

Nine Star 3681

Chapter 3681: The Grand Dao is the Pinnacle of Simplicity

“Senior apprentice-brother Tian Yu’s calculations are truly accurate. Long Chen really did come out to face the challenge.”

A female disciple of the Wine God Palace smiled at the winged devil expert.

Hundreds of experts from the Wine God Palace were gathered. The table was covered in delicacies and wines.

Other than some experts that were traveling throughout the world, everyone within the Wine God Palace had already gathered.

The winged devil expert smiled. “Long Chen isn’t a person with patience. I refuse to believe that he could endure this. Furthermore, that Guo Ran is the master of wishing for more chaos. He would definitely drag Long Chen out for this fight. Senior apprentice-brothers and sisters, junior apprentice-brothers and sisters, a good show is about to start. Let me offer the first toast to everyone.”

Everyone laughed and raised their cups. Xia Guhong laughed, “I wonder if Long Chen knows that we’re watching behind the scenes, will he turn hostile on us?”

“He won’t go so far as to turn hostile. But we’ll probably have to pay for our sins with wine.” Just then, a voice rang out.

“High Priest!”

Everyone jumped. Seeing the white-robed and white-haired High Priest, Xia Guhong and the others hastily rose and bowed.

“High Priest, weren’t you wandering the world?” The winged devil expert couldn’t help asking. When Long Chen asked about seeing the High Priest, the High Priest wasn’t present.

“It was a lie for Long Chen. It’s still not time for us to meet. Everyone, sit. We’ll watch the show together. Haha, this opportunity really is rare!” The High Priest laughed.

Since the High Priest had said this, everyone laughed and turned their attention to the gate. The people at the gate couldn’t see them here, but the High Priest and the others could see everything.

When Long Chen agreed to discuss the Dao with Qing Yu, Qing Yu revealed a wild joy. Even though he did his best to cover it up, everyone with sharp eyes saw it clearly.

The disciples of the Tea Divine School had set up a large platform. It was like a martial stage with all kinds of gold and embroideries to make it appear extremely luxurious. However, in Long Chen’s eyes, it was simply a facade to cover up their shortcomings.

Long Chen knew that as they set up this grand stage, their disciples activated photographic jades to record everything.

In the future, they would rely on these photographic jades to tear down the name of the Wine God Palace and raise their own fame.

The Dao discussion stage was quickly set up. It was simply a formality to make it look official so that others couldn't say that their photographic jades were fake.

Long Chen and Qing Yu sat on the Dao discussion stage, and a ceramic tea table was placed before them. Long Chen didn't say anything and just watched them perform.

"Then let the Dao discussion begin!" Seeing that all the arrangements were complete, Qing Yu smiled with a very pleased laugh. His tone became much more courteous.

"Up to you!" said Long Chen indifferently.

"Today we are discussing the Tea Dao and the Wine Dao. I don't understand much of the Wine Dao, but-"

"If you don't understand the Wine Dao, why are you discussing the Dao with me? Are you trying to waste my time?" Long Chen didn't stand on courtesy. He directly turned and walked away.

"Hahaha!"

Inside the Wine God Palace, laughter came from the various experts. Long Chen's response was perfect.

Qing Yu was enraged but hastily said, "I was just being modest by saying that I don't understand the Wine Dao much."

Long Chen was in the midst of pretending to leave when he heard that and sat down once more. He then indifferently said, "If you do understand it, why don't you tell me what the Wine Dao is?"

"I..."

Qing Yu stumbled, trying to think of a good response. He even began to sweat. Long Chen had completely broken his rhythm.

However, he quickly calmed down and said, "The Wine Dao is just like the Tea Dao in that they are drinking Daos. Through taste, you can experience the hundred flavors of the world and comprehend the world's ten thousand Daos."

Long Chen was startled. The flustered Qing Yu had actually come up with such a fine answer in such a short time. That didn't quite make sense, did it?

Long Chen's gaze then swept toward the distance, and a cold smile suddenly appeared on his face. He had grasped a very subtle spiritual fluctuation. It seemed that someone was giving this Qing Yu pointers. It was no wonder that this fool could say such a thing.

Long Chen now understood why these little ants dared to come here so arrogantly. They were backed by someone.

Long Chen had figured out what this Tea Divine School had come here for. They were intending on participating in the three thousand worlds and were planning on using the Wine God Palace to make a name for themselves in preparation.

"Fuck, I've seen shameless people but not someone this shameless. If you're going to be so shameless, don't blame me for slapping you," sneered Long Chen inside.

Qing Yu's confidence instantly inflated after answering Long Chen's question, and he returned to his arrogant self. "The Tea Dao and the Wine Dao have similarities, but I believe that there is a higher and lower differentiation to be made between the two. What do you think about that?"

"You are called Qing Yu, correct? Qing as in young and Yu as in feather?" Long Chen answered with another question.

"Yes. Is there a problem?" asked Qing Yu.

"No wonder you're so immature. At this young age, your feathers haven't even grown out, but you dare to be so immature. For you to be able to live to this point, it means that your ancestors chose good locations for their graves," said Long Chen solemnly.

"You...!" Qing Yu was enraged.

Long Chen flapped his hand at him. "Don't get mad. I'm not cursing you. I'm just telling the truth. Your luck really is good."

Qing Yu's expression sank. "Stop changing the subject. We are discussing the Dao. Answer my last question."

"Your last question? Oh, you said that between the Tea Dao and the Wine Dao, there is one that is higher and one that is lower? So you must mean that the Tea Dao is greater, right?" said Long Chen.

"Correct. The Tea Dao is taking tea from trees and plants, using the simplest method, perhaps frying, heating, drying. You then infuse it with the natural spring water of heaven and earth, and it is complete. The so-called Grand Dao is the pinnacle of simplicity. The simpler something is, the closer it is to the original flavor of the Heavenly Daos. As for the Wine Dao, all kinds of complicated procedures are involved. The fermentation, simmering, storage, and other processes have long since broken the original principles of natural simplicity. The Tea Dao is a natural Dao, while the Wine Dao is an artificial Dao that you created with your own efforts. How can something artificial be as beautiful as a natural Dao? That is what determines which is higher and which is lower," said Qing Yu proudly.

"Well said, senior apprentice-brother Qing Yu!"

"Senior apprentice-brother Qing Yu truly is worthy of being a genius of the Tea Dao! This comprehension is admirable."

"No wonder master says that Qing Yu's comprehension of the Tea Dao is unprecedented. We are bearing witness to this fact."

Before anyone else could say anything, the disciples of the Tea Divine School that had come with Qing Yu heaped praises on him.

Guo Ran, Xia Chen, and even Long Chen looked at them, feeling dumbfounded. Seeing Qing Yu's natural and easy expression, it seemed that he wasn't the slightest bit embarrassed by all of this praise. His face didn't redden in the slightest.

"My eyes have been opened to the world."

Guo Ran and Xia Chen were both amazed and said the same thing at the same time. Guo Ran thought that his face was already very thick, but compared to Qing Yu, his face was practically as thin as paper.

"You are saying that what is natural is definitely better than something artificial?" asked Long Chen with a smile.

"But of course," said Qing Yu without hesitation.

"Well then, people are born naked. Shouldn't you maintain your natural state? What are you wearing clothes for? If all of you dare to take off your clothes in front of everyone, I will admit that you are correct," said Long Chen, chortling.

Xia Chen and Guo Ran's gazes instantly fell upon those beautiful female disciples that had come from the Tea Divine School. Their eyes were full of anticipation.

Chapter 3682: Pick Things Up, Put Them Down

The Tea Divine School's women instantly felt a chill run up their spines seeing Guo Ran and Xia Chen's stares. It felt as if their gazes were seeing through their clothes.

Let alone the women, even the men had goosebumps rise all over their bodies. They all felt unnatural.

Qing Yu hastily said, "You... you're twisting my words!"

No matter how thick his face was, there was no way he could strip naked in front of everyone. If that happened, their Tea Divine School would become a giant laughingstock.

"How am I twisting your words? Didn't you say natural is better than artificial? If the Grand Dao is the pinnacle of simplicity, the simpler the better. Tea is the Dao, wine is the Dao, and people are the Dao. Something as natural as your body, why must you cover it up? Why adorn yourself in artificial clothes? That's so troublesome. Why not make it simpler? If you feel that the Grand Dao is the pinnacle of simplicity, if you think that your principles are correct, if you think that the Tea Dao is greater than the Wine Dao, strip right now. My Wine God Palace will immediately accept our defeat," said Long Chen indifferently.

