

## Necropolis 841

### Chapter 841: The Bell of Chaos

“God is indeed a creator, but he isn’t the only creator in the great wilderness.” Fuxi couldn’t help but say something when he saw through Lu Yun’s thoughts.

The creator!

Ashu had spontaneously gone mad when he saw the kunpeng, because the creature contained the secrets of creation. Creation had become a demonic obsession in his heart.

“Who’s the other creator?” Lu Yun asked, taken aback.

“I’m sure you’ve figured it out, the human sacred land is built on top of an enormous tomb. But I warn you, you’re not allowed to even think about it!” Fuxi whirled around and leveled a serious look at Lu Yun.

“The other creator’s buried in this tomb?” Lu Yun was even more surprised.

“That’s right, this tomb interrs the first creator beneath the heavens and the ancestor god of the humans—the great god Pangu.” Fuxi nodded.

“Pangu? The ancestor god of humans? Weren’t humans created by Nüwa forming us out of clay?” Lu Yun asked subconsciously.

It was Fuxi’s turn to be taken aback and he stifled a chuckle. “Nüwa? If she could form humans out of clay, wouldn’t that make her a creator as well?”

Lu Yun blinked and didn’t say anything else. But he really wanted to ask if Pangu had truly hewed the world out of the heavens.

“Sometimes, what’s recorded in history isn’t the truth.” Fuxi looked solemnly into Lu Yun’s eyes.

“They’re just some events that we want future generations to learn of.”

Lu Yun nodded and followed Fuxi down a winding path toward the peak of Mount Buzhou. The mountain was too tall for one to easily glimpse its top as it ran from the earth straight into the heavens. If one stood midway up the mountain, they’d be able to oversee the entire sacred land—all of Pangu’s great tomb.

In fact, Lu Yun could see all sorts of formations and feng shui layouts in the human sacred land. Here, the two were one and the same. They were both two sides of the same coin and complemented each other. With the two overlaid, they deployed even greater power. These were the most fundamental formations and feng shui—the most basic display of the power of heaven and earth.

Many of the feng shui layouts he saw were previously only recorded in the archives of his sect; he’d never seen them in action. Some, he couldn’t even set up! It was plain to see that Fuxi was the inventor of formations and feng shui, and that the heritage of his sect was the legacy of the human sacred land!

Fuxi is my... greatest forefather!

"I'm very gratified that you didn't pass on your formations and feng shui to the Yan Tribe." Fuxi smiled, seeming to sense Lu Yun's revelation.

Fuxi... was his forefather, the very first one. No wonder he'd been able to set up the bronze palace in Azure Province with Wayfarer's help! That grand feat would've been impossible if Lu Yun had attempted it alone.

Even though that had been only Wayfarer's skin by his side, that was still Fuxi's sense of touch and retained a portion of his strength. That was why Lu Yun had been able to successfully complete that influence over heaven and earth to seal the fissure beneath the Azure Province tomb.

"The human race is too weak at the moment and doesn't possess the right to know these things." Lu Yun nodded. "I still retain my sense of what can and cannot be done."

He was changing the very core of humanity—how they lived, strengthening their bodies and souls, and sparking their intelligence. Even the qi refinement method was suitable only for humans.

Formations and feng shui, however, were different. They made use of outside forces and manipulated the power of nature. There were no such concepts in the great wilderness yet. Whether it be divine spirits, monster spirits, demons, gremlins, or demon gods, no one understood the art of formations and feng shui.

They, at most, made use of naturally occurring formations. If Lu Yun passed on what he knew to the human race now, it would be the moment of their extinction.

Fuxi was able to blatantly put them on display in the human sacred land and not attract any untoward attention because he was Fuxi. Wahuang stood by his side, and Leize and Huaxu behind them.

"We're here." Fuxi stopped after they traveled an indeterminate period of time.

This was the peak of Mount Buzhou, but Lu Yun felt like they were in another world, one like the great wilderness, but also vastly different. The great wilderness was a planet, and here... was a place like the world of immortals.

A man wearing a purple robe sat in the middle of the world. His head was lowered and his chest rose and fell with rhythm, as if he was asleep.

God! The only creator still alive in the great wilderness!

But when Lu Yun took a good look at him, it felt like a bolt of lightning had struck him. Tongue-tied and stupefied, he looked at God with incredulity. "It's him, it's... him!"

"That's right, it's him." Fuxi nodded.

Lu Yun had never met God before, but he'd once seen the great being in an image in the celestial master tomb... the one who'd killed the lungs of the world with one blow and materialized the Path of Ingress!

"It's a pity that God is dead... dead in a dream to the future," Fuxi sighed.

"I... I can save him!" Changes flickered across Lu Yun's face and he grit his teeth.

God's body was alive, but his soul was dead. However, there existed a fragment of his soul in the celestial master tomb! He'd once materialized in the underworld to intimidate the mausoleum keepers, which had given Lu Yun the false impression that the purple-robed man was still alive in the celestial master tomb. It hadn't been until later that Lu Yun realized he'd seen a fragment of lingering thoughts.

If he could send God's body into hell, into the sea of Hell Flowers, then the flowers could reform his soul!

"Tushan's already given you the Bell of Chaos." Fuxi suddenly pointed at the bell hanging in front of Lu Yun's chest. "Store the body in there and return to the future. Once you place God's body in the celestial master tomb, he'll naturally be able to come back to life."

"The Bell of Chaos?!" Lu Yun goggled at the little golden bell around his neck. This thing was the connate treasure called the Bell of Chaos? And the little fox had handed it to him just like that??

He could barely believe everything that was being revealed to him.

"Correct, the Bell of Chaos." Fuxi nodded. "This is a treasure that Taiyi used to witness dao. When he died, it eventually made its way to Tushan's hands. Now that she's given it to you, she means for you to bring God's body to the future where his only hope of salvation can be found."

"That little fox seems to have lost her memories," grumbled Lu Yun.

"Neither do my five senses know who I am in the future." Fuxi flicked a sideways glare at Lu Yun.

Lu Yun nodded and took off the bell, then looked at Fuxi. He had no idea how to use it and had tried to refine it more than once after the little fox gave it to him. However, the tiny bell never responded to anything he did.

## **Chapter 842: A Leisure Trip**

Fuxi shook his head. "The Bell of Chaos is yours after Tushan gave it to you. You alone are able to use it."

Lu Yun looked down closely at the bell in his hand. The small, unassuming bell constantly jingled on the little fox's neck, but it was completely silent in his hand no matter what he tried.

"I don't think I understand it." Lu Yun sighed after a long pause. "The little fox gave me the bell, but this connate-grade treasure shouldn't be mine. When we meet again, I'll return it to her."

Fuxi gave Lu Yun a silent look.

"As for this creator, I have my ways of resurrecting him. It won't be necessary for me to visit the celestial master tomb." Lu Yun looked up at the world around them. It was so familiar, and yet different from what he remembered.

"This is the world of immortals, isn't it?" he murmured, his gaze fixed upon the sky.

"It's the world of celestials." Fuxi nodded. "It was once Taiyi's dao arena. After his death, it became God's dao arena. Since he's passed on as well, connate demon gods will flock to the world of celestials and turn it into the heart of the multiverse—the world of immortals as you know it."

“You can travel through time and make your way to the future to find out what will happen, so why don’t you try to prevent tragedies from taking place?”

“Well,” Fuxi sighed and shook his head. “Because I can’t. The world is too weak, and so am I. I am helpless facing the incoming disasters. Not even my parents Leize and Huaxu, or God or even Pangu can do anything!”

“We’re too weak, all of us are too weak to change anything. The only thing we can do is to set up a foundation for future generations and place our hope in them. No more, no less.”

“Right.” Under Lu Yun’s composed expression raged a turbulence of emotions. He put the Bell of Chaos back on his neck and extended both hands. Hazy black light streamed out of his palms and enveloped God’s body.

