

Nine Star 3501

Chapter 3501

When the FengFu Star's violet qi merged with the 108,000 stars, a layer of violet mist also appeared on top of the 108,000 stars.

The barren star sea was now filled with violet qi spots, becoming even more beautiful and mysterious.

As the 108,000 stars were nourished by the violet qi, they began to thrum with the rhythm of life. Every star seemed to be undergoing an awakening.

This was Long Chen's first time feeling like the cores of the 108,000 stars were creating life. They were like tiny seeds that were being summoned.

"Starry Sea Births Violet Qi!"

For some reason, Long Chen actually shouted out such a thing. Furthermore, the moment he did so, his 108,000 stars were like soldiers of an army that had just heard an imperial edict. Endless power gushed out of them.

Long Chen jumped in shock and hastily suppressed the 108,000 stars. The violet star sea within his divine ring also slowly faded.

"Is this the name of my manifestation?"

Long Chen was shocked. In the mortal world, only supreme manifestations had their own names. Whereas in the immortal world, only manifestations that had obtained the recognition of heaven and earth could have their own names. Ever since arriving in the immortal world, he had never heard of anyone with a named manifestation.

Also, this name wasn't created by himself but something that existed innately. When the manifestation was born, the master's mind would naturally speak its name. It was the manifestation telling its name to the master.

"Haha, so I actually have my own manifestation!"

Long Chen was delighted. The seventh star, the Violet Tower Star, had yet to even condense, but his manifestation had appeared. It seemed that the seventh star was truly amazing.

However, Long Chen didn't dare to summon his manifestation yet. His violet qi was too sparse. It seemed that summoning it now was out of the question.

The 108,000 stars were embryos in a hazy state. He was worried that if he used their power in this state, it would affect their future growth.

However, just now, Long Chen had felt an unprecedented power. He knew that when his manifestation appeared, even if it was in its current state, the power it would give him would far surpass the Six Star Battle Armor.

Right now, only the FengFu Star had transformed. He was unable to imagine what would happen if the Alioth, Life Fate, and other stars also transformed, and then the Violet Tower Star condensed. With them all supporting each other, what kind of transformation would they bring him? Long Chen was filled with anticipation.

After all these days of refining, Huo Linger could already refine pills with the Demon Moon Furnace and the Moon and Star Refining Furnace, all without Long Chen's help

Furthermore, Long Chen had gradually grown accustomed to his new cultivation base and was starting to consume Divine Lord Pills to reach higher realms.

Long Chen only consumed the pills that he refined himself. The rest of the pills that he had, he didn't touch a single one. They were all traded to the Huayun Trading Company.

The Huayun Trading Company truly was impressive. They helped him gather a huge amount of medicinal ingredients. Long Chen estimated that they would be enough to refine another five hundred thousand Violet Tower Pills.

However, Long Chen knew that this definitely wasn't enough. He was still missing a great deal. Hence, Long Chen entrusted the Huayun Trading Company with helping him gather more.

Qi Fang herself was shocked. It had to be known that she had essentially emptied the stocks of these ingredients in all the shops of the Huayun Trading Company in the Violet Flame Heaven. However, there was no way they could completely empty their stores. Having nothing to sell was a taboo for merchants.

But for Long Chen, the Huayun Trading Company only kept the tiniest bits for themselves. The rest were all traded to Long Chen. And yet, it still wasn't enough.

When Qi Fang asked Long Chen how much he needed, he said that he needed at least three times what she had gathered, causing her to suck in a cold gasp of air.

Qi Fang could only say that she would help him think of a way. Long Chen felt like they could always buy more ingredients from others, but Qi Fang said that gathering these ingredients in such quantities would definitely cause the price to skyrocket. Some other merchants might even intentionally stock up on them just to drive the price higher and make a profit.

Furthermore, many forces like the Soaring Dragon Company were intentionally targeting the Huayun Trading Company. They would definitely not allow the Huayun Trading Company to do as they pleased. Then it would be even harder to gather these ingredients.

Money. Long Chen was already indifferent to it. In any case, all his money was snatched from others. If it ran out, he would go snatch some more. The question was how to gather those ingredients, the faster the better.

In the end, Qi Fang decided to first use secret means to see how much she could gather. Once she couldn't gather any more with this means, she would raise the price.

During this time, Qi Fang asked Long Chen what attitude he had toward the Soaring Dragon Company. Was he planning on borrowing the Huayun Trading Company's power to make the scandal of the Soaring Dragon Company known to the public?

However, Long Chen shook his head. Now still wasn't the time. If they were to announce it now, the Soaring Dragon Company would simply toss out some scapegoats, pushing all the responsibility onto them. Then they would spend some money, hiring some people to prove their innocence, and everything would be solved.

That would be letting them off far too easily. In any case, Long Chen had the proof in his hands. On the Soaring Dragon Company's ship, he had kept a photographic jade activated in the primal chaos space to record everything he saw.

With this proof, Long Chen wasn't afraid. Right now, he was treating the Soaring Dragon Company as a money tree. Whenever he ran out of money, he would shake it a bit and see what came out.

Long Chen was relaxed. He could go loot them whenever he wanted. But if instead he announced this matter to everyone and the Soaring Dragon Company washed away their sins, he would have no reason to attack them. It would be cutting off his own path to wealth.

When Qi Fang heard Long Chen's thoughts, she was dumbfounded. But she loved it.

As for Long Chen, he also asked Qi Fang about the attitude of the higher-ups of the Huayun Trading Company. She said that the higher-ups wanted to hear Long Chen's opinions. Later on, they really did listen to his opinions and then simply continued to carry out their business peacefully.

Long Chen had gained the most complete information on the Violet Flame Heaven from Qi Fang. He then read up on this place's history, as well as the origins of some sects and major powers.

Only then did Long Chen learn just how much more complicated the Violet Flame Heaven was compared to what he had thought. There were numerous ancient inheritances. The peace on the surface was hiding an unknown number of major figures.

Long Chen also found the location of the Nine Underworld Hall. Just as he had expected, they occupied their own territory, and that territory that they had taken over was called the Nine Underworld Island.

The exterior was a sea of mist, a land of chaotic currents. It was all too easy to get lost there. Adding on some maze formations, no one else dared to approach that area.

The misty sea was a trial region for the Nine Underworld Hall's disciples. Countless disciples were hidden there, killing each other and fighting over the spots to get promoted.

It was the most treacherous training ground. Those who entered would become prey for them to assassinate. Ever since the Nine Underworld Hall had occupied the Nine Underworld Island, no outsiders had entered. Thus, no one outside the Nine Underworld Hall knew the situation inside.

"This is a bit troublesome. I'm no expert at formations. It seems that I need to find Xia Chen first."

Long Chen was a layman when it came to formations. Even if he was powerful, this was one of the Nine Underworld Hall's nine major halls. His power would be like an egg being thrown against a rock against it. He would need to take a better approach when it came to this matter.

However, other than the Nine Underworld Island, there were many other areas that moved him. One of them was the ruins of the Starry River Palace. Legend had it that the Starry River Palace's inherited cultivation technique was also called the Starry River of the Sky Art.

This discovery gave him a rush of excitement. After informing the Huayun Trading Company, he directly set off for the ruins of the Starry River Palace.

Chapter 3502

The Starry River Palace was located in the Violet Flame Heaven. It was once a glorious major sect, but all that remained was ruins.

However, the name of the Starry River of the Sky Art still drew countless people over. In the immortal world, the Starry River of the Sky Art was no secret. Many ancient sects had records of it.

Even so, the Starry River of the Sky Art had many versions, and they were essentially all incomplete. Many had the start but no end. After cultivating it to a certain extent, there was no continuing it.

The High Firmament Academy had the most complete Starry River of the Sky Art, but Long Chen had looked over it and found many areas that didn't match. There was no way to link them all together.

For this matter, he had gone to ask Bai Letian, only to learn that the Starry River of the Sky Art was extremely mysterious, and only portions of it had appeared in the world. Thus, no one had a full version.

As for the different versions of the Starry River of the Sky Art in the hands of the major forces, in truth, they were also true versions. But their opinions differed, and no one could say which version was definitely right or definitely wrong.

As long as someone was capable of cultivating it, then it proved that this cultivation technique was correct. As for their future path, they would need to comprehend it themselves. If they couldn't comprehend it, they could only switch cultivation techniques.

However, switching their cultivation technique would use up a huge amount of time and effort. It could even cause problems in their foundation. Thus, the academy did not encourage disciples to cultivate the Starry River of the Sky Art.