What kind of joke was this? What kind of person was Long Chen? He was someone who had won the Dao discussion of the Nine Prefecture Convention. Qing Yu wanted to discuss the Dao with him? He wasn't even qualified to carry his shoes. One opening in his words and Long Chen could play him to death.

"Exactly! Since you say that you want to be simple, why are you going to so much trouble? You're clearly slapping yourself in the face!" Xia Chen couldn't help interjecting.

"Strip. Why are you hesitating? If you strip, you win! Then your names will resound throughout the four seas. You aren't even willing to make such a small sacrifice for your sect? Don't you think that this hesitation of yours is failing to live up to your ancestors' expectations?" Guo Ran also fanned the flames.

"Senior apprentice-brother Qing Yu..."

Those women clenched their teeth and looked at Qing Yu. That appearance was like they were dealing with a difficult decision. But if Qing Yu really did order them to strip, it seemed that they really would listen.

“You’re just spouting nonsense, insulting my Tea Divine School. Who are you? How could the Wine God Palace produce someone as shameless as you?!” demanded Qing Yu suddenly.

“Insulting the Tea Divine School? Weren’t you the one who was so insulting that you said all the seniors of the Wine God Palace are just drunkards? Does that not count as insulting? You were the ones who came here so brazenly to take advantage of the Wine God Palace. Furthermore, you were the one who said the Grand Dao is the pinnacle of simplicity, but you refuse to give evidence. It’s not me insulting you but simply you insulting yourself!” said Long Chen disdainfully.

“Who are you?!” Qing Yu demanded once more.

“I’m surnamed Long, and my given name is Chen!” said Long Chen with a slight smile.

“Long Chen? You’re the one that the Soaring Dragon Company put out an arrest warrant for?” Qing Yu was startled.

The experts in the distance were also startled to hear Long Chen’s name. They had also heard of him.

“Idiot, my boss is-”

“It doesn’t matter who I am. I am on the side of the Wine God Palace. If you want to discuss the Dao, then let’s discuss the Dao. If you don’t want to discuss the Dao, then we can use our fists instead. Boss Long San is capable of both. I’ll face your challenge whenever you want,” said Long Chen indifferently. He cut off Guo Ran, not letting Guo Ran say that he was from the High Firmament Academy.

Long Chen then looked at Qing Yu and clearly saw the panic in his eyes. They hadn’t even started, but things were already over. It seemed that discussing the Dao with him was like bullying a child.

Furthermore, the spiritual fluctuations coming from the distance were coming more frequently. Clearly whoever was behind him was teaching him what to say.

In a bit, Qing Yu took a deep breath and recovered a bit of calmness. “My little self was unable to express myself clearly. However, I still believe that my principles are correct. I have always thought that the Tea Dao is more profound than the Wine Dao.”

“Oh? I’d like to hear the details,” said Long Chen.

Qing Yu beckoned and a woman immediately walked over. She then knelt down beside the tea table and took out a set of tea. She got to work.

Qing Yu lightly said, “I believe that the Grand Dao is the pinnacle of simplicity. The simpler something is, the more it expresses the flavor of the Grand Dao. As for tea, it is simple and easy to understand. The tea leaves either float or sink, while the person who drinks the tea only has to do two things, pick it up and put it down. Life is like tea. You must be able to pick things up and put things down. Don’t you think that I am correct?”

As Qing Yu spoke, that woman finished up with the tea. She then passed a cup to Long Chen.

Long Chen smiled. "Well said."

He picked up the tea and sipped it. But then, he shook his head. "The tea is good tea, the water is good water, and the pot is a good pot. Regretfully, the flavor is lacking a bit. It's flowery without any substance. Its fragrance assaults the nose but doesn't cleanse the heart. It cannot reach the Dao."

Qing Yu snorted in response to Long Chen's appraisal. "Your own words are a typical case of picking something up but not being able to put it down. You can only accept praise but not criticism. You are even further from the Dao."

"Hahaha, how reasonable. Come a bit closer. I have some words for you!" Long Chen laughed and beckoned to Qing Yu.

Qing Yu was startled. Long Chen's posture was like he had something secret to tell him, so he couldn't help extending his head over.

Long Chen reached out his hand. Neither quickly nor slowly, in front of everyone's shocked gaze, he slapped Qing Yu's face.

Qing Yu was sent flying, tumbling back into the distance. When he stood up again, half his face was swollen badly. Long Chen's handprint was very clearly imprinted on it.

"What are you doing?!"

The Tea Divine School's disciples were enraged. They all took out their weapons, glaring at Long Chen with killing intent. Qing Yu was the most enraged out of them, and he pointed his sword at Long Chen.

"Long Chen, come out! Today, I want a battle to the death with you!"

Long Chen waved his hand. "Don't mess around. Such a tiny thing is making your face go from red to white. You're making others laugh at you. Come, drink some tea."

Long Chen acted like he hadn't done anything. He actually waved Qing Yu over to drink tea; he even raised his teacup for him.

"A tiny thing?! Bullshit! Today, only one of us will live to see tomorrow's sun!" Qing Yu howled. The space behind him rumbled and he actually summoned his manifestation. His aura was truly shocking.

Long Chen still acted like he couldn't see Qing Yu's anger. He indifferently said, "When drinking tea, there are only two positions. Picking it up and putting it down. Life is like tea. You have to be able to pick things up and put things down. Don't you think that I am correct?"

Long Chen raised his teacup and took a light sip. That natural appearance of his was as if everything that had just happened had nothing to do with him.

Seeing this, Qing Yu felt like he might explode from rage. These words were the ones that he had just said. But when they came back out of Long Chen's mouth, they were the greatest mockery.

When everyone heard Long Chen say this, the Wine God Palace's people all clapped and laughed. This response was truly wonderful.

“Fuck your grandpa! Have a taste of my sword!” Qing Yu suddenly stamped down, stabbing his sword at Long Chen. At this moment, space quivered. He instantly used his strongest attack, while Long Chen didn’t even look at this attack.

Just as the sword was about to reach Long Chen, a hand appeared and caught it between two fingers. That thunderous sword was caught just like that.

“What?!”

Seeing this, all the experts present couldn’t help sucking in a cold gasp of air.

Chapter 3683: Reverse Mohawk

Qing Yu’s attack had been like a fierce tiger. The aura was astonishing. However, Guo Ran caught it with just two fingers, and that fierce tiger became a trembling kitten.

Qing Yu’s expression completely changed. After that, he pulled with all his power, but no matter what he did, it was like his sword was fused with Guo Ran’s hand. His pulling was like a dragonfly trying to shake a tree. It didn’t budge.

At this moment, everyone’s expression changed. Before this, Guo Ran had simply stayed behind Long Chen like a sloppy little attendant, so no one had viewed him to be anyone important. Therefore, no one had expected him to shock everyone as soon as he made a move.

“You want to attack my boss? Do you think that you’re qualified? Go back and cultivate for another thirty thousand years first!” Guo Ran sneered and suddenly flicked the tip of the sword with his thumb.

Sparks flew. After that, an inch of the tip of Qing Yu’s sword snapped off.

This sword was a top grade King item. But in front of Guo Ran, it simply wasn’t worth anything.

The sword began to quiver intensely. As a result, Qing Yu was no longer able to hold onto it, and the webbing between his forefinger and thumb broke apart. He flew back.

With a flick of Guo Ran’s finger, that broken sword tip shot after Qing Yu like a bolt of lightning.

After that, with a cold flash, the sword tip pierced through Qing Yu’s head. Seeing this, the Tea Divine School’s disciples cried out in terror.

“Senior apprentice-brother Qing Yu!”

They thought that Qing Yu was dead, killed by this attack from Guo Ran. After all, if someone’s head was pierced, they would naturally die.

However, they quickly realized that Qing Yu wasn’t dead. He was standing there motionlessly, seeming to be a fool who didn’t dare to move.

“Senior apprentice-brother Qing Yu, are you alright?” The woman who had previously spoken came forward and pulled at him with concern.

Qing Yu's body quivered after being pulled, and that shaking caused strands of hair to fly into the air. An inch-wide area along the center of Qing Yu's head became barren land as the hair there fell.