The image of the Tome of Life and Death flashed through his eyes, and God’s body disappeared along with it.

The book was resting inside Lu Yun. Although he couldn’t find it, nor could he tap into its power, it wouldn’t go against his will. He wanted the treasure to collect the body, so it appeared and did as he wished.

“What was that?!” Fuxi gaped at Lu Yun in abject shock. Just now, he’d glimpsed a flash of a supreme will that far exceeded even that of a creator’s!

“My secret weapon,” Lu Yun replied. “Though I don’t actually know for sure what it is.”

Chest heaving violently, Fuxi tapped the center of his forehead with his fingertip and removed his memory of what he’d just seen.

“When can I go back?” Lu Yun changed the subject, sensing the shift in the other’s mood.

“You can go back whenever you’d like.” Fuxi cocked his head. “After ten years, the current Shennong will pass down his position and enter the human sacred land. That is when war between the human race will break out.”

“Ten years...” Lu Yun paused thoughtfully. “The qi refinement method should be popularized among all of humanity by then, shouldn’t it?”

“That’s right.” Fuxi nodded. “Nonetheless, it’s best that you minimize your involvement in the coming war. Preserve your strength for the connate demon gods.”

Lu Yun nodded in silent agreement.

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Shennong departed with Lu Yun after sharing the qi refinement method, the Myriad Herbs Classic, and a great variety of seeds for crops and produce with the sacred land. Lu Yun didn’t tell him about the coming war; some things should be allowed to develop naturally.

Once they returned to the tribe, Lu Yun sought the chief out again. “I’m planning to leave the tribe for a bit and journey through the great wilderness.”

“Hmm, I agree that you should go see the world.” Shennong thought for a moment before continuing, “Be careful, though. The great wilderness is vast and dangerous. Where the human race has populated is merely a small corner of it.”

“Worry not.” Lu Yun nodded. “I know how to protect myself.”

“I wanna go! I wanna go with big brother Lieshan!” Ah Bao came out of nowhere and grabbed Lu Yun by his elbow.

She hadn’t grown at all over the past ten years, looking not a day older than thirteen years old. However, she was now much more than a mountain ghost; she was also the river god of the Wei River basin that spanned fifteen thousand kilometers. All of the gremlins and spirits in the river were now under her command.

Over the years, Lu Yun had passed down quite a bit of his battle experience to her, so she’d finally cultivated a level of strength that befit her status.

“Ah Bao is a good girl. The Yan Tribe is my home, will you stay and protect it for me? I’m only leaving to see the world and I’ll be back very soon.” Lu Yun petted her head with visible reluctance in his eyes.

When all was said and done, Lu Yun wasn’t a contemporary of this era. He had to return to his time sooner or later... and Ah Bao... He felt a pang in his heart when he met Ah Bao’s innocent gaze.

In the future, Zhaoqing didn’t remember Ah Bao.

“I will!” Ah Bao nodded earnestly despite her obvious sorrow at Lu Yun’s departure.

After leaving Yan territory, Lu Yun headed east and made his way to Qingqiu Mountain via the same route he’d taken ten years ago. Ning Village hadn’t changed at all, which quite surprised him. He’d expected the village to be destroyed by wild beasts over the past decade.

“You’re back, Lu Yun!” A warm body threw itself into his arms, breaking him out of his reverie. It was a girl who looked about seventeen.

“Little fox?” Lu Yun started when he saw the silver-haired girl in his arms. “You can take human form now?”

“I think so.” The little fox rubbed her head and turned back into a fox, burrowing deep into Lu Yun’s embrace.

“Tushan?” Lu Yun asked probingly.

The little fox stared dumbly at Lu Yun with her big baby blues.

“The Bell of Chaos?” Lu Yun continued.

The little fox still looked blank.

“You’re a pretty good actress!” Lu Yun smiled and dragged the little fox back out by her tail. “You recovered your memory ten years ago, didn’t you?”

**Chapter 843: The Demon of Immortal Dao**

“Vastspace Mountain and the Timelight Tower are both in here, aren’t they?” Lu Yun undid the Bell of Chaos and placed it around the little fox’s neck again.

“You aren’t mad, are you?” Venturing a hesitant question, the little fox neither admitted nor denied things.

“What would I be mad about?” Lu Yun rubbed his knuckles hard into her head.

Tushan... was the sovereign of Qingqiu Mountain. Not only was she the matriarch of the Qingqiu foxes, she was also the leader of all monster spirits in the great wilderness. It wasn’t an exaggeration for later generations to deem her the monster spirit ancestor.

Current monster spirits were just splitting off from gremlins and sprites. They weren’t their own race yet, so their status wasn’t much higher than humans in the great wilderness. However, they possessed greater talents and sharp claws, so their condition in this day and age was better than the human race.

The great wilderness was the world of connate demon gods—they were the true rulers of the world. Whether it be humans or monster spirits, or even divine spirits, all were lowly, base creatures in the demon gods’ eyes.

Just as Fuxi protected the human race, so too did Tushan guard the monster spirits.

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“Are you really not mad?” The little fox jumped on top of Lu Yun’s head, her two furry ears twitching gently. “I only found out who I was when I went back with them.” She still felt compelled to offer a word of explanation.

“Just like Fuxi left his senses in the world of immortals... so you too split off one ethereal and one corporeal soul-part?” Lu Yun thought of how Xing Mou and Liu Qingmiao were both reincarnated from the little fox’s soul-parts. They’d then developed complete souls and become their own individual beings.

The little fox shook her head, her soul was complete now too. “I was scared by the thing born of the immortal dao... Fuxi didn’t mean to leave his senses in the world of immortals either. That thing injured him and forced him into leaving them behind.

“That thing ripped his skin off with its own hands! His eyes were corrupted because they saw it! Thankfully, there’s nothing to worry about, though,” Miao continued seriously. “The four of us joined hands and sealed that demonic thing away. It won’t come out and cause trouble in the short term.”

“Demonic thing?” Lu Yun frowned. Fuxi hadn’t said anything about the entity, just that Lu Yun needed to be careful.

“Yes, the first demonic thing to be born under the immortal dao!” The little fox jumped down from Lu Yun’s head and burrowed into his arms. “The demons you know and see now all originate from this era. Even Ah Zhi’s a demon born of these times!”

Ah Zhi was a Fated Spider, an exceedingly strong connate demon god. She was a pure demon and naturally born this way, but her personality was so laidback and easygoing—in other words, lazy—that a demonic nature didn’t corrupt her mind.

“But the thing in the future will be a demon born beneath the immortal dao! Though the immortal dao still isn’t complete, it’s stronger than the primitive great dao and even the human dao you know. Therefore, a demon born beneath it will be stronger too!

“Ji Du and Luo Houluo are just babies compared to it!

“You know about the origins of the immortal dao... there is too much resentment in it and the karmic repercussions are too great. The destructive appetite of that demon will be far greater than anything demons now can muster.”

Lu Yun took in a deep breath and nodded slowly, taking in all the ramifications of what the little fox was saying.

“Since you’ve found yourself again, have you recovered your strength?” He gave up on the topic of the future demon.

“If I’d kept sleeping in the resurrection layout, I might’ve been able to...” the little fox responded plaintively. “But first that blood dragon wanted to eat me, then you woke me up. Thankfully, little girl Mo Yi gave me her core essence. Otherwise, it would’ve been hard to find myself even after going back to Qingqiu Mountain.”

When Mo Yi had severed her cultivation to experience the void realm, she’d gifted her domineering power to the little fox so the latter could consolidate her own core essence.

Lu Yun rubbed his forehead.

“I’m going to search for the nine connate spirit roots, do you know where they are?” his tone turned grave. “I can give up on the other spirit roots, but I have to find the Constellation Willow!”

The Constellation Willow of his time was the desolate willow holding down the fort in the Skandha Range. It’d helped Lu Yun a great deal, so he would never refine it. Therefore, he had to find its version in this day and age!