Furthermore, the Starry River of the Sky Art was too domineering, and it was like walking along the edge of a sword. There were countless dangers, and the majority of those who cultivated it didn't have good endings.

Those who managed to cultivate it did benefit at the start, but by the middle or end, their paths were severed. They were unable to continue any longer. Ultimately, they could only go back and choose a new cultivation technique.

Thus, the academy treated the Starry River of the Sky Art as taboo. After all, cultivating it was far too dangerous and didn't bring many benefits. It wasn't worth it.

However, Long Chen had been in the ruins of the Starry River Sect, so he knew that the Starry River of the Sky Art was related to the Nine Star Hegemon Body Art. The Starry River Sage had created an entirely new path with this cultivation technique.

The Starry River Sect was founded by the Starry River Sage's greatest disciple, Li Xinghe. Furthermore, this Starry River Palace was also a place for cultivating the Starry River of the Sky Art. It hooked Long Chen's curiosity.

When he arrived at the ruins of the Starry River Palace, Long Chen found that this place wasn't as empty as he had expected. People were coming and going, and there were always more people entering. It seemed that Long Chen wasn't the only one drawn over here by its reputation.

Furthermore, it wasn't just the human race. There were other lifeforms as well. However, they didn't seem too friendly. They always looked at humans with sideways glances.

This place was no longer the Yu Prefecture. It was once more a lawless place, so fights often erupted here. People had long since grown accustomed to it.

When Long Chen entered the ruins, he finally saw an intact building. Moreover, this building had a statue. When he saw it, he instantly recognized it to be the Starry River Sage.

There were words carved into the base of the statue. It seemed that there was a formation protecting the words, making it impossible to see what was written.

There were also nine stone steps in front of the statue. There were many experts here, pointing at the steps and discussing things.

Long Chen's arrival didn't draw any attention. Everyone's attention was on the stone steps.

When Long Chen got close, he found that every step was carved with characters. There were also some fragmentary star diagrams.

Quite a few experts were sitting before the stone steps, meditating on those characters and diagrams.

"Second generation Jiuli immortal characters?"

Long Chen was surprised when he saw those characters. He didn't even fully recognize third generation Jiuli immortal characters, let alone second generation ones. However, from their auras, Long Chen could guess what they meant.

"Human, get further away. I don't like your scent."

Long Chen had just gotten close to the stone steps when a horned lifeform looked at Long Chen with disgust.

Long Chen's response was a slap in the face, and this unlucky lifeform smashed into the distant ruins, causing dust to explode. Everyone was startled.

That lifeform possessed a startling Blood Qi and was very tyrannical. Although it wasn't to the point that everyone was afraid of him, no one wished to provoke him.

"What is an animal here for? What are you pretending to comprehend? As if you could understand anything," sneered Long Chen disdainfully.

"Damn human race, you are courting death!"

That lifeform was enraged. He came flying out of the ruins, just about to fight to the death with Long Chen, when Long Chen kicked a fist-sized rock at him.

BOOM!

The rock smashed into his teeth and entered his mouth. He passed out.

"Brat, are you provoking my demonic beast race?" A large and muscular expert came out of the crowd, glaring at Long Chen. By calling that person an animal, Long Chen was essentially insulting the entire demonic beast race.

That person's Blood Qi unfurled and his body rumbled. It was like there was a volcano within him containing endless power.

However, this lifeform had no particular marks on him to show which race he was from. Based on the pressure that he exuded though, he definitely wasn't a good character to provoke.

"I really dislike hearing that. If you feel like I'm provoking you, then just attack. Don't be so wishy-washy. Boss Long San has seen plenty of demons, devils, and ghosts before. If you want to fight, then come at me. Don't waste your saliva." Long Chen didn't even glance at that person, instead walking to the steps.

"Don't-!" When people saw him raise his foot to climb the step, they cried out.

The runes on the step beneath Long Chen's feet suddenly lit up. As a result, Long Chen felt an immense force rise out from below, and a certain star amongst his 108,000 stars was quivering.

Long Chen instantly felt like some power above the heavens was quivering with it. When that energy quivered, the air grew tranquil. The other experts present all stared in shock at Long Chen.

It had to be known that everyone else who stepped onto the stairs would be blasted off, blood pouring out of their seven orifices. Some people were even directly killed. Thus, some people kindly warned him not to when they saw him try.

Following that, Long Chen stepped onto the second stair, and it lit up. This time, Long Chen took note of three stars quivering amongst the 108,000 stars. Furthermore, above the nine heavens, he sensed three stars in some area sensing him.

Long Chen then stepped onto the next stair. This time, nine stars lit up in his body. At the same time, from a distant star-field, he sensed nine different locations resonating with him.

Long Chen continued all the way to the ninth stair. In front of countless dumbfounded gazes, a starry diagram appeared up in the sky, illuminating all the ruins.

“This is...!”

Everyone was shocked, staring in disbelief at that star diagram. Someone then cried out emotionally.

“I understand, I understand! This is the legendary manifestation, Starry River Hangs in the Sky!”

When that person said this, countless people almost exploded with excitement.

Chapter 3503

“Starry River Hangs in the Sky! Isn’t that the manifestation that can only be awakened when the Starry River of the Sky Art is trained to its highest realm?!”

Countless experts stared at the star diagram in the sky emotionally. The majority here were cultivators of the Starry River of the Sky Art.

Some of them had reached the peak of the Immortal King realm. However, it was there that their cultivation paths came to an end. They could see a path ahead of them, but the path was broken and they couldn’t cross.

Cultivating the Starry River of the Sky Art had changed their lives. There was no need to doubt its power. In the same realm, with the same aptitude, those who cultivated the Starry River of the Sky Art were almost all excellent figures of their generation.

It was unknown just how many people had been forced by circumstances to change their fates with this technique despite knowing that their future paths would be severed.

Anyone capable of taking the first step would essentially be on an extraordinary path. Although their cultivation path would be thorny and surrounded by dangers, the Starry River of the Sky Art would bring them endless power.

Perhaps it could be said that everything they currently had was given to them by the Starry River of the Sky Art. Hence, although they had managed to get through their past crisis, even though there was still time for them to change cultivation techniques, they were unwilling.

They didn't wish to abandon the Starry River of the Sky Art. Countless cultivators of the Starry River of the Sky Art had come to the Violet Flame Heaven just to comprehend the runes and diagrams on these stone stairs. They hoped that it would connect the path forward for them.

Countless experts had even spent their entire lifetimes here. They were willing to throw away their cultivation, letting their cultivation bases stay the same as they grew old and eventually died of old age rather than changing cultivation techniques.

Some people had tried climbing the nine stairs, but when they stepped onto the first stair, the star in their body would crack. Some of them even directly blew up.

Later on, people came to theorize that the stone steps were a warning left to the heirs of the Starry River of the Sky Art. To step on the stairs was to disrespect the Starry River of the Sky Art. The stone steps were for comprehending, not for climbing.

However, today, Long Chen had climbed them up. Seeing the starry river manifestation, everyone was filled with emotion. Some of them even wept.

It was at this time that countless experts came flooding out of the rest of the ruins to gather here. There were millions of them.

The majority of these people were cultivators of the Starry River of the Sky Art. Many of them were already old, on the verge of having their longevity run out. But they had still come and were even more emotional than the others.

Someone had activated the starry river manifestation. Did that not signify that the Starry River of the Sky Art had been inherited in its complete form?

“Senior, how did you do this?” asked an elder with a quivering voice. He was an Immortal King. Despite his old age, he still called Long Chen senior respectfully.

Long Chen then waved his hand to everyone, indicating for them to be silent. After that, he looked up at that star diagram. His mind was immersed within it, comprehending its profundities.

Seeing that, people didn’t even dare to breathe loudly. The starry river manifestation hung in the sky, covering the dome of the heavens. As a result, countless experts descended upon this place. Even World Kings appeared.

The starry river above the heavens seemed to be transforming according to some mysterious law. It seemed alive, showing something to everyone. Even those unfamiliar with the Starry River of the Sky Art knew that it was definitely showing some high level law.

Suddenly, the starry river quivered and the stars gradually dimmed until they vanished. The world returned to its original appearance, but now the ruins were packed with people. Everyone’s gaze concentrated on Long Chen.

“Senior, can you tell us how you did this?” asked an elder emotionally.

All the cultivators of the Starry River of the Sky Art were filled with longing. They all viewed Long Chen as the hope for their futures.

“Sir, did you see the complete inheritance of the Starry River of the Sky Art?” asked a second Heavenstage World King. Quite a few World Kings were starting to slowly approach Long Chen. Some were even so wanton as to lock onto him with their Spiritual Strength.