Qing Yu had been wearing a golden crown. But the golden crown had already fallen, and his hair fell in disarray. The center was now bald. However, it was so perfectly centered that the left and right sides were perfectly symmetrical.

This spectacle was shocking and funny to people. But when they looked at Guo Ran, their gazes contained profound fear.

Let alone them, even Long Chen and Xia Chen jumped in shock. When did this fellow's control over his Supreme Bone reach such a high level?

However, when they looked at Guo Ran's expression, they knew that this was just a random coincidence. He wasn't able to flick anything so accurately.

In fact, even Guo Ran himself was shocked. He had actually planned on slashing off a piece of Qing Yu's scalp as a warning and punishment for his disrespect toward the Wine God Palace.

However, Guo Ran hadn't expected to end up slightly off. His flick ended up deviating up, resulting in this surprising result.

Guo Ran quickly clasped his hands behind his back and indifferently said, "For our first meeting, I don't have any gift for you, so I can only give you a reverse mohawk. Don't worry, it's perfectly centered. Go ahead and count every hair on both sides. If they're not equal, even by one strand, it will count as my defeat!"

Long Chen and Xia Chen were speechless. This fellow's face really was thick. He would brag about anything.

However, that attack was truly shocking. The Tea Divine School's disciples were all horrified, so how could they be in the mood to count? Guo Ran dared to brag, but no one dared to find the evidence against him, which let him pull off a perfect performance.

"Little fellow, your luck is good. My boss's mood is good today. In the future, if you still don't know how high the heavens are and how deep the earth is, then make sure to go out in at least groups of two," advised Xia Chen sternly.

"Will we be luckier if we are in groups of two?" One of the disciples of the Tea Divine School couldn't help asking.

Xia Chen shook his head. "No. I simply meant that you'll have company on the path to the Yellow Springs!"

People laughed, not having expected Xia Chen to make such a joke.

Suddenly, Xia Chen formed a hand seal, and Qing Yu's broken sword seemed to come to life, flying through the air.

Just like that, the sword accurately stabbed into the sheath on Qing Yu's waist. Upon seeing this scene, people's smiles stiffened.

The Tea Divine School's disciples were particularly terrified. That was because, at that moment, they felt a sharp light pass by their necks.

It was only once they saw Qing Yu's hair slowly falling and heard the sound of the sword entering the sheath that they understood what had just happened.

Guo Ran had previously done a reverse mohawk that amazed everyone. But Xia Chen's move gave them chills.

Through space, Xia Chen had controlled someone else's weapon. Furthermore, he had brought it right past all their necks before it entered Qing Yu's sheath. If he had wished to, those disciples of the Tea Divine School would already be headless corpses.

"I... I... I came to discuss the Dao, not to fight!" Qing Yu clenched his teeth and did his best to shout bravely.

"Were we fighting just now? Furthermore, if we were, would you even be qualified to participate in a martial competition with us?" Long Chen smiled.

"You were the one who attacked first just now!" raged Qing Yu.

"Curious. Does attacking mean fighting? We were discussing the Dao, weren't we? You said something about floating and sinking, picking things up and putting things down. I was just testing whether you really had reached that realm. If you are capable of picking things up and putting things down, you shouldn't be so angry. Put down your anger. You came to challenge the Wine God Palace, so shouldn't you be prepared to be humiliated? What? You were planning on just insulting the seniors of the Wine God Palace? You didn't expect anyone to retaliate? If you can't accept others treating you the same way that you treat them, how can you say that you've reached the realm of being able to pick things up and put them down?" retorted Long Chen.

"You...!"

Qing Yu was left speechless. He began to sweat as he no longer had any idea what to do.

Long Chen indifferently said, "The Tea Saint Lu Yu's Tea Scripture has three parts. The part that you've comprehended is nothing more than the lower part, and is merely the most superficial part of it. Lu Yu's three-part Tea Scripture corresponds to three realms, the world of desire, the colored world, and the colorless world. Within the scripture, there is a line: from above, achieve the Dao, ascend to the heavenly palace; from the center, achieve the Dao, become an immortal in the southern palace; from below, achieve the Dao, live forever within the world. The scripture that you've obtained is only the third portion, the lower part, corresponding to the world of desires. Seek your desires, know your desires, understand your desires, and break your desires. If you can comprehend this lower part of the scripture, you can live forever in the world, possessing eternal life. For you to come and challenge the Wine God Palace, you are clearly trying to increase the fame of your Tea Divine School at the expense of the Wine God Palace's reputation. Based on the partitions of the Tea Scripture, you are in the lowest level of the third part. To put it frankly, you haven't even entered the gates of the Tea Scripture before setting up your so-called Tea Divine School. Bragging, showing off, conning people, your ignorance and foolishness are almost painful."

These words didn't just shock the outsiders, but they also moved the people inside the Wine God Palace. The Tea Saint Tu Lu was known to them all. But as for his scripture, not many people were aware of it.

"Absolute nonsense! You don't know what you're talking about!"

Just then, an elder in white robes walked out from the distance with an enraged expression.

Upon seeing him, Qing Yu and the others cried out, "Patriarch!"

Chapter 3684: Tea Saint Lu Yu

This white-robed, white-haired elder was a half-step Divine Venerate. Even just walking, he possessed a natural grace that truly was full of the air of the Immortal Dao.

It went without saying that he seemed very impressive. However, just like his disciples, this elder could not conceal his arrogance. It was an irritating sight.

"What? Are you no longer going to just give orders from the rear? You're finally willing to come out?" asked Long Chen indifferently.

"I was personally given enlightenment by the mighty Tea Saint. I received his true inheritance, and I will not permit you to spout such nonsense!" raged the patriarch of the Tea Divine School.

The patriarch's words shocked everyone, and they stared at him in disbelief. Even Long Chen was shocked.

It had to be known that the Tea Saint Lu Yu was the one who made the Tea Scripture. There were three hundred and sixty-eight thousand names of tea on it, and it also recorded the effect of every tea, as well as the picking, prepping, seeping, and uses.

The Tea Scripture had over three hundred and sixty thousand names of tea, but in the current era, people were only able to find less than sixty thousand tea names. The remaining three hundred thousand had long since vanished.

Some teas required medicinal ingredients from the primal chaos era to be brewed. Unfortunately, those ingredients had long since vanished over time.

The primal chaos era's objects were incredibly mysterious. In fact, those that were capable of recording anything about them had to be people from the desolate era. Furthermore, they would have to be existences from before that ancient desolate battle.

The Tea Saint was an existence from before the ancient desolate battle, but there were no records of him after that battle. All that remained was his personally written three-part scripture.

However, due to the passing of time, many scriptures were copied too many times and eroded. Stone tablets would eventually be damaged with time. Because of that, the Tea Scripture that had been preserved to the current era was fragmented.

However, Long Chen had read through the Tea Scripture in the High Firmament Academy. He had found it to be profound and difficult to comprehend. Furthermore, many parts were not connected to each other. Since that was the case, Long Chen only memorized the parts that he felt made sense.

He had intentionally searched for information on the Tea Saint Lu Hu. The majority of historical books didn't even recognize him as a person. Most records said that the Tea Saint was a fabrication, while the Tea Scripture was simply the concentrated knowledge of many ancient sages from ancient times, a compendium of their knowledge.

There were also many things mentioned in the scripture that were too obscure. People couldn't possibly comprehend them. Even the parts that people could understand left them bewildered.

Most people thought that the Tea Saint Lu Hu never existed. Hence, for the patriarch of the Tea Divine School to say that he had received personal enlightenment from the Tea Saint, even Long Chen couldn't believe his ears.

Looking at his proud expression, it didn't seem like he was lying. That was what shocked Long Chen the most.

"You've really met Tea Saint Lu Hu?" asked Long Chen.

Seeing Long Chen and the others' shocked expressions, the patriarch proudly said, "Of course. I swear on my very soul. If I lie, let my Tea Divine School immediately turn to dust."

This oath further shocked everyone. No one would dare to swear on their sect if it wasn't true. The karma would be far too terrifying. In other words, this proved that he had truly met the Tea Saint Lu Hu.

The Wine God Palace's experts looked at each other, seeing each other's disbelief. Yet, they had no choice but to believe it.