To Lu Yun, the future was something set in stone. He was here because the future was an indisputable reality, so no matter what he did, things would only develop according to the progress of history and wouldn’t impact future generations.

If he obtained the Constellation Willow here, then the future birth of the desolate willow would occur through other means. That was the hope he clung to.

“The Constellation Willow?” The little fox blinked. “It’s Luo Houluo’s greatest treasure. It should be with him.”

Luo Houluo was a great connate demon god, the greatest of this era. He was an existence on the level of Fuxi and the creator of the four blood demons in Lu Yun’s time.

“What cultivation level does Luo Houluo have?” Lu Yun frowned.

“Beyond great emperor, which makes him of the chaos realm under the great dao,” replied the little fox. “But... if your replica was present, he should be able to defeat a chaos realm expert.”

The little fox's cultivation level was actually quite close to Luo Houluo's, but she still felt that she wasn't Xing Chen's match. Lu Yun was the master of the sacred land in the future and creator of numerous combat arts. His battle philosophy spanned several aeons and wasn't something that any being of this era could match.

"No wonder Luo Houluo attacked me as soon as he saw Xing Chen... so it looks like we do know each other from before!" A grin curled Lu Yun's lips. "Where does he live?"

The little fox dug her claws into Lu Yun's collar. "I want to go too! I'll show you the way!"

Several hundred rays of sharp killing intent locked onto Lu Yun as soon as the little fox said that—the true experts of Qingqiu Mountain.

"All of you, back off!" The little fox jumped onto Lu Yun's head and voiced a piercing whistle. "That's an order!"

An indomitable bearing roiled out from the little fox as the Bell of Chaos around her neck tolled with resonant bell rings. The foxes of Qingqiu Mountain didn't dare defy her and retreated.

"I'm in the true divine realm now, I'm stronger than you!" proudly declared the little fox from her vantage point on top of Lu Yun's head.

"I want to see someone first before we visit Luo Houluo." Lu Yun thought for a moment. "Ling Weiyang, also known as Ashu."

1. The first is the demon god and the second is his master. The crazy one who slaughtered everything in the West Sea and wanted to kill Lu Yun, which led to two representatives from the Firmaments showing up and blasting the ancient time ruin apart.

#### **Chapter 844: Xing Chen's Whereabouts**

"Ling Weiyang?" The little fox's ears twitched. "If he's already been born into this world, he must be a nobody. I haven't heard of him, at least."

"Is that so?" Lu Yun paused. "But he'll be one of the strongest powerhouses of the human dao era to come. I think it's the right move to pay him a visit regardless. At the very least, he has the potential and fortune to become an ultimate expert!"

The little fox burrowed into Lu Yun's embrace and didn't say anything else.

"Wait, where have you stuck the Deaf Prince and the others?" Lu Yun yanked her out by the tail again. The Deaf Prince and the other prodigals, as well as Jing Dichen's younger sister Jing Huaci, was almost becoming an internal demon of his. After all, they'd ventured into the celestial master tomb only for his sake.

"Right here." The little fox arched her neck at Lu Yun so that the bell she wore tinkled charmingly.

"They're cultivating in here. The four of us sent the Timelight Tower and Vastspace Mountain through the river of time to the era of immortal dao. We thought the two empresses would become great emperors of the world upon their survival and bolster the foundations of the immortal dao. Who would've thought they'd argue and fight each other instead, benefiting those akasha ghosts in the end?"

Undue suffering colored her tone.

“So you mean the Timelight Tower has no ability to travel through spacetime?” Lu Yun honed in on a key point.

“The Timelight Tower is an important instrument of time, but it doesn’t have the ability to travel through time by itself,” responded the little fox seriously. “Plus, those two treasures are very important. The akasha ghosts created two terrible weapons of great dao when they absorbed only a small tendril of their power. If they laid hands on the actual treasures themselves, they’d immediately destroy the world of immortals.

“Therefore, I instinctively swept them into the Bell of Chaos and had the prodigals train inside so they can refine the treasures.”

A great anxiety clouding Lu Yun’s mind finally dispersed when he heard this. The Bell of Chaos was a special peerless connate treasure and the only one among all connate treasures that could travel through spacetime.

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The Wood Tribe was one of the stronger factions in the great wilderness. Situated in the east, their king was Gou Mang, a powerful connate god. They were a collection of wood-attributed beings, rather than a tribe with a shared bloodline. They were powerful and united with multiple great gods holding down the fort.

Even demons such as Luo Houluo and Ji Du didn’t dare casually provoke them.

A continent deep within the depths of the East Sea was their home. It was impossible for Lu Yun and the little fox—a golden core and true divine cultivator—to travel there by themselves. And as Tushan, though the little fox wasn’t a connate great god, she was one of the very few chaos realm powerhouses in the great wilderness. She’d lost all of her cultivation at the moment and just managed to reach true divinity, which was nothing at all. If word of this got out, she wouldn’t live past three days.

Though only three among the Qingqiu foxes knew her identity, there was no airtight wall in the world. Departing from the mountain was the wisest decision she could make.

To the east of Qingqiu Mountain was a vast expanse of flat plains. The boundless East Sea could be found at the end of them.

“Who died here to be buried by heaven and earth?!” Shock shook Lu Yun as he stared at the endless grasslands before him.

In his eyes, this vast expanse was yet another great tomb! An incomparably strong existence had been buried here by the world itself after they died, and then the tomb itself turned into an enormous influence over heaven and earth. The tomb in front of him was only a fraction smaller than the tomb of great god Pangu in the human sacred land.

“It’s great god Yi’s tomb.” The little fox burrowed out of Lu Yun’s arms and whispered, “A long, long time ago, Taiyi wanted to become emperor and conquer the world. Countless demon gods opposed him, and Yi was one of them.

“Though Yi was a chaos realm level great god, he still wasn’t Taiyi’s match. He was defeated and killed over these plains.”

“Yi? The Hou Yi who shot down the suns?” Lu Yun asked subconsciously.

“Right, that Hou Yi.” The little fox nodded. “The nine suns he shot down weren’t real suns either, but the spirits of suncrows born of the Fusang Purewood. These plains also used to be called Suncrows Plain. Not only is Hou Yi buried here, but so is his bow and the spirits of the suncrows he killed.”

Fiery excitement rose in Lu Yun’s heart as he looked down on the sparkling plain, one that hid a grand tomb.

“I’ve excavated a lot of tombs housing immortals... but I’ve never dug open one for a connate demon god!” Anticipation rose on his face while the little fox shuddered.

“Don’t go seeking death now... I didn’t dare set foot in there even when I was at my peak. Do you know how Taiyi died? Because he wanted to retrieve the bow and the nine spirits from the tomb. He was gravely injured instead, which gave other demon gods the opportunity to kill him.”

“Taiyi didn’t know feng shui...” Lu Yun grumbled.

“Fuxi is the celestial master of Taiyi’s celestial court!” the little fox hastily interjected. “Fuxi and Ah Zhi passed all of their feng shui and formations onto Taiyi!”

“Then... I’ll just take a look from the outside and won’t go in. Will that do?” Lu Yun wasn’t sure about things. He didn’t think that his understanding of feng shui was less than Fuxi or Taiyi’s, but his cultivation and strength was far below theirs, of that there was no doubt.

“You really just want to take a look?” The little fox looked skeptically at Lu Yun.

“I might still have to head inside.” A grave look colored his face. “The tomb isn’t in the Suncrows Plain before us, and neither is it in the great wilderness. It’s in the stars! And my replica is also in this tomb!

“Xing Chen is one with my body. Apart from tombs formed by great influences over heaven and earth, I really can’t think of what else can isolate my connection with my replica!”

Before arriving at Suncrows Plain, Lu Yun had clearly sensed that his replica... was in this tomb, and that the tomb proper lay among the stars.