Clearly, these World Kings had also seen the clues. If Long Chen had seen the complete inheritance of the Starry River of the Sky Art, then whoever obtained this secret might be able to create another Starry River Palace.

The Starry River of the Sky Art’s reputation was too great. Although it currently could only be cultivated to the Immortal King realm, countless people were still willing to cut off their future paths just to cultivate it. The Starry River of the Sky Art was just that strong.

“That’s right, I obtained the full inheritance of the Starry River of the Sky Art,” said Long Chen indifferently.

An uproar exploded amongst the people. He actually admitted to it? Did he not want his life any longer?

“Amazing. Heroes truly do appear amongst the youth. At such a young age, you already ran into such an opportunity. Young friend, come to my Seven Star Gate. I’ll give you the position of deputy gate master,” said a second Heavenstage World King.

“What a stingy person. Deputy gate master? How laughable. Young friend, come to my Magnificent Clear Dao Sect. I will abdicate the position of sect master to you,” said a skinny elder.

These two experts were major figures. But now, they were fighting over Long Chen and clashing with each other. What they wanted was not Long Chen; it was the Starry River of the Sky Art.

“Senior, don’t listen to them. Since you’ve obtained the complete inheritance of the Starry River of the Sky Art, can’t you rebuild the Starry River Palace? All of us would be willing to follow you as palace master. Let us work hard together to restore the Starry River Palace to its former glory,” shouted a cultivator.

“That’s right, we’re willing to follow you to death!” declared a cultivator of the Starry River of the Sky Art.

They all viewed Long Chen as their last hope. If Long Chen was taken away and refused to teach them, they would still be stuck at their current bottlenecks.

They didn’t know what had happened, but they had witnessed the starry river manifestation. They could all see that it had told Long Chen something, but they were unable to see what it was.

If Long Chen was willing to teach them, then their future prospects would be opened. But if Long Chen didn’t want to, then their journey would essentially stop here.

They were seeing more and more World Kings step forward. They extended invitations to Long Chen, but from their ominous gazes and occasional spiritual fluctuations, it was clear that they were sending him spiritual transmissions. Most likely, they were threatening him.

However, even the strongest cultivator of the Starry River of the Sky Art here was merely an Immortal King. How were they supposed to fight these World Kings? They were fraught with worry.

At this moment, Long Chen narrowed his eyes. Several people had started to threaten him once their bait failed, irritating him.

Suddenly, the void shuddered and several figures appeared in front of Long Chen, reaching out to capture him. They had actually chosen to forcibly drag him away. Hence, startled cries rang out.

As a result, a blood-colored light slashed through the air, and six figures were cut into twelve pieces.

Those twelve pieces then fell to the ground with a light sound. Everyone was dumbfounded.

Right now, the Minghong Saber returned to its sheath with a light sound, like a hammer striking people's hearts.

"Who else wants the complete inheritance of the Starry River of the Sky Art?" Long Chen acted like he had done something completely inconsequential. He flicked off some dust on his robes, looking around indifferently.

Chapter 3504

The sound of the saber echoed through the air. Those people that had attacked Long Chen were now lying on the ground. They would lie there forever until someone moved them.

Six World Kings were instantly annihilated. Furthermore, Long Chen's expression was still completely flat. It gave everyone chills.

That was especially true of those that had wanted to capture Long Chen and force him to spit out the complete Starry River of the Sky Art. Cold sweat covered their backs.

Long Chen struck too quickly and ruthlessly. All of them had misjudged him based on his cultivation base and age.

When Long Chen's gaze swept over them, their hair stood on end. They were so terrified that they involuntarily took a few steps back.

Looking at those World Kings, Long Chen sneered disdainfully. These fools were unable to even tell the difference between the strong and the weak. For them to have lived so long was truly a miracle.

Seeing that these World Kings weren't moving and were fully shaken, Long Chen turned back toward those cultivators.

"All cultivators of the Starry River of the Sky Art, calm your hearts. Listen to my words. This is the key principle of the Starry River of the Sky Art. No matter what version of the Starry River of the Sky Art you cultivate, you will be able to follow these different paths to the same end. You will reach the other shore."

"What?!"

Startled cries rang out from everyone. Long Chen was actually going to share the key principle of the Starry River of the Sky Art with them?

“Senior, you cannot! This Starry River of the Sky Art is a secret of the starry river line! How can it be shared with the public? If a bad person or other races were to learn it, wouldn’t it bring a calamity upon all life?” said one expert.

Quite a few experts’ expressions changed. Those experts weren’t humans. They were precisely lifeforms of other races, and that person’s words were clearly targeting them.

However, Long Chen was so powerful. Although they were enraged, they didn’t retort.

Long Chen shook his head. “The Grand Dao is formless and love is boundless. Good and evil are not differentiated by race. The human race has good and bad; the other races are the same. Do not take one part to be the whole. Are you going to stop eating for fear of choking?”

When he said this, those various lifeforms were all grateful. Those words made them feel very comfortable.

Long Chen continued, “Moreover, the Starry River of the Sky Art is a supreme Yang cultivation technique. Those who cultivate it must innately be straightforward people. The clash of Yin and Yang might not kill those schemers if they gave up quickly enough, but if they forced it, they would lose their life. Thus, the Starry River of the Sky Art is innately an honorable and above-board cultivation technique, and we should not restrict others from cultivating it. Instead, it should be spread far and wide so that the starry river line can spread its branches and leaves. Only by gaining disciples and growing healthy branches throughout the world can we live up to the sweat and blood of the Starry River Sage.”

Hearing that, everyone finally understood Long Chen’s intention. They couldn’t help admiring his magnanimity.

“I will begin reciting the true scripture. Everyone, memorize it with your hearts.”

Everyone instantly listened with rapt attention. They sat lotus style and clasped their hands together, looking reverent. Even the World Kings grew solemn and listened seriously.

“The Grand Dao is the epitome of utmost simplicity. It starts with one and ends with nine. The stars in the sky are endless. When the starry river flows, the Grand Dao connects. Search for one dot to start...” Long Chen began to recite the sutra. This was the true essence that he had comprehended from the starry river manifestation. He now shared it with everyone.

Perhaps it was fate. This Starry River Palace was created by another disciple of the Starry River Sage. Just like Li Xinghe, they all remembered their master fondly and inherited their master’s dao. They even abandoned their old names, calling themselves Xinghe, after the Starry River.

This disciple of the Starry River Sage was very intelligent and actually managed to preserve part of his inheritance. When someone managed to walk up the nine stone steps, the starry river manifestation would appear. Then the key principle of the Starry River of the Sky Art would appear.

When Long Chen obtained this principle, he also understood the thoughts of these two disciples of the Starry River Sage. They didn’t care about anything else. They only hoped for this cultivation technique to continue to be passed down, and they didn’t need anyone to remember them. It was enough for the people to remember their master, the Starry River Sage.

Long Chen felt great admiration for the starry river line. That was why he acted according to their will, spreading the Starry River of the Sky Art as far as possible.

The scripture had three parts. The first part was an overview, the second part was the principle of how to circulate the cultivation technique, and the third part was how to solve the most commonly encountered problems while cultivating it.

Long Chen recited for almost an hour before finishing with all three segments. After he was done, some sweat appeared on his forehead.

In order to deepen everyone's impression of it, his voice was backed by his Spiritual Strength. As a result, these words were imprinted in their souls. They would never forget them in this lifetime.

"Many thanks for this kindness, senior! I will never forget this favor for the rest of my life!"

After hearing the complete scripture, those cultivators of the Starry River of the Sky Art all wept and kowtowed toward Long Chen.

Seeing this, Long Chen waved his hand, and a gentle force lifted them up. Long Chen smiled. "There's no need to thank me. I was only lucky to obtain the complete Starry River of the Sky Art. If you truly want to thank someone, thank the Starry River Sage. It was this ancient almighty senior that created the Starry River of the Sky Art. However, he ultimately died due to endless Dao wounds. He used his own life to create the Starry River of the Sky Art. This is a senior worthy of respect. Of course, saying anything is just empty words. If you truly want to thank the Starry River Sage, then once you are strong enough, transmit the Starry River of the Sky Art as far and wide as possible. Find those with righteous hearts and transmit this cultivation technique that suits them."

Hearing that, everyone kowtowed toward the statue of the Starry River Sage. Long Chen's selflessness only caused them to feel greater reverence for him.

"Alright, then everyone, if you have any questions, please ask. I will do my best to answer all of them," said Long Chen.

Hearing that, everyone went wild with delight. Someone hastily said, "Senior, forgive this disciple for his foolishness, but what does it mean in the scripture when it says, one star one matter, one star one me, one matter one me, astral energy courses?"