"Was there really such a Tea Saint?" asked one of the disciples of the Wine God Palace.

"He truly exists. I have met him," said the High Priest.

That made everyone jump in shock. Not only was this existence real, but the High Priest had even seen him? That was shocking.

"What kind of person is the Tea Saint? Why would he give pointers to such a person?" asked another disciple.

"The Tea Saint Lu Yu is a wise sage. Things probably aren't so simple," said the High Priest. Looking at the petty pleased expression on the patriarch's face, he shook his head.

The Tea Divine School's patriarch and his disciples were all unbearably arrogant now.

Qing Yu taunted, "Long Chen, do you have any words to say? Even if your glib tongue could invert black and white, our patriarch is still the personal disciple of the Tea Saint! That status alone is something that a nameless soldier like you can't speak about!"

"Shut your mouth, or you'll mess up your hair," retorted Guo Ran disdainfully.

"You..."

Qing Yu was held back by a female disciple who helped him fix his hair. They put on his golden crown again. That would cover up his current haircut.

Long Chen indifferently said, "First let's ignore whether or not I'm a nameless soldier. If I am not even qualified to speak, then there's no point in you being here, is there? Why are you discussing the Dao with me?"

"Tell me, do you know the complete Tea Scripture?" asked the patriarch.

"I do. I've read it all. However, my aptitude is limited, and there are many areas that I cannot comprehend. Since you are the Tea Saint's disciple, I'll ask you for pointers. Within the second part of the Tea Scripture, it is said: the tea flower is not a flower, the tea leaf is not a leaf. The flower and the leaf both contain the Dao. Divided, they are extreme Yin and extreme Yang, combined they are Yin and Yang in harmony, two birthing three. What does that mean? Which tea is that referring to?" asked Long Chen.

The patriarch was silent for a moment as he rapidly thought. He coughed and said, "When the great Saint transmitted the scripture to me, I was still young and crude. I wasn't able to memorize the entire thing. I feel like the part that you mentioned is familiar. It seems to be talking about a certain flower tea containing Yin and Yang energy..."

His slow appearance was as if he was trying to recall something but was unable to. He seemed a bit vexed.

"Hahaha!" Long Chen laughed. Rather than speaking, he now communicated with him spiritually. "I've seen shameless people, but not someone as shameless as you. That little quote comes from the Pill Dao's Medicine King Record. It is a description of the Yin Yang Merger Grass. It has nothing to do with tea. Tell me, should I just expose you?"

"Hey, hey, little brother, please have mercy. We can always talk nicely," replied the patriarch hastily, also spiritually.

"Talk nicely? Why should I? I don't dislike arrogant people, but I dislike people who are more arrogant than me," responded Long Chen.

"Junior brother, I really have seen the Tea Saint's true body! Furthermore, he truly did give me pointers! I can swear on my very soul that it's not a lie!" The patriarch began to sweat.

"So what? Just based on that, you think you can swagger about so arrogantly? With your current learning, you are only bringing down his prestige. Today, I'll help him clean up his reputation," snorted Long Chen.

"No, please junior brother. What about a business transaction?" begged the patriarch.

"Oh? What do you have that I could possibly want?" demanded Long Chen disdainfully. He had been plundering the Soaring Dragon Company for so long and had long since become a rich moneybags. He had enough wealth to build his own nation. What he wanted now was to put this arrogant fellow in his place.

"Take a look at this? Is this satisfactory to you?"

The patriarch took out a certain object. When Long Chen saw it, his smile stiffened and his expression instantly changed.

Chapter 3685: Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree

The Tea Divine School's patriarch took out a palm-sized flower pot with a sapling growing inside it. Although it was only three inches tall, the sapling was extremely elegant.

The leaves on the sapling had seven colors: red, orange, yellow, green, azure, blue, and violet. When Long Chen saw this little sapling, he almost lost his composure and shouted.

This was a tree from the primal chaos era, the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree. It was also called the Seven Treasure Ingenuity Tree, the Tree of Wisdom, and the Bodhi Tree. This kind of tree existed only in legend. Ever since the desolate battle, no one had seen one.

As for Long Chen, the only reason he could recognize it was because he had read about it in a damaged ancient tome.

Its seven-colored leaves represented seven kinds of energy: metal, wood, water, fire, earth, wind, and lightning. It had exactly the same energies and colors as Long Chen's seven-colored divine ring.

Thus, when Long Chen saw this Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree, he was so shocked that he couldn't contain himself.

"Seven Color Qilin Tree? I didn't expect you to have such a treasure!" said Long Chen.

He naturally wouldn't tell the patriarch that this was the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree. If the latter were to know of it, then this fellow wouldn't hand it over even if he was beaten to death.

However, Long Chen was overthinking it. People who knew of the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree were as rare as a phoenix feather or a qilin horn. Even if he told the patriarch what it was, he wouldn't know just how rare it was.

This time, Long Chen didn't speak spiritually. He directly spoke to the patriarch.

"Haha, junior brother's vision is sharp. You instantly recognized the Seven Color Qilin Tree. This old man admires your vision." The patriarch laughed. What shocked everyone was that he actually called Long Chen brother after being so angry just now.

People looked at each other, not knowing if they had gone crazy or something had happened. Why did his attitude change so quickly? They weren't able to keep up.

However, hearing the name of the Seven Color Qilin Tree, countless people's hearts shook. Some of the older generation's experts had heard of this name.

"You're too courteous. The Seven Color Qilin Tree is an ancient species. It is the companion tree of the auspicious beast, the qilin. It is also a symbol of prosperity. There was an ancient saying: the seven-color tree in the home attracts the qilin. Auspicious light shines, illuminating the home," said Long Chen.

“Legend has it that the Seven Color Qilin Tree will shine with divine light upon reaching a height of thirty thousand meters, forming a rainbow auspicious cloud that draws the qilin. Your luck really is envious.”

Seeing that Long Chen didn't expose him, the patriarch was delighted. That meant that there was still room to talk. He courteously said, “To tell the truth, the reason that I'm so lucky to obtain it is thanks to the Tea Saint's blessing. This Seven Color Qilin Tree was precisely given to me by the Tea Saint.”

“So that's the case! Then I've been rude to sir. So you really do have a relationship with the Tea Saint.” Long Chen cupped his fists.

“No need to call me sir. I'm not wiser than you despite my extra years. I'll call you brother Long Chen, and I am Jiang Wuxin. You can call me old brother Wuxin,” said the patriarch with a laugh.

“Haha, alright, old brother Wuxin, how about we sit and discuss the Dao?” Long Chen extended his hand.

“That would be good!” The patriarch smiled and sat on the Dao discussion stage. The surrounding people were all staring at them blankly. This sudden change was out of nowhere.

“Brother Long Chen, you've now seen your old brother's sincerity. This Seven Color Qilin Tree is a priceless treasure. Let me put it to you this way: when I encountered the Tea Saint back in the day, I was a little brat with only average aptitude. I didn't even have the potential to awaken a primal bloodline. Due to being squeezed out, I was forced to leave my family. Later on, it was this Seven Color Qilin Tree that caused my talent to undergo a heaven-toppling transformation. I awakened a primal bloodline that very day. After that, my cultivation base continued to make breakthrough after breakthrough. In three thousand years, I became a half-step Divine Venerate. If you don't believe me, I can once more swear on my soul,” said the patriarch while sipping tea. He spoke spiritually, but on the surface, he appeared to be completely focused on the tea. There were no clues for outsiders to spot.

Long Chen smiled. “No need. I trust you. However, you still haven't mentioned the important things. For example, why is it that you could become a half-step Divine Venerate in three thousand years, but now your cultivation base has stagnated for hundreds of thousands of years? Or why is the Seven Color Qilin Tree said to unleash auspicious light that draws the qilin after reaching a height of thirty thousand meters, but this particular tree hasn't grown at all after so many years? Don't tell me that when the Tea Saint gave you this Seven Color Qilin Tree, it was only the size of a grain of rice.”

“Well... in truth...”

“Don't lie, or I will have you swear on it,” said Long Chen lightly. He took a sip of the new tea that the patriarch had poured. He closed his eyes and seemed to immerse himself in it.