“That’s right... after we traveled through time, my primary body landed in Qingqiu Mountain where Ah Zhuang and the others found me. My replica shouldn’t have been too far away from me, so landing somewhere near Qingqiu Mountain makes sense.

“You stay here, I’m going in to take a look.” Lu Yun fished the little fox out by her tail and placed her on the ground.

“I’m going too!” The little fox bounded onto his head and clutched his hair tightly, not letting go no matter what.

1. Taiyi Zhenren is a deity in Chinese religion and Taoism. Taiyi means "primordial unity of yin and yang" and Zhenren is a Daoist term for "Perfected Person". According to the opening of the classical novel Fengshen Bang, he is the reincarnation of the first emperor of the Shang dynasty, Tang of Shang.

2. In Chinese mythology, Hou Yi (后羿) is considered to be the greatest archer of all time. He is best known for marrying the moon goddess, Chang'e (嫦娥). Hou Yi is also said to have shot down 9 of 10 suns that were burning up the earth in prehistoric times.

#### **Chapter 845: The Origins of the Shaman Tribe**

The Bell of Chaos jingled pleasantly on the little fox's neck; Lu Yun didn't turn her request down. He was effectively defenseless, armed with neither treasure nor weapon. If he encountered any danger, the Bell of Chaos would play a crucial role in saving him.

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Suncrows Plain was vast, spanning eastward and bordering the East Sea. According to Lu Yun's observations, the entire grassland had become a giant tomb. Standing upon the plain was no different than standing upon the great tomb.

That was why he hadn't believed that the tomb buried only the great god Yi and spirits of nine suncrows. Swoosh.

As soon as Lu Yun descended from Qingqiu Mountain to Suncrows Plain, ten arrows whistled through the air and stabbed into the ground before him.

"Human from the river tribes, how dare you enter Suncrows Plain? Do you court death?!" A powerful yell was followed by the emergence of thirty young men with feathers on their heads. They rose from the bushes and notched their bows, aiming their arrows at Lu Yun.

The edge of Suncrows Plain marked the territory of the Dongyi Tribe.

The human race was split into three main factions. The river tribes mainly resided in the Yellow River basin, the Dongyi tribes were found in Suncrows Plain, and the Cloud Dream tribe at the Great Southern Marsh.

The three factions were each other's worst enemies, and war between them had lasted tens of thousands of years. Not even Fuxi could resolve the situation.

The human race was the descendent of the Great Pangu, so there were too many factors to be taken into consideration.

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Fixing his eyes on the speaker, Lu Yun saw that the burly Dongyi tribesmen had all attained a beginner's understanding of the connate great dao, and that the arrows at their bows flickered with strong inner energy.

Those had been warning shots. If he really dared set foot into Suncrows Plain, they would immediately fire more arrows and kill him.

“Out of my way!” Lu Yun snapped, his brows furrowed.

Shockwaves of great power rumbled out in all directions, sending the Dongyi flying like dandelions on a breeze. Lu Yun had reached peak golden core great dao, which rivaled the peerless immortal realm in modern times.

The difference between him and the tribesmen who’d just been initiated into the connate great dao was greater than that of heaven and earth. Lu Yun wasn’t in the mood to kill anyone, or he could’ve disintegrated them with a simple huff.

“The entrance to the tomb should be at the center of Suncrows Plain... There should be a great mountain there.” Having driven away the Dongyi, Lu Yun took a closer look at his surroundings and came to some initial conclusions.

The little fox shook her head slightly. She didn’t know the plains that well. Although Qingqiu Mountain bordered Suncrows Plain, the plain was considered a location of ill omen ever since Taiyi’s injuries. Not even the great connate gods would choose to venture near this place, let alone the little fox.

“To seek a dragon of mountains coiled, those deathly cliffs with mysteries roiled!” Lu Yun’s eyes turned pure gold as he applied the Dragonsearch Invocation to them. The shadow of a feng shui compass flickered in and out of existence above his head, while Suncrows Plain was projected straight into his eyes.

“The luopan... is in my body and has become a part of me?” Delight flashed through his eyes. He’d thought his luopan was lost, but it’d actually become a part of him!

Merging with his luopan somehow perfected his grasp of the Dragonsearch Invocation, enabling him to see through the feng shui layouts before him with just his eyes.

The dao of burial was still in its infancy in this era. Its layouts were at their most primitive, but this was a layout of heavenly burial! However, it was much more intricate and dangerous than the dao of burial to come in the future.

“How about the Dragonshift Method and Dragonspike Litany?” Lu Yun didn’t give into his reckless impulse, despite his pounding heart.

Both the Dragonshift Method and the Dragonspike Litany might lead to unexpected consequences. The former shifted dragon veins and could trigger the backlash of the world, while the Dragonspike Litany...

Lu Yun still recalled how the Exalted Immortal Sect and the Exalted heavenly court had been destroyed... He didn’t think it a mere coincidence that all of it had happened so quickly and on such a magnitude after he’d inserted the spike. The Dragonspike Litany was not to be trifled with.

Although the Dongyi were enemies with the tribes of the great river basins, Lu Yun didn’t see them as such since he was from the future.

He let the Dragonsearch Invocation peter out and identified a safe route, making his way to the great mountain at the heart of Suncrows Plain. There was a great mountain there as he’d speculated, but he could tell that it was in fact an enormous corpse.

“Suncrows Plain has gone through some changes. The Bi Fang suddenly appearing outside Ning Village escaped from the grassland!” he muttered. “I wonder if that was Xing Chen’s doing.”

Traversing an immeasurable distance, Lu Yun found himself halted by a roiling river. It was greater than even the Wei River; Lu Yun recognized it as the Yellow River with a single glance. The river cut through Suncrows Plain and meandered east until it met the ocean.

Lu Yun had been travelling southeast rather than due east. That was why he crossed paths with the river. The Yellow River, however, gave him a foreboding feeling. Something terrifying resided within its depths.

“Can it be its river god?” He stood at the riverbank, his brows knitted slightly. “Suncrows Plain is impoverished, much more so than the Wei River basin... Why would the river god of the mighty Yellow River settle down here instead of the fertile midstream?”

Puzzling over this, he rose into the air to cross the Yellow River, but a panicked and angry voice cried out, “Stop! Stop at once!”

The protest came with an overwhelming surge of power that smashed him back down to the ground.

“What do you think you’re doing? Are you trying to destroy all of the Dongyi Tribes?!”

Lu Yun turned around to find a powerfully-built old man wearing nine golden feathers in his hair. He glared at Lu Yun with murderous fury.

“Barbarian from the great river, how despicable and evil you are to resort to these lowly tricks. You’re here to destroy the Dongyi!” In his hand was a drawn bow as tall as a man. Pitch-black, a notched white bone arrow was aimed at Lu Yun.

Lu Yun could sense great power from the arrow... It reminded him of curses from the shamanic race!

That was it. It was the power of the shamanic race. The Dongyi are the ancestors of the shamanic race!

“You misunderstand. I’m simply making my way east and nothing more.” Lu Yun cupped his hands at the old man.

However, the old man’s face remained grave, ready to let loose the bone arrow.

### **Chapter 846: Blood Demon**

Whoosh!

The stark-white bone arrow whistled through the air when the elder loosed his bow, arriving in front of Lu Yun’s throat almost instantaneously.

So fast! The thought had just arisen in his mind when a bitter almond taste welled up in his throat.

“It’s poisoned!” It suddenly connected that he knew this poison. He’d encountered it before when tasting all of those herbs and it’d almost killed him. It was a deadly poison similar to the Poison Arrow Trees of ancient China, and he’d written down in the Myriad Herbs Classic that it was exceedingly dangerous.

To think that the Dongyi would already be making use of this poison!

Thankfully, his own reflexes were extremely fast. He shifted to the side a split second before the poison arrow sank into his throat and evaded the terrifying attack by the skin of his teeth. But before he could twitch another muscle, the Dongyi elder leapt into the air and grabbed Lu Yun by the throat.