Countless cultivators instantly looked at Long Chen with anticipation. They also didn't understand.

"The matter is the outside, the me is the inside. When you forget the matter and yourself, you will enter true stillness. Cultivators must not look at themselves; they must look in the distance. Use the heart as a mirror, the soul as water. Sometimes, the flower in the mirror and the moon in the water are not just reflections. This is what it means for the heavens to be one with the person. If the flower and moon do not exist, then where did the flower in the mirror come from? Where did the moon in the water come from?" said Long Chen.

"You mean..."

That disciple suddenly raised his head and looked at the heavens. An expression of wild delight appeared on his face. Long Chen simply smiled.

The others also came to understand. Long Chen's words were filled with profundities, and yet they were simple to understand. These words directly entered their souls, making them feel as if the clouds had parted.

More questions came, and Long Chen answered every single one, no matter the question. His learning impressed even World Kings. They all made guesses as to what the origins of this mysterious black-robed youngster were.

After an hour of questions, all the doubts of the cultivators of the Starry River of the Sky Art had been answered. However, how many of them would actually comprehend the full things would depend on their talent and aptitude.

Long Chen suddenly stood and stretched lazily. He smiled at everyone.

“Everyone, let us meet again.

BOOM!

Suddenly, without any warning, Long Chen struck the void with his saber. The void shattered and four wretched World Kings came tumbling out.

“Third Heavenstage World Kings?!” Startled cries rang out.

One of those World Kings received Long Chen’s saber and coughed up blood.

The other three were just about to surround Long Chen when he transformed into a bolt of lightning that vanished from this world.

“You old dogs, just wait. Boss Long San will sooner or later take your dog lives.”

Long Chen had vanished, but his cold snort rang throughout the ruins. In the end, only four furious elders and a group of dumbfounded people were left in the ruins of the Starry River Palace.

Chapter 3505

A third Heavenstage World King of the Soaring Dragon Company was struck by Long Chen just as the void shattered, leaving him with no room to unleash his power. He was injured by Long Chen's attack.

"Are you alright?"

The other third Heavenstage World Kings hastily came up to him.

"I'm fine, but that damn bastard got away again," said that World King hatefully.

"This Long San is too slippery. We can't catch him."

The other World Kings felt helpless. They had rushed over as soon as they received the information and had even used fixed transportation talismans to prepare to capture Long Chen instantly. However, he had still sensed it and struck first.

Fortunately, the four of them had arrived together. If it was just one or two, they might have been in danger of being killed.

"What are you looking at?! Scram!"

Seeing these people staring at them in shock, that injured elder was enraged and barked at them.

"This place isn't your Soaring Dragon Company. Who do you think you are to push people around? No wonder the Soaring Dragon Company's reputation can never reach the level of the Huayun Trading Company no matter how much business they do," snorted a World King.

Who didn't have a temper? The Soaring Dragon Company, no matter how powerful they were, were still businessmen. Businessmen had to be amiable and courteous. Otherwise, what business would you get from others?

This elder infuriated all of them with just a few words. This was the Chaotic Star Sea, and this place was the ruins of the Starry River Palace. No one had the right to push people around here.

The elder was simply driven crazy by Long Chen. He had even coughed up blood from being injured, and it was only due to this anger that he shouted at those spectators. He had forgotten that they weren't here to watch and laugh at him. They were originally here.

"Everyone, our apologies. This Elder was hoping to capture a murderer and thief, but we ended up letting him get away. Everyone, don't be tricked by that Long San. He is from the Darklight Heaven, and when our Soaring Dragon Company kindly ferried him over, he actually repaid kindness with enmity, slaughtering the millions of experts on the ship and even plundering our wealth. He is incredibly evil, so much that there is no describing it. My Soaring Dragon Company has announced a bounty on him. Anyone who helps us find his trail will be bestowed one million immortal king crystals. But if someone can kill him, we will immediately pay you three hundred million immortal king crystals and a World Domain divine item. You would also become the highest level V.I.P. of our Soaring Dragon Company. Everyone, if you find any clues, remember to inform our Soaring Dragon Company. Thank you!"

The four of them flew off in the direction where Long Chen had gone. Clearly, they were pursuing him.

However, they also knew that with his speed, even if they used the blood evasion art, they wouldn't be able to catch up. They were just doing this for everyone to see.

"Long San? So he's that Boss Long San!" A startled cry rang out. Those who paid attention to the news had all heard that a person was plundering the Soaring Dragon Company, and that this person called himself Boss Long San.

“Hmph, the Soaring Dragon Company is nothing good. Just how selfless is Boss Long San? He shared a priceless treasure like the Starry River of the Sky Art with all of us! How can he be someone greedy for other people’s wealth?”

“That’s right, if he was such an evil person, would he have gone to such efforts to teach us? As long as he said that he was auctioning the complete Starry River of the Sky Art, just how much money could he make?”

“Boss Long San said that all people who cultivate the Starry River of the Sky Art are aboveboard and righteous. Boss Long San is also a cultivator of the Starry River of the Sky Art, and his comprehension of it has reached an unimaginable level. Otherwise, he wouldn’t be able to answer so many of our questions. He’s a truly honorable man. In any case, I refuse to believe the Soaring Dragon Company. After all, they aren’t the Huayun Trading Company. Their characters aren’t worthy of trust.”

“Everyone, don’t forget Boss Long San’s instructions! We are all cultivators of the Starry River of the Sky Art. We can be considered as belonging to the same sect. Boss Long San helped us resolve all of our questions, so we have to work hard at cultivating to comprehend the true essence of the Starry River of the Sky Art as soon as possible. We will spread the branches of the starry river line and gather new disciples, or we wouldn’t live up to the efforts of the Starry River Sage!” said one elder passionately.

“That’s right, this senior apprentice-brother is right. Our starry river line can be considered as being from the same sect. The starry river line is one family!”

“You’re right, in the future, we won’t be alone. Brothers, I’m going into seclusion first. Let us meet again! If the starry river line is in trouble, I, Jiang He, swear to offer my life. Let us live and die together!”

“Live and die together!”

“Live and die together!”

“Live and die together!”

Hundreds of thousands of cultivators of the Starry River of the Sky Art cheered together. They had originally been like random pieces of sand, but they were merged together by Long Chen, becoming a solid block of steel.

They had previously been pitiful people with no future prospects, and Long Chen had given them their futures. Now, they could see light; they could see hope.

Many of them were people with similar characters and similar goals. They were no longer alone. At that moment, they found a new sense of belonging. They felt that the future was bright.

Even Long Chen didn’t know that his transmission of the Dao would silently change the nine heavens and ten lands. The Starry River of the Sky Art spread far and wide like a virus, reaching every corner of the world. He had planted countless seeds throughout the world, and they were silently germinating.

...

“I’ve really profited this time. The Starry River of the Sky Art was a cultivation technique that the Starry River Sage created based on enlightenment from the Nine Star Hegemon Body Art. There’s an immense difference between the two, but it can still bring me endless enlightenment.”

Long Chen sat on a cliff all alone, looking at the river flowing in the distance. He had an excited expression.

He remembered the first time he encountered the Starry River of the Sky Art. There was a record that the Starry River Sage left behind no disciples. He supposedly only left this cultivation technique and no other legacy.

As expected, legends and rumors couldn't be counted on. Now, Long Chen had obtained the key principle of the Starry River of the Sky Art. The areas that he hadn't managed to figure out before were now clear to him.

With the Starry River of the Sky Art, first, the star diagram was condensed, and then with one star as a starting point, you would try forming a connection with the corresponding stars above the nine heavens, forming a resonance with their astral power.

Last time, Long Chen hadn't understood and had tried to activate that astral power, almost killing himself. He then was warned and hadn't dared to try it again.

Now, he could continue trying. Last time, it was because he had tried with the full power of his star diagram.

"I'm going to test it!"

As Long Chen slowly formed hand seals, one of his 108,000 stars quivered slightly. This was the star that had quivered when he had stepped onto the first stone step.

When this star quivered, amongst the endless stars above the nine heavens, a certain star formed a resonance with it and brightened.

"I found it!"

Following that, the two stars continued to resonate, and a mysterious energy formed a bridge.

Chapter 3506

That one star was the star in Long Chen's body, and the other was a true star in the far-off starry sky.

The Starry River of the Sky Art allowed a person to condense a star diagram. However, within this star diagram, not every star was a true living entity.

According to the Starry River of the Sky Art's principles, all those who cultivated the Starry River of the Sky Art could awaken at least nine stars.