“Alright. There are three reasons why I am willing to endure the pain of parting with the Seven Color Qilin Tree. The first is that it was only able to make me grow faster but was ineffective on others. Furthermore, at my current realm, it is no longer able to help me at all. The second is that when the Tea Saint gave me the Seven Color Qilin Tree, it was already this big. No matter what I did to help, there has been no growth even after hundreds of thousands of years. The third reason is that the Tea Saint didn't even tell me its name when he gave it to me. He only told me to look after it and exchange it for what I need in the future. Brother Long Chen, I am telling the truth. I am filled with respect for the Tea Saint. Everything that I have was bestowed upon me by him. He is the reason why I created the Tea Divine

School. I want the entire world to know his name. In truth, other than giving me this Seven Color Qilin Tree, the Tea Saint didn't say anything else to me. I later secretly gathered the remnants of the Tea Scripture and then created the Tea Divine School. I came to challenge the Wine God Palace in order to increase our fame, but my heart isn't bad. That's why I am hoping that you can transmit the complete Tea Scripture to me, and I will give you the Seven Color Qilin Tree. If that's not enough, just tell me what you want. As long as I have it, I won't even hesitate," said the patriarch sincerely.

Long Chen hadn't expected this fellow to be so willing to take a beating. It seemed that he knew what gratitude was.

However, did his meeting with the Tea Saint mean nothing more than being entrusted to look after the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree? Furthermore, he was told to exchange it for what he needed. Just what was the meaning behind that?

Seeing that Long Chen still had his eyes closed in thought, the patriarch also closed his eyes, not daring to disturb him. But he was slightly nervous. It was as if he was waiting for Long Chen's judgment. Clearly, he wasn't an expert negotiator. He completely exposed his weak points and was practically asking to be bullied.

"No problem. I can transmit the first, second, and third parts of the Tea Scripture to you," said Long Chen.

"Many thanks! Many thanks!"

The patriarch gratefully handed over the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree to Long Chen. Long Chen then reached out and received it.

But all of a sudden, the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree quivered and rainbow divine light shot out of it, illuminating the sky. Heaven and earth instantly became covered in a rainbow divine radiance.

Chapter 3686: Entering the Primal Chaos Space

The Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree suddenly vanished from Long Chen's hands and appeared above his head. Furthermore, his seven-color divine ring automatically appeared.

Long Chen's seven-color divine ring was illuminated by the seven-colored light from the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree. In the end, they slowly merged into one, and the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree appeared at the core of the divine ring.

However, the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree was so small that it was barely visible after merging with the divine ring. It then grew smaller until it finally vanished.

After that, Long Chen's primal chaos space quivered. The Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree somehow appeared within the primal chaos space.

The Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree then took root in the soil. It was originally only three inches tall, but it began to rapidly grow and became over a foot tall. The leaves also grew lusher. But after reaching a height of three feet, it stopped growing.

With a thought, Long Chen tossed the devil beast corpses he had gained from the Alldevil Star-Field into the black soil.

Last time, Long Chen had simply stored the devil beast corpses because the Wood Foundation Divine Trees had grown to their limit. They were no longer growing. Furthermore, the Devil Eye Water Lilies were also no longer growing past the fifth rank. Thus, he decided to simply store the extra corpses.

When the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree entered the primal chaos space, it was like a whale sucking in water, absorbing all the excess life energy. However, the primal chaos space had its own rules and would not permit a single plant to absorb the life energy of others for itself.

Thus, the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree exhausted all the excess life energy within the primal chaos space in order to grow to three feet tall. After that, there was no longer enough life energy to promote its growth.

Long Chen then tossed mountain-sized corpses into the black soil, and endless life energy filled the primal chaos space. The Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree began to grow once more. However, there were so many corpses that it would take days for the black soil to devour them all.

“So junior brother was the person I was waiting for. This Seven Color Qilin Tree has finally found its master. I have accomplished the mission that the Tea Saint gave me.”

When the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree entered Long Chen’s hands, it was just like a divine weapon recognizing a master. That startling phenomenon gratified the patriarch.

As for the other experts, they were also moved. Just how were they supposed to explain what had just happened? Even the Wine God Palace’s experts were dumbfounded.

Only the High Priest had a trace of comprehension in his eyes. He slowly raised his wine cup and drank, a profound smile appearing on his face.

Hearing the patriarch’s words, Long Chen also felt it to be inconceivable. Had the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree really found its destined person? Was that person really him? That was all too unbelievable, no?

“Thank you, old brother!”

This treasure that the patriarch had kept for hundreds of thousands of years had been given to Long Chen. For Long Chen to call him brother was only right.

“The complete Tea Scripture is in the High Firmament Academy. Old brother, you can send a disciple to their main academy in Darklight Heaven to obtain a copy of it,” said Long Chen.

“The High Firmament Academy? As expected of the number one academy of the nine heavens and ten lands, its reputation is well earned. However, I have no relationship with the High Firmament Academy. They probably won’t let me make a copy of it...” said the patriarch.

“Hahaha, you don’t know? My boss is the dean of the High Firmament Academy’s seventh branch. If you go to the High Firmament Academy, you only need to report my boss’s name and no one will stop you from copying it.” Guo Ran laughed.

“So junior brother is a dean of the High Firmament Academy! I’ve been rude.” The patriarch jumped in shock.

“In truth, even without my permission, if you went to the High Firmament Academy with a clear and sincere heart, the dean would probably let you study the complete Tea Scripture. The High Firmament Academy is not like an ordinary sect. Our library is open to the entire world. As long as you come in goodwill, we will not disappoint you,” said Long Chen with a smile.

“So that’s the case. Many thanks, dean Long Chen!” Now that Guo Ran had reported Long Chen’s status, the patriarch no longer dared to call him brother. He directly called him dean.

“You fools, shouldn’t you hurry up and apologize to dean Long Chen?! You’ve offended dean Long Chen, and you want to act like you didn’t do anything?” The patriarch suddenly turned to scold his disciples.

Qing Yu and the others scratched their heads. He was clearly the one who had brought them to challenge the Wine God Palace, but he was scolding them for his actions now?

However, since he was their patriarch, they didn’t quibble. They thickened their faces and cupped their fists to Long Chen.

“Sorry, dean Long Chen...”

The patriarch suddenly kicked their knees, forcing them to kneel. He barked, “Is the name dean Long Chen something that the likes of you can just say? He is brothers with your patriarch. You don’t even know how to treat others with the proper seniority? What have I taught you?”

Qing Yu and the others were forced to kneel, all of them feeling aggrieved to the point of wanting to cry. Long Chen looked even younger than them, but their patriarch actually wanted them to view Long Chen as someone of the same seniority as him. Furthermore, it was to be done in front of everyone.

“Senior, junior knows his wrong. Our eyes were unable to see Mt. Tai. I hope you won’t hold a grudge against this little person. Starting today, we will turn over a new leaf and repent for our sins... we will be new people...” Qing Yu’s voice even contained a sobbing tone. This poor child felt wronged, but there was nowhere for him to vent his feelings.

Long Chen laughed inside. This patriarch of the Tea Divine School really was a fool. He forced his disciples to carry the burden of his own wrongs instead of assuming them himself. But Qing Yu and the others could only suffer in silence.

“Rise!”

Long Chen waved his hand, and an invisible force lifted Qing Yu and the others up. Seeing Qing Yu’s bitter expression, Long Chen suddenly felt this dislikable fellow to be quite pitiful.

“I feel bad to have you suffer so much during our first meeting. You are decent in other areas, but your Spiritual Strength is lacking a bit. This is a Nine Revolution Soul Nourishing Pill. You can have it.” Long Chen gave Qing Yu a medicinal pill.

Qing Yu originally thought that Long Chen was just randomly waving him off, but when he received the pill, he saw that it was actually a treasure pill. Many cultivators would never even see a treasure pill in their lifetimes.

“This is... many thanks, senior! Many thanks, grand-senior!”

Qing Yu was shocked and delighted. This pill was precisely what he needed. He naturally knew his own situation. This pill could make his Spiritual Strength, which naturally lagged behind his other areas, go through a complete transformation. He then received the pill with both hands and kowtowed to Long Chen. This time, he did it completely willingly.

Seeing this, Guo Ran and Xia Chen also felt bad. Guo Ran then gave Qing Yu an elaborate hand crossbow, while Xia Chen gave him a life-protecting talisman. Hence, Qing Yu was overwhelmed with favor. As for the other disciples, they were all envious.

