little fox started and Qing Yu turned quiet as well.

“Do you know what this means?” sighed Lu Yun. “He views you as his mother, but you don’t hold the same relationship in your heart. He knows that too. Perhaps he’ll be willing to meet you one day, after you find everything that’s in that strand of soul force.”

“Being in a rush to announce the relationship between the two of you will only put you and him in danger.”

The little fox didn’t have anything to say to that. It was true that, in her heart, Lu Qing didn’t occupy the same position as Hongjun, Lu Yun, or Qing Yu did. Lu Qing was just a name, a symbol.

“Mm.” Slightly saddened, the little fox nodded and burrowed back into Qing Yu’s arms.

Her soul force had experienced a myriad of things with Lu Yun, Qing Han, and Lu Qing in the past. She’d formed a deep and undying love for Lu Yun only after countless scrapes with death. After the past Lu

Yun transformed into a dao fruit, she'd viewed her son as her world and laid down her life to protect him from all harm.

However, the little fox's primary body hadn't undergone any of this and there was only the tie of bloodline between her and Lu Qing. Neither did she bear a love for Lu Yun that was inscribed into her soul and heart.

Lu Yun wouldn't force her hand in this matter either.

Qing Yu was willing to accept the little fox, but the little fox couldn't accept herself. The current her was just herself—Tushan Miao of Qingqiu Mountain, monster celestial master of the primordial immortal court, and dean of monster spirit dao of the Dao Academy in the world of immortals.

Apart from that, while she did think fondly of Lu Yun, she wasn't anymore close to loving him.

Hand in hand, Lu Yun and Qing Yu walked down from Mount Xuanhuang.

Everything was proceeding in an orderly fashion in the world of immortals. After the immortal dao's previous rapid clip of progress resulted in the appearance of the empyrean, chaos, and creator realms, it had once more reached new heights.

Many made use of its strong activity to attain cultivation levels that they wouldn't have dreamed of before, and the golden age of immortal dao once foreseen by numerous people truly arrived in the world. Countless experts reached empyrean realm in these times.

After the great war a hundred thousand years ago, the world had fallen apart and then reformed, causing an abundance of cultivation resources. Immortals never had to be concerned about scarcity of resources, and the forest of tombs in the world were constantly excavated by academy disciples.

The primordial immortal dao was no longer superior to the current version, but the wisdom of the primordial immortals still resided in their tombs. For modern day immortals, that wisdom was still priceless treasure to be highly sought after.

One could determine the prosperity and decline of the future upon studying the past. Meanwhile, Lu Yun's history of the world was also nearing completion.

.....

"It's time to resolve this potential threat." Lu Yun and Qing Yu stood side by side facing the Blood Sea in Life Province. He took in a deep breath as he looked at the waters glittering like an enormous ruby in front of him.

The first task to be completed before melding the Hadal Hell with the world of immortals was to collect this Blood Sea.