Once the nine stars were awakened, using those nine stars, you had to find the corresponding stars above the nine heavens, forming a connection with them. Then the stars would not just be above the nine heavens but also within your body. You would borrow the power of the stars above the heavens for your own use.

However, within the long river of history, the Starry River of the Sky Art's most crucial aspect was lost. People could only condense the stars but had lost the method for finding the corresponding stars of the heavens and drawing them to themselves.

Although those who condensed their own stars could look down on others within the same realm at the start, by the time that they reached the late Immortal King realm, being unable to draw out astral energy from above the heavens meant that their cultivation had reached an end. They would never be able to advance again.

Having obtained the key principle of the Starry River of the Sky Art, Long Chen finally understood its essence. Furthermore, now, he also understood a portion of the Nine Star Hegemon Body Art's principles.

Based on the Starry River Sage's principle, the Starry River of the Sky Art's limit was awakening nine hundred and ninety-nine stars. Furthermore, the starry river was to give them enough room to move around.

If someone tried to awaken a thousand stars, when those one thousand stars circulated, the astral power would exceed the limits, and that person's body would explode.

The Starry River Sage had precisely lost his life due to pushing the Starry River of the Sky Art to its limit. However, he was truly a genius. He had managed to feel its limit and passed down a world-shaking cultivation technique.

It could be said that the Starry River of the Sky Art was a simplification of the Nine Star Hegemon Body Art. Despite being simplified, it still possessed such divine power that it could shake heaven and earth. When Long Chen's star formed a bridge with the star above the nine heavens, Long Chen clearly sensed an unending stream of energy entering his body. This was an extremely powerful energy.

However, he didn't dare to draw in too much to test his potential. That was because he was in the process of condensing the Violet Tower Star. Violet qi had appeared throughout his star sea, and it was nourishing those stars, causing them to undergo a transformation. He didn't dare to disturb them.

There was no rush. First, he tried to sense the other stars. He found the second and then tried to sense the third. However, searching for those stars had to be done with a calm heart. The heart had to be like water. It was the easiest to find the first star, but the second was a bit more difficult.

Long Chen didn't dare to meditate here. However, he still made huge gains. At the very least, he knew how to draw in astral energy and was no longer feeling around blindly.

The limit of the Starry River of the Sky Art was nine hundred and ninety-nine stars. But he had 107,999 stars to use. He had no idea what kind of power that would unleash.

However, he knew that the greater the power, the greater the burden on the body. If he wanted to control that kind of power, he had to grow strong enough first.

The Starry River of the Sky Art allowed Long Chen to see the tip of the iceberg of the Nine Star Hegemon Body Art. He was growing increasingly confident. Furthermore, with the Starry River of the Sky Art as a cover, his status as a nine star heir would be covered up even better.

Suddenly, a flame war chariot flew above Long Chen's head, leaving behind a long fire trail that was like a dragon. Long Chen was startled.

"That's a World Domain war chariot!"

There were four flying boats flying alongside the war chariot as guards, and they were covered in runes. As they exuded powerful pressure, it was a shocking lineup.

It had to be known that World Domain divine items were created from extracting the core of a world domain. This kind of material was exceptionally precious, resulting in the divine items being very rare. Even amongst World Kings, Long Chen hadn't seen anyone using them.

Long Chen was a mortal enemy of the Soaring Dragon Company. However, even those third Heavenstage World Kings sent to capture him weren't using World Domain divine items.

To use such precious materials to create a war chariot was truly luxurious. If it was used to create World Domain divine weapons, there would probably be enough material to make over ten of them. Just what kind of figure was qualified to sit in such a war chariot?

Suddenly, a fiery golden crow flew through the air, unleashing such terrifying heat energy that the void twisted. It then vanished in the blink of an eye.

“What powerful flame energy! That’s probably an amazing divine beast.” Long Chen was startled. This golden crow possessed pure flame energy that gave him a sense of immense pressure.

Most shocking of all, this golden crow was just like him, only in the Divine Lord realm. But the pressure that it gave him exceeded that of third Heavenstage World Kings.

“Amazing. The Chaotic Star Sea is truly filled with hidden dragons and crouching tigers.” Long Chen’s heart shook. They all said that the Chaotic Star Sea was filled with countless terrifying monsters, but those monsters rarely showed themselves. Once they did appear though, they could flip the entire Chaotic Star Sea.

“The direction that they’re going...” Long Chen hastily took out a map and checked where they were going.

“This path leads to the Dragon Blaze Prefecture. That’s a chaos domain where flame energy converges. Could it be... something has occurred there?” Long Chen was moved.

Just then, he saw another streak of light in the distance, seemingly shooting toward the Dragon Blaze Prefecture as well. That light was moving shockingly fast.

“I must take a look.”

Long Chen smelled an extraordinary scent and immediately set off. However, he chose not to fly in a straight line, because if he went in a straight path, he would run into several chaotic regions. Without a powerful flying boat or war chariot, it would be all too easy to get sucked into one of those chaotic currents.

Knowing how bad his luck was, Long Chen chose to avoid that. If he fell into one of those currents, he wouldn't even have a place to cry.

So, Long Chen chose to use transportation formations. Through multiple transportation, after almost half a day, he finally arrived at the Dragon Blaze Prefecture.

As soon as he arrived and walked out, dense flame energy washed over him.

He immediately saw two experts fighting just due to an argument.

The guards of the city then came forward to advise them, but the two of them refused to listen, even beating the guards. As a result, the two of them were detained by those guards after being beaten black and blue.

The people nearby seemed to have gotten used to such a thing. The flame energy here was pulsing strongly, and the people were mostly flame cultivators. Their tempers were naturally explosive. With just one wrong word, they might start fighting.

Long Chen had just arrived when quite a few people stared at him. One fellow probably found Long Chen displeasing, feeling like his gaze was provoking, so he directly rushed at Long Chen, only to be slapped to the ground by Long Chen.

BOOM!

Suddenly, a powerful explosion came from the distance. Everyone rushed over to take a look, only to see a giant covered in flames patting some dust off of his body. He came out of a hole in the ground.

Long Chen eyed him and was startled.

“Lava Giant race?”

Chapter 3507

That Lava Giant race’s expert descended like a meteor upon the city. He smashed into the ground outside the city, patted some dust off of his body, and then walked through the city gates just like that.

Although he had shrunk his body, he was still six meters tall. With the raging flames coming off of his body, his aura was astonishing.

The guards of the city usually took a fee from people entering the city gates, but when that Lava Giant appeared, those guards quivered and didn’t dare to approach him.

He was just like a moving volcano. Once he erupted, he could melt heaven and earth. The other cultivators also avoided him.

"This is also a terrifying figure." Long Chen's heart shook. This person's power was as vast as a sea. He was another unfathomable existence.

The Lava Giant race was considered one of heaven and earth's spirit races. They possessed unending longevity. However, it was said that they were naturally violent and not easy to get along with. Thus, other lifeforms preferred to avoid them as much as possible.

The Dragon Blaze Prefecture's capital city had three gates to go through before it counted as the inner city.

The inside of the city was exceptionally lively recently. Just walking through the streets, Long Chen was bumping shoulders with countless experts. Also, he had never seen so many flame attribute cultivators in his life before.

However, countless experts glanced at Long Chen oddly when they walked past him. That was because there were no flame energy fluctuations coming from him.

It had to be known that the Dragon Blaze Prefecture was a place where flame energy gathered. Other than flame cultivators, others found it very difficult to exist in such an environment. Thus, Long Chen was particularly conspicuous.

The street was wide, and it was a single straight line with countless buildings on both sides. They were ancient and yet prospering. Everything was neat and tidy.

No one dared to cause any trouble in the Dragon Blaze Prefecture because there was a supremely terrifying city lord here. Furthermore, this city lord's temper wasn't good.

It didn't matter what race you were from or what background you had. As long as you broke the rules here, you would be sternly punished.

It was forbidden to fight within the inner city. If you had to fight, then there were hundreds of martial stages in the outer city. You could always challenge people to life-and-death duels there.

The martial stages here were another large feature of the Dragon Blaze Prefecture. It was because the Dragon Blaze Prefecture's experts liked to bet on the results. Even the city lord himself would bet sometimes when there was a fight between real experts.

However, due to his status, he was only gambling for fun and didn't put down much as a wager. That would harm his dignity as the city lord.

Thus, the martial stages in the outer city were quite popular. There were always a few life-and-death challenges going on. Sometimes, it would even take days before it was your turn to fight.

However, there were some restrictions. If too much time passed, the observers would be irritated. Thus, if they took too long, then the battle would end and the fighters could simply leave.