“Many thanks, dean Long Chen. There is still another matter that I need your help with. Can dean Long Chen help me answer this question?” asked the patriarch sincerely.

Chapter 3687: High Firmament, Jade Void, Limitless

“Oh? Please go ahead,” said Long Chen.

“Previously, dean Long Chen mentioned this part of the Tea Scripture: from above, achieve the Dao, ascend to the heavenly palace; from the center, achieve the Dao, become an immortal in the southern palace; from below, achieve the Dao, live forever within the world. This line is denounced by countless cultivators in the current era. To tell the truth, I’ve asked many famous scholars about this line, and they also scoff at it. It... it’s very displeasing!” said the patriarch.

While he said that it was very displeasing, in truth, during those times, he ended up turning hostile with those people. But unable to beat them or out-curse them, he could only swallow this grievance and leave.

Later on, he no longer asked for anyone else’s teachings and directly set up his Tea Divine School, turning himself into the founding patriarch and viewing the Tea Saint as a god. He then swore to bring the Tea Dao to glory.

Today, he actually heard this line once more from Long Chen, so he couldn’t help but ask it. “I very much want to know what your understanding of this line is.”

The distant experts and the Wine God Palace’s experts all looked at Long Chen. The Tea Saint’s Dao was too profound and obscure. In fact, it went so far as to be contrary to popular opinion on the Dao. Most people thought it was just crazy words, so they were all curious about what Long Chen would say about it.

Long Chen smiled. “This line is not accepted by others due to being too wildly arrogant. It’s normal for people to not approve of it. From above, achieve the Dao, ascend to the heavenly palace; from the center, achieve the Dao, become an immortal in the southern palace; from below, achieve the Dao, live forever within the world. On the surface, it sounds as if he has the utmost confidence in his Tea Scripture, as well as utmost arrogance. However, most people have misunderstood the Tea Saint’s meaning. This line is in the final part of the Tea Scripture. However, it is not referring to the Tea Scripture. There’s no mention that one has to use the Tea Dao to pursue the Heavenly Daos. When he said achieve the Dao, he was including all ten thousand Daos, not just the Tea Dao. However, due to not

comprehending the Tea Scripture, many people formed a biased opinion of the Tea Saint. A single leaf in front of their eyes blocked their vision of the mountain.”

“After achieving the Dao, can one really ascend to the heavenly palace, become an immortal in the southern palace, and live forever in the world?” asked the patriarch.

“Do you know the meaning of ascending to the heavenly palace, becoming immortal in the southern palace, and living forever in the world?” asked Long Chen.

“We... actually, I don’t really understand it,” said the patriarch. He wanted to say that he did, but it couldn’t possibly be as simple as he thought, so he didn’t say he understood in order to not lose face when he was wrong.

Long Chen said, “When it says ascend to the heavenly palace, the heavenly palace refers to becoming a celestial god, a god in charge of the laws of the nine heavens. You can take it to mean being the master of the entire world. The southern palace refers to the High Firmament Palace of the era of legends. It is also called the heavenly palace. Become an immortal refers to becoming an Immortal of the heavens. If the heavenly palace is the master, then the immortal of the southern palace is the administrator outside of the heavenly palace. However, there is also another saying when it comes to the southern palace. It is said that within the world of the nine heavens, there is a supreme divine world with five palaces. The central High Firmament Palace, the southern Jade Void Palace, and the northern Limitless Palace. The Jade Void Palace is the southern palace, the entrance to the heavenly palace, and the life gate. The Limitless Palace is its opposite, the death gate. Life and death face each other. Thus, to become an immortal in the southern palace can be taken to mean standing outside the Jade Void Palace’s gates, to being a single gate away from the High Firmament Palace. As for achieving the Dao from below and living forever in this world, it should refer to a longevity even greater than an ordinary cultivator. Once one comprehends the essence of the Heavenly Daos, they will possess a heart as calm as water, and their longevity will stretch far into the distance. These are all my personal opinions on this line. As for whether this line really does mean this, perhaps only the Tea Saint himself knows.”

Long Chen’s words dumbfounded countless experts. The things that Long Chen was talking about were things that these old fellows that had lived for countless years had never even heard of.

“Dean Long Chen, do the five palaces really exist? Is the High Firmament Academy related to the High Firmament Palace?” asked one of those elders in the distance, unable to contain his curiosity. This elder was a half-step Divine Venerate whose hair was as white as snow, yet his tone was exceptionally polite.

Long Chen smiled bitterly. “Who knows if the five palaces really exist? These are merely some introductions that I read in the High Firmament Academy’s tomes. But this information is basically from legends and myths. There’s not much basis for them. However, some stories are closely linked to each other. When taken together, they are worth thinking over. In particular, there is a repeated mention of the five palaces and eight gates. Isn’t it interesting to think about such a thing? Regretfully, the records of these legends are one-sided. We can only see things from a narrow view and not the full picture. Thus, when it comes to the stories of legend, my attitude is that you cannot not believe them, but you also cannot fully believe them. As for whether the High Firmament Academy is related to the legendary High Firmament Palace, to tell the truth, I really don’t know. In any case, after flipping through many ancient tomes, I was unable to find any connection between the two. Everyone, if you’re interested, you

can go to the High Firmament Academy as a guest. Again, as long as you go with goodwill, my High Firmament Academy will not disappoint you.”

“As expected of the youngest dean in the High Firmament Academy’s history. This understanding and magnanimity are admirable. This old man is too old to cross the devil sea, nor can I endure the impact of crossing the wall between heavens. I’ll never be able to go to the Darklight Heaven in this lifetime. But I’ll definitely send a good disciple as a representative to pay my respects,” said the elder.

The Darklight Heaven had a powerful wall separating it from the Violet Flame Heaven. Because of it, those beneath the Immortal King realm could pass through easily, but above the World King realm, passing through that wall came at a terrifying price. One mistake and he would lose his life.

Perhaps if a World King that was extremely weak tried to pass it, it would be easier. But the stronger the World King, the greater the resistance. Half-step Divine Venerates like themselves would simply be sending themselves to their deaths if they tried to barge through that wall.

Thus, they had no hopes of ever personally going to the High Firmament Academy in this lifetime. They could only send their own disciples.

Although they knew that the High Firmament Academy was the number one academy of the nine heavens and ten lands, the academy with the most ancient inheritance, as time passed, it had declined. People might not mention it once in a thousand years, so some people had gradually forgotten about it.

Now that Long Chen mentioned so many things from the era of legend, people instantly thought of this ancient academy. Its foundation was unimaginable.

Furthermore, the High Firmament Academy always welcomed other sects to learn and study together. Countless people started to think about going to take a look.

“Senior, can you tell me whether or not we should enter the three thousand worlds?” asked Qing Yu suddenly.

“You? I suggest you not to. I’ll put it frankly... you are lacking. Without your patriarch’s protection, you’d have long since been sent on the way to reincarnation. The three thousand worlds will have countless vicious characters, so your chances of surviving inside are exceedingly low. I feel like you should peacefully go study scripture in the Darklight Heaven,” said Long Chen.

“Alright, I’ll listen to senior. Patriarch, disciple will leave right now. I will definitely bring back the complete Tea Scripture for you,” promised Qing Yu. He didn’t show the slightest regret at not entering the three thousand worlds.

The patriarch once more thanked Long Chen before bringing his disciples away. After sending them off, Long Chen returned to the primal chaos space, whereupon he was shocked at what he saw.

“What is this?”

Chapter 3688: Treasure Tree’s Clever Use

In just a short time, the primal chaos space had undergone a huge transformation. Long Chen almost didn’t recognize it.

The Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree that had been on the edge of the primal chaos space had actually run over to the black soil at the very core of the primal chaos space.

Furthermore, the pile of corpses on the black soil was also gone, and the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree had gone from three feet tall to thirty feet tall.

At this moment, the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree was shining brightly. Its body was translucent like it was made of colored glass, and the rainbow leaves on the crown sprinkled divine light from above. That light then transformed into a milky white halo of light around it. Due to that, the black soil even turned white from its light.

The black soil was filled with death energy. But the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree forcibly took over this black soil, forming a white land.

The giant black soil space was now split in half, half black and half white. Looking at it from above, Long Chen was shocked to find that it actually formed the symbol of the Taiji diagram.

The Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree was now on opposite ends of the Heavenly Dao Tree. The Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree emitted holy light, while the Heavenly Dao Tree contained the black energy of death. The two forces opposed each other, as if they were competing over who was stronger.

The Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree was clearly much smaller than the Heavenly Dao Tree. However, it still managed to forcibly occupy half of the Heavenly Dao Tree's territory, taking over its own part of the black soil.

Long Chen then stopped in front of the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree. Suddenly, two figures flew out from its crown. Lei Linger and Huo Linger had transformed into two small dragons.

"Big brother Long Chen, we like this tree. It's part of our family too," exclaimed Lei Linger.

"I feel like I'm growing as long as I stay beside it. But I can't tell how exactly I'm growing. However, I definitely like it!" added Huo Linger excitedly.

Long Chen was startled. This Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree was also called the Seven Treasure Ingenuity Tree, the Tree of Wisdom, and the Bodhi Tree. It was an existence from the primal chaos era, a legendary divine tree. It was said that an almighty existence had turned it into their companion divine entity, placing their spiritual mark on it, which allowed them to share the same longevity as the tree.

However, even in the legends, there wasn't much information about the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree. No one knew how to use it.

When Long Chen arrived next to the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree, the divine light of the tree fell upon him and his body quivered. Bathed within this light, he felt like he was receiving a mental cleansing. A kind of energy was coursing through his body.

Long Chen felt every bit of stress leave him. This energy wasn't very powerful, but it was constant and consistent. At the same time, a strange ripple seemed to come from the tree, and the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree's image appeared in his mind.

Suddenly, Long Chen's mind retreated from the primal chaos space. But what came with him was the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree.

“Boss...”

Xia Chen and Guo Ran were beside Long Chen. They were in the midst of studying some runes on a piece of paper when the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree suddenly appeared, making them both jump.

When they recognized it to be the very tree that the patriarch had just given Long Chen, they were even more shocked. How did it grow so fast?

The Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree emitted its rainbow light, enveloping all three of them. Guo Ran and Xia Chen instantly felt their bodies relax. A holy energy was cleansing their bodies.

All of a sudden, the runes on Guo Ran’s right arm lit up. At the same time, specks of light appeared within his body. Those were the runes that Xia Chen had placed in his body.

“I understand!”

Xia Chen and Guo Ran both cried out at the same time. When the divine light enveloped them, it was as if their heads were anointed with the cream of enlightenment. They instantly understood countless principles.

The runes on the sheet that they had been studying were the runes for Guo Ran’s arm. They had been studying them for a long time without any worthwhile accomplishments. But the two of them had experience in this regard. They were determined and always pushed through these kinds of obstacles slowly over constant study.

At this moment, the roadblock in their way instantly became simple, and the areas that they hadn’t understood grew clear. In an instant, they decided where to put several runes.

Suddenly, the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree vanished, returning to the primal chaos space as if everything had been an illusion.

As a result, Guo Ran and Xia Chen’s expressions changed. They hastily began to write as fast as they could, putting down many ideas onto paper. They were afraid that their ideas would also become an illusion.

However, they quickly realized that this was no illusion. It was real. They looked at Long Chen in disbelief. The moment the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree appeared, it was as if inspiration simply gushed out of a spring. But now, everything had returned to normal.

“Boss, did you obtain a treasure this time? Don’t be stingy! Bring it out so that we can continue researching the Supreme Bone’s runes,” cried Guo Ran excitedly.

That one moment had been equivalent to almost a month of work from them. This fellow instantly got addicted to the sweet taste.

Long Chen now understood why the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree was also known as the Tree of Wisdom, a miniature version of the Heavenly Daos. The tree was a mirror reflecting the ten thousand Daos and laws.

Previously, Long Chen hadn't felt much. He had only felt that its divine light could increase the function of his mind and make him feel very comfortable. With that, he could fully relax and enter a state of empty spirit.

But somehow, he had summoned the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree. He still didn't feel anything, but these two had a huge reaction to it.

"Boss, don't just stare! Summon it again and let us benefit!" urged Guo Ran.

"How? It refuses to come out, so what am I supposed to do?" demanded Long Chen irritably.

At this time, Long Chen found that the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree had his spiritual mark on it. It was just like his weapon.

However, no matter how he tried to commune with it, it refused to budge. His soul could enter the primal chaos space, and the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree would continue to nourish him with its light, but he couldn't bring it out.

"Is it maybe out of energy?"

Long Chen suddenly had a thought. Seeing that he still had a decent stock of corpses saved, he tossed them in with a thought. After that, he found that when these corpses landed in the black soil, they were all devoured in just a few breaths' time. They transformed into an enormous amount of life energy that flooded the primal chaos space.

The Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree began to absorb this life energy and continued growing. Long Chen suddenly looked at the Heavenly Dao Tree in the black soil. He patted its trunk and sighed.

"It's been hard on you. You've had to do so much, and you even had your territory occupied."

The Heavenly Dao Tree was essentially working to feed the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree, yet the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree just barged into its territory. That was unfair to the Heavenly Dao Tree.

However, the Heavenly Dao Tree simply stood there, silent. It seemed to be a lifeform with no consciousness and could only act instinctively.

Long Chen used up all the corpses he had, and the black soil only took two hours to absorb them all. It seemed that the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree's power had grown.

When the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree was summoned by Long Chen once more, Guo Ran and Xia Chen cried out in excitement. They fervently jotted down their new ideas.

Chapter 3689: Violet Flame Heaven Capital

When the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree's divine light surrounded Long Chen, his seven-colored divine ring automatically appeared. After that, Long Chen tried to search for the connection between his divine ring and the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree's divine radiance.

The energy of Long Chen's divine ring felt so close to the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree's fluctuations. When the seven-colored divine ring appeared, the tree's energy would automatically flow into it.

However, the divine ring's energy could not enter the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree, so the tree's energy transmission was unidirectional.

An incense stick's worth of time later, the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree once more vanished, returning to the primal chaos space.

Long Chen was not summoning the real Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree when he brought it out. This could be considered a clone of it, and so it was temporary. After exhausting all of its energy, it would automatically return to the primal chaos space to rest, and before it gathered enough energy, it could not be summoned again.

"That was too fast! It was only a few breaths' time!" cried Guo Ran.

"Be happy with what you get. We've already figured out thirty-seven runes. Through our tests, we've confirmed that they are all correct. Furthermore, we can't even sense the passing of time during this enlightenment. If you keep complaining, boss might slap you," scolded Xia Chen with a laugh.

Xia Chen was clearer on things than Guo Ran. For them to figure out thirty-seven runes like this, it was not something possible without half a year of constant work. People had to know when to be satisfied.

However, these were all runes for Guo Ran's Supreme Arm. Considering Guo Ran's impatient nature, he wanted to figure them all out in one go.

"Guo Ran, that's about enough for you. Xia Chen also needs to cultivate. Researching your runes all day makes it so that he has no time for his own cultivation." Long Chen frowned.

In the past few days, Xia Chen was locked down by Guo Ran to study the Supreme Bone. During this time, Long Chen hadn't even seen Xia Chen take a break, let alone cultivate for himself. Hence, he couldn't help speaking up for Xia Chen.

Guo Ran was instantly ashamed. "Brother, I'm sorry. I'm too selfish. My Supreme Bone already has so many runes that we've figured out. For me, you actually delayed your own cultivation."

It was only when Long Chen brought it up that Guo Ran realized he had gone a bit too far. Ever since he was reunited with Xia Chen, all their time together was for his sake, while Xia Chen himself didn't get to even cultivate.

Xia Chen smiled. "It's fine. We're brothers. If you're stronger, I'm stronger as well. These things can't be separated."

"Haha, that's right too. Then let's continue studying the Supreme Bone!" laughed Guo Ran.

Long Chen directly clapped him on the back of his head, and Guo Ran's teeth clacked together. Long Chen then scolded, "Xia Chen is being courteous so that you don't feel guilty, but you really don't view him as an outsider, do you!?"

“We’re brothers, so why should I feel guilty? If I’m stronger, he’s stronger as well, right?” Guo Ran held his head and grumbled. Seeing Long Chen raise his hand again, he hastily fled behind Xia Chen.