So fast!

Though the elder's cultivation was less than Shennong's, he could kill Shennong ten times over without breaking a sweat!

"Lie Shan!" Two beams of green light flared from the elder's eyes as he glared at Lu Yun, whose eyelids twitched when he saw those eyes.

"You're not a Dongyi member, you're, you're..." Though he struggled, the elder's strength was too overwhelming. A terrifying power flooded Lu Yun's body and restrained every fiber of his being.

"That's right, it's me!" forced out the Dongyi elder through clenched teeth. "I've finally got you, Lie Shan! So you come from the future! Should I snap your neck now while you're weak and fragile?"

Lu Yun goggled with stupefaction. This elder was the demon god's master, Luo Houluo!

When the ancient ruin exploded, Lu Yun and the little fox weren't the only ones affected. If they could travel through spacetime and land in this era, then so could Luo Houluo.

Though Fuxi was the mastermind behind everything, there were many details that he couldn't control.

The little fox was likewise restrained, but Luo Houluo seemed to bear some reservations and didn't dare touch her, so she quietly remained in Lu Yun's embrace.

"It'd be as easy as snapping a finger if you wanted to kill me. Since you haven't, that means I still hold some value for you," Lu Yun responded calmly.

"Damned human and your strong will." Luo Houluo lightly knocked his knuckles on the youth's head, but didn't reveal his true form.

When he returned to this era, he'd taken possession of a Dongyi priest. However, as strong as he was, so was the priest's will. Even though someone else had stolen his body, the priest forced his aggressor to stay and protect the Dongyi humans.

Luo Houluo wasn't at liberty to go about his business, and if it wasn't for him recognizing Lu Yun at this time, he'd probably still be on watch here, preventing the river god in the Yellow River from threatening the Dongyi Tribe.

One thing Lu Yun recalled from when he first met the demon god was that Luo Houluo had immediately recognized him and flew into a berserk rage. Could it be that Lu Yun had something to do with the Luo Houluo of this present day and age?

For some reason, the Constellation Willow came to mind.

"Take me to Taiyi's tomb!" Luo Houluo threw Lu Yun to the ground and stabbed his hand into his chest, digging his heart out from his body. "Take me to Taiyi's tomb!"

Thump!

The Dongyi elder toppled over to the ground with no signs of life. His heart remained floating in the air and slowly wriggled into a bloody humanoid form.

A blood demon! One like the blood dragon and blood phoenix, but since this one was manifested by a heart, it wouldn't sustain itself for long. However, it was the most Luo Houluo could attempt at the moment. Otherwise, the Dongyi elder's will would continue to influence him and make it impossible for him to leave.

"Alright!" Lu Yun didn't ask further and didn't refuse.

The blood demon jerked slightly and turned into a bloody pearl that rested on the human youth.

"Taiyi's tomb is at the center of Suncrows Plain, it's tangled up with the tomb of Yi and those nine suncrows." Luo Houluo's voice sounded by Lu Yun's ear. As a blood demon, he was in full possession of his greatest abilities.

"I thought that tomb looked a bit weird, so it turns out Taiyi is buried there too," grumbled Lu Yun. "But why did he come back and bury himself in there?"

"Taiyi didn't make it out alive to begin with," said the blood demon. "He entered Yi's tomb to find Yi's bow, but died in the attempt. What emerged was just his obsession."

He snuck a careful look at the little fox in Lu Yun's arms as he spoke, a stiff expression on his face. "Female troublemaker!"

"Eh?" Sensing the blood demon's gaze, the little fox looked askance at the speaker. This time, the demon stayed silent.

When Lu Yun reached the center of the river, he glimpsed a mammoth shadow lurking in its depths.

"What is that? The river god?" He couldn't make out its true form as it seemed to be nothing, but also most assuredly existed at the same time.

"It's a divine spirit formed out of the resentment of all living beings that died here, a so-called evil god," the blood demon's tone softened slightly. "Ignore it, with all of the chaos in Suncrows Plain, it won't dare come out for the time being.

"We need to go!" his tone grew anxious.

The disturbance in Suncrows Plain gave them the perfect cover to enter the tomb. Though the blood demon was stronger than Lu Yun, he didn't understand the dao of burial or feng shui. Only Fuxi's cherished disciple, Lie Shan, could safely traverse the tomb.

Without another word, Lu Yun deployed the Wandering Step and crossed the river.

The Wandering Step was modified from a death art, which meant that though he couldn't utilize the death arts at the moment because he didn't have access to hellfire and the Tome of Life and Death, his own modified arts were fine.

Upon arriving in this era, Lu Yun finally understood that he owed everything to the Tome of Life and Death. If it wasn't for this treasure, his strength would decrease by at least ninety percent. Therefore, he had to start again from the beginning and wean himself off of relying on the book.

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The great river split the Suncrows Plain into two. To its left was land suitable for life, but past the river was an enormous ocean of fire.

1. In the ancient times, the Li people smeared the latex from Poison Arrow Trees onto arrowheads for use in hunting and warfare.
2. His use of Spectral Eye before was also a modified death art.

### **Chapter 847: Bai Zhaoju**

The great river divided Suncrows Plain into two. To the northwest of the river was where the Dongyi resided, and the southeast was an ocean of flames—the haven of gremlins and monster spirits.

Of course, divine beasts were still the majority of the territory; all sorts of fire-attribute beasts abounded. The Bi Fang that Lu Yun had once seen and beasts that'd reached true divinity were so numerous that they were just ordinary beings among the masses.

He could finally grasp how insignificant and weak humans were. A singular Fuxi and Wahuang wasn't enough to shoulder the entire race's survival and development. Reaching the true divine realm in the human race meant that one was a god to the people, placing one on the level of Shennong and other powerhouses at peak true divinity. But when compared to other races in the great wilderness, true divine cultivators were nothing worth a second look at.

"Zhi Guangji once mentioned that geniuses in the era before Emperors Fall were born at the cultivation level of a human king... it looks like he wasn't exaggerating in the least." Lu Yun landed carefully on the ground and withdrew his aura. This region was terrifying, even the little fox shrank in on herself and the blood demon concealed all traces of his presence as well. All of them clung quietly to Lu Yun's body.

Up in the sky, an enormous avian being flew by. It blazed with flames so hot that Lu Yun could feel their heat even hundreds of kilometers away.

"Phoenix... that's a phoenix!" Head tilted upward, Lu Yun gaped with a dry mouth. These magnificent creatures were extinct in his time, and if it weren't for him, Huangqing would've already made her transition into a blood phoenix thanks to Luo Houluo's schemes.

The phoenix high up in the reaches was resplendent and unbridled. Its cultivation had passed true divinity and reached the next realm of celestial divinity. In the outskirts of Suncrows Plain, it was an undisputed sovereign of the land.

However, phoenixes weren't the ultimate powerhouses in this day and age. Connate demon gods were the rulers of the world, and only they were the true masters and strongest experts in the great wilderness. Phoenixes and dragons, two domineering races in the times to come, were merely average.

The phoenix's appearance put Lu Yun on high alert. In the outside perimeter of Suncrows Plain, the weakest beings were true divinities, with an occasional celestial divinity to be found. He had to proceed with the greatest of caution.

"It's Bi Fang!" Lu Yun came to a sudden halt, staring at a flock of dark blue birds that trembled and cowered on the ground. He gasped sharply at the size of the flock, there were a couple hundred of them here!

Plainly, they'd all landed because of the phoenix earlier and happened to rest right in the middle of Lu Yun's route.

Resignation rose in his heart. His path was one he'd just calculated, one that minimized travel time and was the safest. Lu Yun was certain that he'd be instantly wiped off the face of the great wilderness if he was attacked by these Bi Fang; there wouldn't even be bone dust left of him.