Compared to the rest of the Chaotic Star Sea's prefectures, the Dragon Blaze Prefecture was more orderly. The city at least was prospering.

People were coming and going on the street. There were countless experts, but there was no need to worry about safety. In fact, most people had relaxed smiles.

Although Long Chen didn't have flame fluctuations, causing quite a few people to look at him oddly and perhaps even disdainfully, no one provoked him.

Suddenly, a disturbance appeared up ahead, startling Long Chen. What? Did people feel like this place was too orderly, so they just had to cause a fight?

However, he quickly found that he was wrong. It wasn't a fight. It seemed that some amazing figure had appeared, drawing countless others over to take a look.

"Heavens, the Daluo Star-Field's fairy Qingxuan has actually descended upon our Chaotic Star Sea!" A shocked cry rang out.

"Fairy Qingxuan?" Long Chen's heart skipped a beat.

"The Daluo Star-Field's fairy Qingxuan? The one said to be the number one flame element heavenly genius to appear in the Violet Flame Heaven in the past thirty million years? Who would have thought that she'd appear here?"

"It's rumored that she crossed heavens not long ago, obtaining the rank nine Heavenly Flame, the Heavenly Rainbow Flame, in the Darklight Heaven. She is this era's master of the Heavenly Rainbow Flame."

"Some people estimate that despite only being a Divine Lord, she has power that can match the fourth Heavenstage World Kings! I wonder if it's true or false."

"Who cares if it's true or false? I heard that fairy Qingxuan has a Heavenly Flame body, that when she was born, a Jewel Blood Jade Orchid burned in the heavens for three days and nights- Hey, who is pushing me?!"

That man was enraged, barely glimpsing a black-robed man pushing past him. He tried to grab the black-robed man, but the latter had already slipped through.

Long Chen's heart was pounding hard. She was Qingxuan. The Jewel Blood Jade Orchid was proof of their love. He was finally seeing her again.

Long Chen was shoving forward regardless. He was extremely powerful, and others were unable to stop him. Hence, those people cursed at Long Chen furiously when he pushed through them, but they didn't dare to attack him.

Long Chen ignored them. He pushed through and quickly saw a group of people around a woman, like stars around the moon.

"Qingxuan..."

When Long Chen saw the same white-robed Yu Qingxuan that was like a lotus flower just breaking out of the surface of the water, untouched by a single speck of dust, his eyes reddened and tears almost came out.

This was the woman that he owed a thousand reincarnations to, the one who moved the most tender part of his heart. Long Chen's heartbeats quickened. Looking at her familiar face, he thought of the Martial Heaven Continent. He thought of how she had died in his arms, and he didn't know how he could repay her.

Now, she no longer recognized him, and he didn't know how he could awaken her memories. He simply stared at her, his mind blank.

There were over ten men around Yu Qingxuan, passionately talking to her. Every single one of them possessed very powerful auras. Furthermore, their clothes were luxurious, and they wore golden crowns and jade belts. Every single one of them gave off the aura of World Domain divine items.

Even the golden thread on their sleeves was made out of the highest grade King item materials. A design made of this golden thread might surpass the savings of most families.

These men looked at Yu Qingxuan adoringly. It seemed that to express their emotions, they were introducing her to everything here.

Yu Qingxuan politely listened to all of their introductions, occasionally nodding. This single nod was the greatest encouragement to these people, and they grew even more passionate.

There was a group of guards behind Yu Qingxuan, and two of them actually had halos of light behind their heads. Their auras were even more terrifying than third Heavenstage World Kings. These two guards were two almighty fourth Heavenstage World Kings.

“Fairy Qingxuan, this is my Dragon Blaze Prefecture’s best restaurant, the Fallen Immortal Pavilion. In my opinion, this name perfectly matches how fairy Qingxuan has descended upon us,” said one of the handsome men, pointing at the restaurant.

“Young master Feng Xiang is wrongly praising me. Qingxuan does not dare to accept. It’s just that, young master Feng Xiang, gathering so many people doesn’t seem to be very appropriate.” Yu Qingxuan looked at the countless people surrounding her and felt a bit uncomfortable.

“How could it be inappropriate? Fairy Qingxuan, we are honored by your presence. As the city lord’s son, I naturally must receive you properly. Otherwise, people will laugh at my Feng family for being

miserly. Fairy Qingxuan, everyone, please come this way. I've reserved the restaurant. Let us taste the delicacies, enjoy the sight, and discuss the Flame Dao. I'm sure that it will be exciting." Feng Xiang gestured.

Yu Qingxuan didn't seem to enjoy this kind of treatment, but having already reached this point and with how ardent this guy was being, she didn't feel good rejecting him. She simply thanked him and was about to go into the restaurant when her gaze swept across the crowd once. A delighted smile then appeared on her face.

"Little brother, you've also come?"

Chapter 3508

When Yu Qingxuan's gaze swept over the crowd, she immediately saw a black-robed man standing out like a crane amongst chickens, like a phoenix amongst crows.

She was delighted, and that kind of delight came from her inner heart. When she saw Long Chen, a sweet smile appeared on her face, and it was not the same smile she gave off for social niceties.

Hence, everyone was startled. Following Yu Qingxuan's gaze, they saw a handsome, black-robed man whose eyes were like stars. The light in his eyes contained strong emotions, and he was staring at Yu Qingxuan unblinkingly.

Seeing that she recognized him, Long Chen smiled and nodded. "I really didn't expect to see you here." This was true. Who would have thought that he would see Yu Qingxuan in such a place? He was extremely moved.

"I've always felt very guilty about what happened last time. Thank you for giving me the Heavenly Rainbow Flame. I will always remember that favor." Yu Qingxuan came up to Long Chen, speaking sincerely.

Hearing this, everyone was shocked. From what she said, the Heavenly Rainbow Flame was actually given to her by this black-robed man?

However, when they looked at Long Chen, they found him to be very ordinary. He might have a somewhat arrogantly large saber on his back, but he didn't give off any sense of pressure. His aura was comparatively mild. Other than being a bit handsome, he seemed like an ordinary person.

Such a person was connected to the rank nine Heavenly Flame, the Heavenly Rainbow Flame? Furthermore, he had given it to fairy Qingxuan? Knowing this, people felt a bit dazed.

"You're too courteous. The Heavenly Rainbow Flame is part of your life from the start. It has no fate with me. Moreover, the aura of your soul is fluctuating, along with the divine light in your eyes. You have started to try merging with the Heavenly Rainbow Flame, correct? Congratulations." Long Chen smiled.

Back then, the Heavenly Rainbow Fairy had told him that he was not to be the master of the Heavenly Rainbow Flame. At that time, he had refused to accept it and had even said that he would kill anyone who dared to fight him over it.

However, when Yu Qingxuan appeared, he actually offered it to her with both hands. Although it was a bit of a slap in his own face, he was happier than ever.

"You're very amazing. You even managed to see this. It seems that you are a flame expert as well. However, that just makes me feel even more guilty." Yu Qingxuan looked at Long Chen with a bit of embarrassment.

Long Chen could see through her current state, which meant that he was a true expert of the Flame Dao. The Heavenly Rainbow Flame was even more important to such a person and would be treated as important as their own life. For Long Chen to have given her the Heavenly Rainbow Flame, it was like he had given her his life.

“I told you that let alone the Heavenly Rainbow Flame, even if you wanted my life, I would give it to you without hesitation,” said Long Chen solemnly.

Yu Qingxuan blushed. These words were a bit too unsubtle.

However, she then thought back to when she had first encountered him. At that time, he said that he loved her, saying that he would transform himself into a stone bridge that endured millennia of winds, sun, and rain just to wait for her to cross.

Although Yu Qingxuan’s status was special and her beauty was as transcendent as ever, resulting in her having countless people pursuing her, she had never heard such moving words of love.

With Long Chen saying this, the other men around Yu Qingxuan all had ugly expressions. Just how majestic was Yu Qingxuan’s status? They were all working hard to show themselves off, hoping to win the favorable opinion of this beauty.

Instead, it was this ordinary little fellow with ordinary clothes and an ordinary aura that was so nakedly expressing himself to fairy Qingxuan. He did not leave them with any face.

They were all people with large backgrounds. Hence, an ordinary person like Long Chen normally wasn’t given a second glance, but fairy Qingxuan was connected to such a figure and was even talking and smiling with him.

Her gaze in particular was different compared to when she looked at them. Hence, they all felt a bit uncomfortable inside. For Long Chen to say such words, he essentially expressed his feelings toward her, irritating them.

“Fairy Qingxuan, the delicacies and wine have been prepared. We should sit and chat!” interjected Feng Xiang.

“Oh! Sorry, I forgot. Then can I invite my friend to join us?” asked Yu Qingxuan.

“That... that’s not very suitable. His status...” Feng Xiang hesitated. He clearly didn’t want Long Chen to go up with them.

“I’m just an ordinary cultivator with no ability or status. It really isn’t suitable for me to be with all you heavenly geniuses. Qingxuan, I have received your kind regards. Don’t let me make you feel unhappy.” How could Long Chen not see through these people’s intentions? He smiled at Yu Qingxuan.

After that, those people’s expressions improved slightly. However, they didn’t know that Long Chen naturally wouldn’t let go of such an opportunity. Although the current Yu Qingxuan was no longer the old Yu Qingxuan, Long Chen believed that the two had essentially the same fundamental character.

As he expected, Yu Qingxuan frowned. “Why must people separate themselves according to status? Can people of different statuses not be friends? If that’s the case, then I’m not going. I’ve received everyone’s warm greetings today. I would rather-”

Long Chen smiled slightly. Yu Qingxuan was still just as kind as ever. She felt that she owed him a huge debt. Hence, the more Long Chen talked like this, the more apologetic she felt.

Furthermore, from her words, he could tell that these people had no relationship with her. He relaxed quite a bit.

“Fairy Qingxuan misunderstood brother Feng Xiang! He simply meant that everyone’s status and cultivation bases are different. We all have different cultivation paths. Brother Feng Xiang prepared delicacies that are mostly top grade flame element foods, and the wine is also very strong. He was simply afraid that this junior brother wouldn’t be able to endure it. If something happened, it would ruin the mood. Furthermore, everyone’s level is different, and everyone’s Dao discussion is different. Brother Feng Xiang is worried that this junior brother will be embarrassed. He has no evil intention,” said another man with a golden crown and luxurious clothes.

“Right, right! Brother Mingxuan is right, that’s what I was thinking. If this junior brother wishes to come, I, Feng Xiang, will be overjoyed. Junior brother, what do you say?” Feng Xiang was originally looking down on Long Chen, but now he quickly acted pragmatic.

Although he might look down on Long Chen, Yu Qingxuan was unhappy due to that, and that would ruin everything for all of them.

Mingxuan had given him a good way out, so he directly tossed the ball to Long Chen.

His meaning was that Long Chen had better be smart, or even if he did come, he would have no good fruit to eat. He would only embarrass himself.

How could Long Chen not be clear on what they were thinking?

Long Chen’s eyes brightened and he excitedly said, “So everyone is a heavenly genius of the Flame Dao? Then I’ve been rude. I know a little bit about the Flame Dao, and I really want to hear everyone’s marvelous thoughts on the Flame Dao. Haha, it seems that fairy Qingxuan really is my lucky star!”

The gazes of those men changed when Long Chen said this, but they did their best to cover it up. Feng Xiang could only say, "Since that's the case, junior brother, please come with us!"

He had already invited Long Chen. If he now said that Long Chen couldn't come, Yu Qingxuan might immediately turn hostile. He didn't want such a small matter to result in absolute failure. However, these people had definitely formed a grudge against Long Chen. It seemed that in a bit, they would be making things hard for Long Chen.

Chapter 3509

Long Chen pretended not to see these people's gazes. Instead, he looked at Yu Qingxuan. She was a pure person and hadn't seen through these subtle changes in expression. However, she was very happy to have Long Chen come with her.

Including Long Chen, there were sixteen people, and they all went up to the restaurant. As for the others, they scattered.

Amongst these sixteen people were two elders. They were Yu Qingxuan's guards, and they were solemn and serious. They hadn't said a word the entire time, nor did they seem like they were going to. Their eyes were closed.

Long Chen could sense that from the start, the two of them had been keeping their Spiritual Strength dispersed throughout the air. They were clearly guaranteeing Yu Qingxuan's safety, making sure to sense even the slightest hostility that approached her.

Long Chen didn't know just what kind of status Yu Qingxuan had for her to have two fourth Heavenstage World Kings protecting her. Furthermore, based on their cautious appearance, they did seem worried about something happening to Yu Qingxuan.

Once they climbed up the steps to the restaurant, they didn't just get to see the entire Dragon Blaze Prefecture. From here, the Dragon Blaze Prefecture looked just like a giant dragon entrenched onto a tall mountain. They could see even further areas.

In the distance, they could see streams of lava and volcanoes erupting. They could even see what appeared to be a rain of stars falling from above the nine heavens.

"What beautiful scenery." Long Chen stepped up, looked around, and couldn't help praising the view.

"This scenery is something many people will never get to see in their lifetimes," said one man calmly, his tone one of slight disdain.

"That's true. If it weren't for fairy Qingxuan, I would never get to see such scenery in this lifetime. I've made sir laugh. Hehe, what a wretched laugh," said Long Chen.

That person clearly didn't hear Long Chen's hidden meaning. Seeing Long Chen react this way, he looked down on him even more, but he didn't press things. If he intentionally targeted Long Chen, he might draw Yu Qingxuan's ire.

When they arrived at their table, Long Chen snatched the spot beside Yu Qingxuan and then pretended to look around foolishly.

"Why? Did I sit in someone's spot?"

The atmosphere grew tense. Every single person wanted to sit beside Yu Qingxuan, but on the surface, they were prepared to modestly decline. Yet, this brazen fellow had actually taken it first.

He, someone with no background or status, actually had the face to ask them such a question? Could it be that he really didn't know how wrong he was? Upon seeing his blank expression, these people's expressions grew unsightly.

"It's fine. Let's all just sit wherever! It's our first meeting, so let's relax!" said Yu Qingxuan hastily, having sensed that the atmosphere was a bit off.

Since she had said this, everyone could only sit. However, the atmosphere was tense because Long Chen took the important seat. These people already felt contempt for him, but Long Chen dared to be so shameless as to sit right beside Yu Qingxuan. It was definitely a toad squatting beside a swan. Hence, their hearts were burning with rage.

"Everyone, don't be so serious. Let's all introduce ourselves. I'll start. I am Yu Qingxuan, and I come from the Daluo Star-Field," said Yu Qingxuan. She was starting to sense that these people were targeting Long Chen, and she was getting worried. However, she wasn't worried about herself but that these people would make things hard on Long Chen. She had invited Long Chen here out of kindness, so she was afraid that Long Chen would end up in a worse position because of her.

"I am Feng Xiang, and I am from the Chaotic Star Sea. From my ancestors, I inherited the Dragon Blaze bloodline. My father is the city lord, a seventh Heavenstage World King. So, once I reach the World King realm, I will probably have to endure the hard work that he went through," said Feng Xiang lightly.

Although he said that he would suffer, he was clearly proud. His meaning was that in the future, he would be the lord of the Dragon Blaze Prefecture.

His father was actually a seventh Heavenstage World King. That was truly a very terrifying existence. Long Chen was unable to imagine just how powerful a seventh Heavenstage World King would be.

"I am Zhao Mingxuan. I come from the Ancient North Star-Field's Raging Flame Heavenly Palace. My master is the Raging Flame Heavenly Palace's master and also a seventh Heavenstage World King. I'll also have to deal with some bitter suffering like brother Feng Xiang. Most likely, the position of palace master will fall on my shoulders," said the man that had helped Feng Xiang out of his embarrassing predicament before.

"I am Wu Yang. I am from the Golden Crow Star-Field's Three-Foot Golden Crow race, and I've just awakened my immemorial bloodline. Also, I have always wanted to exchange blows with experts in the same realm but never found a good opponent. Although you don't have much flame energy, the power of your Blood Qi is strong. Are you interested in exchanging pointers?" A pair of sharp eyes stared at Long Chen coldly, along with golden light.

Although the others were just introducing themselves and had their hostile gazes occasionally flicking toward Long Chen, this Wu Yang actually challenged Long Chen directly.

This made Yu Qingxuan's expression change. But Long Chen simply smiled. "I'm not an expert. Sir seems to have picked the wrong opponent."

Seeing Long Chen admit his inferiority, Wu Yang smiled disdainfully. That disdain simply overflowed from every part of him.

Long Chen was also sneering inside. He didn't have time to play these games with them. The more they bullied him, the happier he was.

Long Chen was very familiar with Yu Qingxuan's character. For a kind person like her, the weaker he seemed, the more she would look after him. Hence, these fellows were inadvertently helping him.

Furthermore, these fellows were all raising their noses high into the air, showing off and looking down on him. Idiots like them wished to pursue Yu Qingxuan? They had to be dreaming. They couldn't even see how distasteful Yu Qingxuan found this. Were their heads full of crap?