"Oi, is there a way to get through?" He shook his sleeves gently, but both the little fox and blood demon remained silent. They were taking advantage of the opportunity to play deaf and dumb, like they didn't exist.

Rolling his eyes, Lu Yun lifted a corner of his robe and saw the little fox with her paws clapped over her eyes, fur shaking slightly from her trembling.

Oohkay then.

"I suppose I can try calling upon the five elements and travel through the earth." He took a look at the ground beneath his feet. Though scorching sparks flared from time to time, they were within his range of tolerance.

"There's obviously other unknown existences beneath the earth, probably some sort of formidable fire. These plains wouldn't keep burning otherwise, and that flame has probably given birth to its own spirit." Lu Yun hesitated. "But that flock of Bi Fang are still in a state of petrified fear. It should be fine if I go under just a little bit and skate right beneath the surface of the earth. That shouldn't attract their attention."

To think was to take action; he formed some hand seals, creating a web of criss-crossing brown and red light around his body before he dove into the ground. However, he shuddered violently the next moment and shot out of the dirt.

"What is that?!" Shock colored his face.

"That's the body of the great god Yi," sounded a faint voice.

Heart clenching painfully, Lu Yun looked to the side and saw a man dressed in white looking at him with some interest.

"Tsk ts, a human in the golden core realm dares set foot in Suncrows Plain? Aren't you just... looking to die?" The man was handsome and looked roughly twenty-eight years old. A faint golden mark appeared embossed between his brows, and a sharp aura subtly pressured Lu Yun with the edge of an indestructible blade.

“Lie Shan of the human race greets the senior!” Lu Yun quickly offered his identity and bowed at the same time. He could sense that this extremely powerful man didn’t seem inclined to attack, and that he didn’t bear any hostility towards Lu Yun. The keen presence around him was just a result of the cultivation methods he practiced.

“Lie Shan of the human race? You’re the Lie Shan that Fuxi mentioned? Not bad, not bad. I’m Bai Zhaoju, here from the western reaches of the great wilderness.”

Bai Zhaoju! Lu Yun’s heart skipped a beat. Ling Weiyang, Zhi Guangji, Bai Zhaoju, Chi Biaonu were the four greatest experts of the world before Emperors Fall!

Ling Weiyang was Ashu, a protector of the human race despite not being one himself.

Zhi Guangji hadn’t wanted to entrust his fate to some insubstantial future and rebelled for it, but ultimately perished in the battle of Emperors Fall and became an akasha ghost.

And here was Bai Zhaoju in the flesh before him!

From their short exchange, Lu Yun could surmise that Bai Zhaoju had done the same as Ling Weiyang and Xuanyuan—offered up his great dao so that the immortal dao could absorb it.

“Do you know me?” Bai Zhaoju asked curiously when he read the youth’s expression. The boy’s face was flushed and he seemed quite agitated.

“Um, eh, no!” Lu Yun shook his head rapidly. “But I’ve heard of the senior’s name and know you to be of noble character and great prestige!”

“No-whaaat?” Bai Zhaoju almost choked on his spit. “Of noble character and great prestige?” A strange expression stole across his face. “I’m not a hundred years old yet, so when did I become someone’s senior? And of noble character? Great prestige? You don’t seem to be lying or insincere... Ah, are you crazy?”

He sank into deep thought. “Or is there another Bai Zhaoju in the great wilderness?”

Lu Yun shut his mouth and didn’t say anything more.

“Well, to meet means we share some part of our destinies. This golden pearl is a precious bauble even among treasures. It’s your new toy now.” Bai Zhaoju casually shoved a sparkling orb into Lu Yun’s hands. “Also, Suncrows Plain is too dangerous and not a place where you should be. I’ll escort you out.”

“Wait!” Lu Yun quickly declined the offer. “Please hold on, senior. I’m here for an important task. If you’d like to help me, please send me to the great mountain in the middle of the plains!”

“Senior?!” Bai Zhaoju glared at him this time. “This young master isn’t even a hundred years old yet!”

## **Chapter 848: Troublemaker of a Woman**

Lu Yun shrank in on himself.

“I am not a senior!” Bai Zhaoju repeated seriously. “Don’t call me that!” He gave the matter some deliberation. “Call me brother... but we ain’t friends. Call me White Emperor then! That’s right, White Emperor! An emperor of his territory... Hahaha, that’s a fantastic name!”

Lu Yun stared at him dumbly, at a loss for words. "The... White Emperor?"

"Yah, that's right!" Bai Zhaoju nodded earnestly. "Once I reach the chaos realm, the title of White Emperor will be known throughout the great wilderness!"

"Ling Weiyang will be the Azure Emperor, Chi Biaonu, the Crimson Emperor, and Zhi Guangji, the Black Emperor! Hahaha, we'll be the emperors of four cardinal directions. How grand will that be!" He puffed out his chest as he spoke, raking a self-satisfied gaze over Lu Yun.

This legendary Bai Zhaoju is quite different from what I'd imagined him to be...

Lu Yun stuck out his tongue. "Then I'd like to ask Your Grand Majesty the White Emperor to escort me to the huge mountain at the heart of Suncrows Plain!"

"You're going to Yi's tomb?" Bai Zhaoju flicked him a sideways glance. "You really do have a death wish! Listen, if it was Chi Biaonu here, he might be able to protect you, but I certainly cannot!"

His cultivation methods veered toward the metal element, which happened to be countered by the fire elements here. He could probably protect himself in Suncrows Plain, but he wouldn't be able to protect Lu Yun.

"Don't worry, White Emperor," said Lu Yun. "I've received Holy Emperor Fuxi's tutelage about feng shui and identifying landscapes. Perhaps I'll be of some use when dangers arise."

"Fuxi passed all of that onto you?" Bai Zhaoju nervously covered the youth's mouth and continued gravely, "Don't ever say that out loud again. What Fuxi knows is coveted by even the most powerful connate demon gods and other beings who are almost as great as the creators. You must keep your skills a secret, understood?"

Lu Yun nodded.

"Is it just me, or does that fox look a little like that troublemaker of a woman, Tushan?" Bai Zhaoju muttered, glancing at the little fox in Lu Yun's arms. "Stay close behind me and don't go anywhere by yourself."

He rose to his feet and moved forward.

"Wait," Lu Yun called out, pointing in the direction obstructed by the flock of Bi Fang. "That way!"

Bai Zhaoju rolled his eyes and changed course, running up to the birds.

"Troublemaker of a woman?" Lu Yun raised a brow at the little fox, who met his gaze with innocent wide eyes.

"Git!!" Bai Zhaoju snarled at the Bi Fang. He'd exceeded true divine realm and entered the celestial divine realm, making him much more powerful than the phoenix they'd encountered earlier.

Although the Bi Fang's combined strength overwhelmed his, the gap between their cultivation realm was too great. His roar sent the hundreds of startled Bi Fang into the air for a speedy escape.

"You mustn't take flight in these plains," Bai Zhaoju commented as he started moving again. "Otherwise, something may come out of nowhere and swallow you whole."

“Awoooo!” As if in response to his warning, a giant mouth emerged in the air. Roaring and howling in challenge, it swallowed a mouthful of Bi Fang before vanishing into thin air.

Lu Yun shuddered.

“Regret things yet?” Bai Zhaoju asked with a half smile.

“No.” Lu Yun shook his head. “What was that?”

“No clue.” Bai Zhaoju shrugged. “This is my first time here.”

It was at this time that Lu Yun realized this White Emperor wasn’t as reliable as he’d thought.

The two of them carefully navigated their way through the grassland, narrowly escaping a few powerful beings they couldn’t afford to disturb. Some of the giant fire beasts were far more powerful than Bai Zhaoju and even Ah Bao.

Thankfully, Lu Yun had already identified the safest route through this treacherous territory. Otherwise, even Bai Zhaoju would die here.

The sun slowly sank beneath the horizon and was nowhere to be seen, but the plains grew increasingly brighter. Not only due to the flames dancing on the ground, but because of an even greater light source some distance away.

It was an enormous mountain surrounded by flames, which illuminated Suncrows Plain in place of the sun in the sky.

“Tsk, tsk, what a fiery mountain. I wonder what’s going on with it. Apparently, it’s been burning for a hundred thousand years.” Bai Zhaoju smacked his lips as he tore into a roasted Bi Fang drumstick.

Lu Yun smiled wryly at the spit-roasted Bi Fang; its essence was too powerful for him to consume. He might have reached peak golden core under the great dao, placing him a step away from entering the true divine realm, but...

This was the heart of the Suncrows Plain, where true divines could be found everywhere and celestial divines as plentiful as dogs. There were even a good number of divine kings—ones who could rival Ah Bao.

Lu Yun wasn’t sure what would happen when he ascended to the true divine realm, but he was certain the powerful beings here would be alerted, and he would get Bai Zhaoju killed.

Gulping, he turned away from the feast.

The little fox, on the other hand, clambered out of Lu Yun’s arms and sat on top of the dead Bi Fang, tearing into it with reckless abandon.

“This fox really isn’t that troublemaker of a woman, is it?” Bai Zhaoju gave her a speculative look.

“Troublemaker of a woman? What do you mean?” Lu Yun couldn’t help his curiosity while the little fox glared at him.

“It’s no big secret. People say that Taiyi wanted to make Tushan his concubine, but Tushan refused. The great god Yi fought Taiyi in order to protect her. After killing nine suncrows, they had a massive final battle in Suncrows Plain, which ended with Yi’s demise.

“Tushan yielded to Taiyi’s prowess after that, but in order to have her, he had to retrieve the bow from Yi’s tomb. Taiyi returned gravely injured, and died shortly thereafter in an ambush staged by the other connate demon gods.

“Yi was one of the greatest among the connate gods, while Taiyi was the first celestial emperor of the great wilderness. Both of them died because of Tushan... She is thus known as the greatest femme fatale in the great wilderness.” Bai Zhaoju peered at the little fox and gave her a close onceover, who batted back innocent eyes at him.

Lu Yun was reminded of the little fox’s human form... She was, barring none, the most beautiful being he had ever met. He wholeheartedly believed Bai Zhaoju’s story.

“It’s said that Tushan’s true form is a nine-tailed fox. You have only one...” He reached out to grab the little fox’s furry tail, who burrowed herself into Lu Yun’s arms in a flash of white.

“Alright, let’s enter the tomb.” Lu Yun changed the subject. “Dig down for sixty-eight kilometers, that’ll be our entrance!”

#### **Chapter 849: Scapegoat**

“But they say that the entrance to the tomb is beneath the mountain,” Bai Zhaoju objected with surprise.

“That’s not a mountain, it’s a corpse!” Lu Yun corrected solemnly. “The mountain is wrapped around the corpse, which has mostly decayed and is filled with dreadful corpse poison. The three of us won’t be able to withstand it.” He quirked his lips with ruefulness.

“A corpse? Whose?!” Bai Zhaoju’s eyes widened enormously.

“How would I know whose body it is?” grumbled Lu Yun. “Start digging here. Sixty-eight kilometers down lies another entrance to the tomb.” He pointed at his feet.

“You dare treat this emperor as manual labor?” Bai Zhaoju glared at him.

“What, you want me to do it instead?” Lu Yun shrugged. “With my strength, I’ll be burnt to a crisp before I get five kilometers down.”

“Fine then, I’ll do it.” Bai Zhaoju waved a brilliantly gleaming sword into his hand that made Lu Yun’s heart spasm painfully.

This sword...

Traceless!

Lu Yun was very familiar with it since he’d refined the sword. Who would’ve thought it’d be Bai Zhaoju’s personal weapon!

Whoosh!

A ray of brilliant splendor flared from the sword and stabbed into the earth beneath their feet. A thieves' tunnel running sixty-eight kilometers long quickly appeared within a hundred breaths. At the same time, a fiery breath spewed out of the passageway, sending Lu Yun scrambling backward.

"There's another legend!" Bai Zhaoju turned incomparably grave. "That year when Taiyi entered the tomb, he didn't make it out alive. He died in there and only his obsession walked out. His obsession gave the Bell of Chaos to Tushan and then left to fight the connate demon gods. It ultimately dispersed in battle!"

Lu Yun took a look inside his robes. That was what Luo Houluo had said as well, and his goal inside the tomb was plainly some treasure belonging to Taiyi.

"Taiyi's true form is a three-legged suncrow. He is a connate great god born of the sun, and he's also a mighty monster spirit," Bai Zhaoju continued, "I'm looking for the sole true feather on his body. What about you?"

History might've regarded Bai Zhaoju, Ling Weiyang, Zhi Guangji, and Chi Biaonu as four peak powerhouses, but they weren't born as such. They all developed and later grew into their strength.

"Me?" Lu Yun frowned slightly and thought back to Luo Houluo again. The demon god likely wanted Taiyi's body so he could come back to life in it! "I'm just curious, I just want to take a look around in it," he changed the subject.

Bai Zhaoju took a close look at the boy's face and nodded.

"Then refine that golden spirit pearl first before we go in." He was no idiot, he could tell that something was up from Lie Shan's expression and that acting normal was paramount.

In this era, the path of refining items had yet to rise. Connate treasures—naturally forming ones—were the equipment of choice, but they were also extremely rare. Bai Zhaoju had given one to Lu Yun so easily—plainly at the behest of Fuxi, who wanted him to take good care of humanity's rising star.

Here, refining treasures were done in the most primitive manner of melding one's blood with it. Lu Yun hadn't collected any useful treasures yet, but this pearl was also a bit too powerful for him.

"Eh?" His expression changed in the next moment when he realized that the pearl harbored an enormously strong nascent spirit. He would be able to use this orb as his replica as soon as he introduced his mind to it. Lu Yun looked at Bai Zhaoju, greatly startled. With this nascent spirit present, he made this powerful treasure his in the blink of an eye.

"The pearl was mine, but you can probably guess who made the thing inside." Bai Zhaoju smiled. "Let's go, the golden spirit pearl is a connate treasure while the fire below is hardly that. It won't be able to do anything to the pearl."

Lu Yun stood up with a nod. Meanwhile, the little fox poked a head out of his robes and looked at the thieves' tunnel with a hint of resentment.

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Black-red flames suffused the tunnel. Rather than an ordinary fire, these flames were a poisonous fire. The poison it contained could be corpse poison or something else even more terrifying. But just like Bai Zhaoju said, the golden spirit pearl was a connate treasure and simply shrugged off the fire.

Sparkling radiance cascaded out of the pearl, enveloping Lu Yun and Bai Zhaoju in a safe zone that was six meters across.

“What’s going on?” Bai Zhaoju suddenly stopped with a frown. “Who’s there?! Get out here!”

“Don’t move and don’t look back!” Almost jumping out of his skin, Lu Yun quickly steadied Bai Zhaoju, deathly afraid that he’d turn back.

“Have you noticed it too?” Bai Zhaoju remained looking steadily forward. “There’s a third set of footsteps here... did someone follow us in?”

“No, no one did.” Lu Yun shook his head. “It’s probably a random wild ghost looking for a scapegoat. Just ignore it.”

“A random wild ghost?” Bai Zhaoju couldn’t help a shudder.

The tunnel was sixty-eight kilometers long and pitch black. Apart from the circle of light cast by the golden spirit pearl, everything else was so dark that one wouldn’t be able to make out their hand if they reached forward.

There were only three sets of footsteps at first, but they grew to such a thundering crowd in the end that they threatened to deafen Lu Yun’s ears.

“Don’t look back and don’t look at them, no matter what you do!” he roared. “As soon as you see them, you’ll be dragged away to be their scapegoat!”