Following that, others continued to report their names and backgrounds. It had to be said that their backgrounds were truly very terrifying. Every single one of them had a major background.

"We've introduced ourselves. Brother, it's your turn. Let us hear your glorious background." The last person finished introducing himself and then directly made things hard for Long Chen.

Yu Qingxuan felt a trace of regret now. She regretted coming here, or perhaps it should be said that she regretted inviting Long Chen. She could clearly feel them targeting him. With her kind nature, she hadn't realized it at the start. But now, she knew that they were targeting him.

However, despite being enraged inside, she didn't know how to resolve it. Long Chen had helped her out immensely before. If she were to protect him, perhaps he would feel even more inferior inside. She was unable to think of any solutions.

"My glorious background? No, I'm nothing more than a nameless little person who can't compare to the likes of you all. To tell the truth, I really admire all of you. You can report such a long line of titles, like what sect, what race, your father, your mother, your master, their cultivation bases," said Long Chen.

Upon hearing that, everyone's expression grew unsightly. Long Chen was clearly mocking them for using their backgrounds to make themselves appear glorious. They hadn't relied on their own efforts.

"My surname is Long, and my name is Chen. I am an ascender from the lower world," said Long Chen lightly.

“Do you have no father or mother? Why don’t you report their names?” sneered Zhao Mingxuan.

“If you want to die, I’ll help you out right now.”

At that moment, Long Chen’s face grew frosty, and some killing intent that made all their expressions change erupted. Even those two fourth Heavenstage World Kings opened their eyes, staring in shock at Long Chen.

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They hadn’t expected Long Chen to instantly turn hostile. It was like a gentle rabbit instantly became a berserk dragon. His killing intent locked Zhao Mingxuan down.

Everyone jumped. They hadn’t expected this fellow that they detested and disdained to suddenly unleash such terrifying killing intent.

“If you insult me, I can treat it as ignorant farts. But if you insult my parents, then you are courting death. A dragon has a reverse scale, and if you touch it, you will definitely enrage it. I can’t be bothered to care about any of you, but that doesn’t mean that I’m afraid of you. If you want to die, let us meet on the life-and-death stage.” Long Chen looked at Zhao Mingxuan darkly.

It didn’t matter how these fellows insulted him; he could treat it all as a joke. But this arrogant fellow had actually talked about his parents. Hence, Long Chen instantly lost control.

If it weren’t for Yu Qingxuan sitting right beside him, he might have directly slashed his saber and killed this fellow. This group of brainless young masters was truly hateful.

Being locked down by Long Chen's killing intent enraged Zhao Mingxuan. This was an unacceptable provocation to him. He was just about to speak when Yu Qingxuan spoke first.

"Young master Mingxuan, aren't you all going too far? If I said that you had no father or mother, which is why you are so mannerless, would you be happy?" Yu Qingxuan had been nursing her anger this entire time. Now that Long Chen had exploded, she was immediately on his side. These people had truly gone too far.

Long Chen had shown such restraint, but they repeatedly pressed down on him. This wasn't just targeting him now. Long Chen had been invited by her. So for them to target Long Chen like this, it was no different than targeting her as well.

The reason Long Chen felt these people to be foolish was because they were unaware that their own actions were driving Yu Qingxuan away from them.

All of them were like fighting cocks, making people feel disgusted. It was only when they saw Yu Qingxuan's rage that Zhao Mingxuan apologetically said, "I was just joking with brother Long Chen. I didn't expect brother Long Chen to be so petty. Well, just treat it as my mistake. I apologize."

Zhao Mingxuan raised his wine cup and gestured to Long Chen. Although he apologized, there wasn't the slightest sincerity.

Hence, Long Chen didn't move nor raise his wine cup. He just looked at Zhao Mingxuan.

"You can apologize for yourself, but I cannot accept it. Every person must bear responsibility for their words and actions. To tell the truth, I really dislike people who think themselves omnipotent but lack any ability at all. All they do is talk about their family, their mother, their father, their sect, and their master to show off. In my eyes, those people are all contemptuous, using the glory of their predecessors to cover up how inferior they feel inside. Wherever they go, it's like they're afraid that people won't know their status. They immediately have to show off their halos of light. But are those halos yours?"

Without them, what are you? I came from the lower world to the higher world, and I've killed so many people like you on the way. When death comes for you, there won't be many of you who don't piss in your pants."

"You're going too far!" shouted one of them.

"Too far? What? Can only princes vent their anger, but the commoners can't even light a lamp? You humiliating others is simply natural, but for me to say the truth is too far? Let me make a comparison. Just how transcendental is fairy Qingxuan's status? Just how did she report her name and status though? If she showed off like the rest of you, would you even be qualified to sit together with her?" sneered Long Chen.

When Long Chen turned the topic to Yu Qingxuan, they hastily shut their mouths. They naturally wouldn't be so foolish as to attack fairy Qingxuan.

"Fairy Qingxuan is sweet and gentle. She doesn't want to use her status to suppress others. Hence, she treats every single person sincerely. But as for the rest of you? Your family, your father and mother, even your master's statuses are all spat out to make yourselves look good. Why don't you bring me to your ancestors' grave so that you can dig them out and introduce me to every single one of them?" said Long Chen disdainfully.

Yu Qingxuan almost laughed, but she knew that this wasn't the place to laugh, so she endured.

Although his words were a bit too far, that was out of emotion, and they were correct. Furthermore, it was the other side that had attacked him first, while he was simply counterattacking. Yu Qingxuan didn't feel like he was doing anything wrong.

As for Yu Qingxuan's two guards, they had faint smiles on their faces. They felt that this little fellow's way of talking was very interesting.

“Brother Long Chen...” said Feng Xiang.

“Don’t call me brother. Just call me Long Chen. I don’t like being called brother from the front while being stabbed in the back by the same person,” said Long Chen indifferently.

Feng Xiang coldly said, “Everyone is introducing themselves so that we can get along better. No one thought that you would be so sensitive. Everyone here has their own status and position. Is there a problem with getting to know each other and giving a more detailed explanation so that we can mutually benefit? We are only so polite to you to give fairy Qingxuan face. I hope you know your own position.”

He wanted to play this game with Long Chen? He was too immature. If they wanted to target him, then they could target him. They didn’t need to come up with so many excuses.

Long Chen smiled lightly. “Everyone is smart. Does the veil really need to be torn off of certain people’s faces? If so, I don’t mind doing it.”

These people were intentionally targeting him, and Yu Qingxuan had witnessed it clearly. No matter how they quibbled, they wouldn’t be able to change reality.

Long Chen’s goal was only to draw Yu Qingxuan’s attention. What the rest of them thought of him, he didn’t care.

“Can we change topics? Young master Feng Xiang, didn’t you say that the food was prepared?” With the atmosphere being so awkward, Yu Qingxuan finally spoke up.

Feng Xiang clapped his forehead. “My apologies, I’ve neglected you.”

Feng Xiang snapped his fingers, and beautiful attendants immediately came out, carrying plates full of delicacies.

With the smell of various delicacies filling the air, the atmosphere once more warmed up. The smell immediately increased everyone's appetite.

These delicacies all contained dense flame essence. As soon as they entered the mouth, dense flame energy would spread throughout the body. It was both delicious and of great nourishment. It was an absolute luxury to flame cultivators.

With the good food on the table, the previous displeasure seemed to be forgotten. They all began to toast each other, and in order to not leave Long Chen out, Yu Qingxuan offered her first toast to him.

When Long Chen drank the wine in his cup, he was startled. "The Wine God Palace's wine?"

This time, it was Feng Xiang's turn to be shocked. This was the wine that his father had concealed for countless years. It was made by an expert of the Wine God Palace.

His father had only been given three jugs. After that, he had drunk one, leaving two more jugs. In order to entertain Yu Qingxuan, his father then endured the pain of losing one of the last two jugs.

Feng Xiang had been hoping for Yu Qingxuan to taste it and be delighted by it before he said the origin of this wine. He hadn't expected Long Chen to say it first.

Yu Qingxuan drank her cup as well. She found that the wine energy was gentle and long-lasting. It was like she was drinking a river, and it also left a strong aftertaste. Seeing that Long Chen was able to tell the origin of this wine, she was shocked. She looked at Feng Xiang. “Is this really the Wine God Palace’s fine wine?”

Feng Xiang was irritated at having the limelight stolen by Long Chen, but he also couldn’t express it and could only nod. Yu Qingxuan’s beautiful gaze then turned toward Long Chen.