Bai Zhaoju nodded, his expression as usual and continued walking forward.

“Just how many people have died here for there to be so many wandering ghosts?” For some reason, Lu Yun thought of a terrifying kind of zombie in the future. Those zombies didn’t have much offensive power, but they assimilated whoever touched them. It was actually rather similar to the group of ghosts behind them now.

“Suncrows Plain used to be a battlefield, so who knows how many died when Great God Yi and Celestial Emperor Taiyi fought?” Bai Zhaoju chuckled. “For a long period of time after the great god died, many entered the tomb to look for his bow that could shoot down the spirits of suncrows. However, very few made it out alive.”

Since there was no cycle of reincarnation in the great wilderness, souls remained wherever they died.

“We’re here!” Lu Yun stopped.

“This is only the fifty-fourth kilometer, we haven’t reached the end yet.” Bai Zhaoju blinked.

“We dug sixty-eight kilometers to trick the terrible guy below. The real entrance is at the fifty-fourth kilometer!” Lu Yun whispered, “if we travel to the end of the tunnel, we’ll run into a horrifying existence. We’ll be able to enter the tomb if we dig here!”

## Chapter 850: Passing On Dao

“Remember, dig a tunnel that’s only two meters wide. You just need to make enough room for safe passage for one person at a time!” Lu Yun reminded solemnly.

Bai Zhaoju nodded and waved a hand, sending his sword to where the human was pointing in a burst of light. Brilliantly flashing across the air, it quickly opened another passageway.

Whoosh!

A ball of blackish-red flames burst out of the new tunnel.

“That’s right, the real tomb is below. We need to hurry down there, we won’t make it if we’re too slow!” Lu Yun urged.

Hummm.

However, a bloody light erupted on his body first and a hazy figure barreled out from his figure, darting into the newly opened tunnel before them.

Poised to act, Bai Zhaoju immediately filled the passage in again when the figure rushed into it.

“Let’s go!” Lu Yun yelled.

Bai Zhaoju grabbed Lu Yun and hurtled toward the surface. At the same time, he kept brandishing his sword to collapse the thieves’ tunnel. By the time they returned to the surface, the passageway was entirely gone.

Lu Yun fell to a sitting position on the ground and panted heavily for air.

“Finally managed to get him!” He heaved another long sigh of relief and looked at where his feet rested.

“Who was that?” Bai Zhaoju’s heart also pounded fiercely. That bloody shadow had been too terrifying as it was on the level of a chaos realm powerhouse.

“Luo Houluo,” Lu Yun whispered. “Let’s go, we need to head for that mountain.”

“Lie Shan, I’m going to kill you!!” The earth quaked as Luo Houluo’s roar echoed from underground, full of terror and fuming with rage. That hadn’t been a thieves’ tunnel toward a tomb just now, but an express passage to a horrifying zone of danger.

Bai Zhaoju immediately picked Lu Yun up a meter off the ground and flew toward the mountain not too far in the distance. The ground continued trembling as they traveled—there seemed to be two enormous creatures fighting to the death in the plains. All sorts of lifeforms on the ground scattered and ran for their lives.

“Luo Houluo? That’s one of the most dreadful demons in the great wilderness! How did you manage to provoke him??” Bai Zhaoju shuddered and subconsciously picked up speed. His flying sword exploded in a shower of light and formed a protective silver dome around him. Anything that dared block their way was slashed to pieces by the magnificent sword light.

For some reason, the central zone of Suncrows Plain was in utter disarray. A mere celestial divine like Bai Zhaoju was nothing in the face of this violence.

“Calm down and don’t panic, I’ll share a sword method with you!” A sudden thought struck Lu Yun and he transmitted the Vast Dragon Seaturner, a method he’d invent in the future, into his partner’s mind.

Bai Zhaoju jerked.

“Sword dao! The sword as dao!” Great surprise welled up from his heart.

Sword dao naturally existed in this era as well, but this was a time in which primitive force reigned supreme. Directly manipulating the energy of all beings was the method of choice, and though sword dao was practiced by some, it was infinitely harder to walk the path of sword dao in an age of the unpolished, primitive great dao.

The sword dao of this era was that of primitive sword dao, and wielders deployed mighty primitive energy when they called upon it. After Lu Yun found his way to the path of sword dao, Vast Dragon Seaturner had transformed into a combat art of sword dao. This was also the first sword technique he’d ever invented, his very first foray into sword dao.

Bai Zhaoju had reached celestial divinity before the age of a hundred, marking him to be a stunning genius of his time. Vast Dragon Seaturner was a key that would open the door of sword dao for him, enabling him to set forth on his own path. Lu Yun had no intention of forcing a titan of the human dao era down someone else’s path.

Hummmm.

Sword aura flared from Bai Zhaoju’s body and formed an enormous dragon of sword qi next to him. Scales glistening and claws gleaming, it wrapped around him and Lu Yun, then shot forward with abandon.

Along the way, even celestial divinities stronger than Bai Zhaoju had no other choice but to throw themselves out of the dragon’s path.

In only a dozen breaths, the two made it through countless obstacles and arrived at the foot of the mountain. Constantly exuding an ominous presence, no lifeforms in its vicinity dared approach, so things were relatively calmer here.

“You’re right, this mountain is a huge corpse!” Bai Zhaoju panted heavily—deploying sword dao consumed too much of his internal energy. He had to sit down at this point and briefly meditate to recover.

Lu Yun took advantage of this time to closely observe this titanic corpse. Though it’d been covered up and looked to be a huge mountain, it didn’t fool him. The little fox was fully curled up in Lu Yun’s robes, and he could clearly feel that she was shivering.

“This sword dao is yours, not mine.” Bai Zhaoju opened his eyes after a long moment and exhaled slowly. “But your sword dao has given me a lot of inspiration and illuminated the road ahead. I know how to move forward now, thank you!”

He rose and gave Lu Yun a deep bow.

This was a courtesy that Lu Yun had no qualms accepting. Since he'd passed on sword dao, that made him Bai Zhaoju's master. No matter how legendary Bai Zhaoju would become in the future or what great feats he'd achieve, Lu Yun was still worthy of this bow.

His sword dao stemmed from Violetgrave's anyhow, and he'd slowly forged his own way after imitating hers. It was the same process that Bai Zhaoju would now undergo.

"At this rate, I'll be able to develop my own sword dao in less than ten years. When I reach divine king realm, I'll be able to grasp my own great dao in the shortest amount of time possible and set foot into the empyrean realm!" Great delight danced in Bai Zhaoju's eyes.

After the celestial divinity realm came the divine king realm, which was also called the human king realm in the future. These three levels mapped to the final three realms of immortal dao—the supreme pure, jade pure, and grand pure realms.

In this era, empyrean realm came after divine king, and would later be known as the great emperor realm. However, there were no such things as great emperors at the moment. Reaching empyrean realm meant one was generally called a supreme expert of combat arts. One reigned supreme in the great wilderness and commanded all races.

After that realm was the chaos realm, second only to creators and the current mightiest experts in the great wilderness.

If Bai Zhaoju pursued his own sword dao, he would be able to search out his own great dao when he was a divine king and directly set foot into the empyrean realm.

"This one has nothing with which to repay Lie Shan's boon... please accept my core essence. Though it's not very useful right now, no matter where you are, you'll be able to summon me to your side when I reach empyrean realm." Bai Zhaoju handed a shimmering golden ball of light to Lu Yun with all due ceremony.

At the same time, tremendous confidence flashed through his eyes. The empyrean realm once seemed so unreachable to him. But now, he brimmed with absolute surety that he'd be able to reach it within a hundred years! He would be the youngest empyrean heavyweight ever in the entire history of the great wilderness!

"Then, it would be quite disrespectful to decline." Lu Yun accepted the core essence. "Let's head into the tomb then."

"You can't!" The little fox suddenly burrowed out and jumped onto his head. "Someone's guarding it, we can't go in!"