Long Chen seriously said, “Xia Chen, spend some more time for yourself. Your talisman arts are powerful, to the extent that even against me, you would at least be able to flee safely. But this time, there will be countless heavenly geniuses in the three thousand worlds. There will be monsters, existences that were sealed for countless years just for this moment. Big brother Xia Guhong even said that the opening of the three thousand worlds is the spark that will cause chaos within the nine heavens and ten lands. All kinds of races will come, including the dark world’s lifeforms. There will most likely be a slaughter within the three thousand worlds. Even if you don’t have priceless treasures, just being from an enemy race will cause others to hunt you down. Also, I am worried about you encountering someone who can control a domain like last time. If your talismans are restricted, you might not be able to get away.”

When Guo Ran heard this, he also grew serious. In their battle against Liao Bencang, his faith domain was their greatest nightmare. If it weren’t for Long Chen’s Purgatory Eyes at the end opening a path, the three of them would have died.

In that battle, it was Xia Chen who was suppressed the heaviest. Hence, if he encountered someone else like Liao Bencang, it really would be dangerous for him.

Thinking of how he had made Xia Chen help him study his runes this entire time to improve himself, Guo Ran was instantly ashamed.

Xia Chen nodded. “Boss, I understand. Actually, I’ve been researching how to break the power of a domain while helping Guo Ran study his Supreme Bone. I’ve also thought of a few possibilities based on the runes on Guo Ran’s Supreme Bone. Helping Guo Ran really is helping myself.”

“Good. I’ve asked, and the entrance to the three thousand worlds is the chaotic flow of space. When you enter, you will be drawn into different spatial channels. That means no one knows where they’ll land within the three thousand worlds. Since that’s the case, the chance of two people being able to land together is very low, so everyone must be prepared to fight for themselves. Guo Ran has his Supreme Bone and his battle armor. He is capable of fighting alone, and I’m not worried about him. But I am worried about you. In a couple of days, I can summon the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree one more time. Under its light, it can let you enter a state of empty spirit to easily comprehend things. So, you are not to worry about Guo Ran right now. Do your best to study how to break a domain. Hopefully, you’ll be able to come up with a way to break out of a domain with the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree’s help,” said Long Chen.

During the next few days, Guo Ran especially didn’t bother Xia Chen. He just started adding runes to his battle armor. Those were the runes that they had figured out and decided upon.

Furthermore, with the help of Long Chen’s medicinal pills, their cultivation bases had already reached the peak of the Divine Lord realm. They were merely a single step away from the Immortal King realm.

As for Long Chen’s cultivation base, he was on the verge of breaking through to the twelfth Heavenstage of Divine Lord. His crazy consumption of medicinal pills to increase his cultivation base didn’t cause any adverse effects.

During this time, all of his advancements didn't cause his aura to change at all. All of the energy was absorbed by the Violet Tower Star. Thus, Long Chen didn't feel anything,

Five days later, Long Chen was finally able to summon the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree once more. Xia Chen was also prepared. Being immersed within its light, he started jotting down ideas.

Regretfully, the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree only lasted for a few breaths' time before returning to the primal chaos space. Clearly, its energy was not fully recovered from the last time.

Because of it, Xia Chen didn't manage to fully finish. However, Long Chen was gratified when Xia Chen said that he already had the overall idea in place. Even without the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree, he would be able to finish his plan.

The next day, Long Chen silently advanced to the twelfth Heavenstage. At this time, Xia Guhong came over.

"Let's go. We're going to the Violet Flame Heaven Capital. Let us see all the grand heroes beneath the heavens!"

Chapter 3690: The Human Race's Most Flourishing Era

The Violet Flame Heaven Capital was one of the oldest cities within the Violet Flame Heaven. It was said that this city was actually a pile of ruins, ruins so big that they were unimaginable.

It was located at the heart of the Violet Flame Heaven. But contrary to the Darklight Heaven, the Violet Flame Heaven was split into blocks, as there were many areas that could not be crossed. In fact, for some areas, you had no choice but to traverse through a different heaven, or go through somewhere like the Netherworld or devil world to reach them.

Thus, there was no one capable of traversing the entire Violet Flame Heaven. After all, some sealed areas were hiding an unknown number of monsters. Those monsters would normally not appear, but once they did, they would cause huge waves in the world.

When Guo Ran's flying boat approached the Violet Flame Heaven Capital, all he saw were ruins. A solemn and stirring aura assaulted them.

Also, Long Chen's blood began to unconsciously circulate faster, and his hands quivered slightly. Long Chen was startled, not knowing what was going on.

"There really is battle-hungry blood in your body. The call from millions and millions of years ago is forming a resonance with your blood," said Xia Guhong with a touch of praise.

"Big brother, are you saying...!" Long Chen was shocked.

Xia Guhong nodded. "Yes. This place was the core of the battlefield in the desolate battle. The number of lifeforms that died in that battle is uncountable, and every inch of this land is dyed with their blood. Because of it, every wisp of air is infected with endless resentment. Ancient desolate devils are buried within this place along with the heroes that slew them. But then, the stars changed, and the Heavenly Daos erased countless marks of that battle, as if that battle's only mark would eventually be carved in a history book. As time passes, people's memories of that time also grow dim. Perhaps they are unwilling

to look back, or they simply don't dare to. Or perhaps... they feel like history won't repeat, so they choose to forget."

Xia Guhong eyed this ruined world and sighed. This one sigh contained many complicated emotions.

Long Chen knew that Xia Guhong had experienced far more than him. He stood at an unfathomable height, so the world he saw made him sigh with emotion. As for Long Chen, all he felt was overflowing battle intent.

He could sense fear, anger, unwillingness, reluctance, and other emotions in the air. They were the leftover wills from the human experts right before their deaths. They remained even after the erosion of time for millions and millions of years.

It wasn't just Long Chen who could feel them. Guo Ran and Xia Chen were also affected by the air here. Their gazes grew sharp, and killing intent welled out of them.

They had followed Long Chen for so many years in bloody battles, so they were extremely sensitive to this kind of aura. At this moment, they felt like they could see countless humans in a blood-soaked battle, slaughtering devils and monsters. Because of this, they had the desire to go back through the river of time and join the battle.

As the flying boat slowly got closer, they saw an astonishing sight. In the distance, there was a giant black hole in the void. It was like a gaping maw devouring the world.

The black hole was surrounded by spatial cracks, which were constantly reforming and healing. It was vaguely possible to see some terrifying spatial blades whirling within, and terrifying sounds came from the darkness. They were like divine beasts roaring yet also like ghosts wailing.

"The battle of the desolate era was millions and millions of years ago. Has the world not healed from it?" asked Guo Ran, his voice quivering as he looked at the black hole.

With their current cultivation base, if they unleashed their full power, they could break through the walls of space. But whatever damage they did would quickly heal.

Like slashing a blade in the water, the surface of the water might be broken for a while, but it would eventually return to its original appearance over time.

However, the scars from the desolate era still remained until now. Just how terrifying was the person who caused this scar?

"The desolate era is said to be the human race's strongest era. The human race's experts of that time could shatter the stars and the moon and destroy the foundation of the world. We aren't capable of even influencing their remnants." Xia Guhong looked at the black hole with many emotions.

"I've never heard of that. Shouldn't the wheel of history continue to move forward? The human race went through millions and millions of years of development, making all sorts of new inventions, standing on the shoulders of those who came before us. The human race is blooming with talent. We should be greater than before!" exclaimed Guo Ran.

Ancient humans might be powerful, but according to reason, through the efforts of countless generations, the human race should have surpassed them by now.

After all, the human race wasn't like demonic beasts who only relied on bloodline inheritances. The human race had both bloodline inheritances and the inheritance of history. Because of them, the human race's techniques could be passed down through written word.

With numbers, they could build an unprecedented roaring fire. As everyone had worked hard to progress, the current human race had given rise to countless new paths. But Xia Guhong said that the human race had declined compared to back then? They found it hard to accept.

Xia Guhong shook his head. "In the desolate era, the human race could barely survive by hiding between the cracks. It was an extremely difficult time for us. But then the human race produced an almighty expert who created their own peerless divine cultivation technique, leading the human race to the very peak. We slew demons, devils, ghosts, and monsters, and for the first time, the human race stood at the pinnacle of the ten thousand races. Long Chen, you often say that humans are the spirit of the ten thousand races, blessed with the special care of the Heavenly Daos. But the truth is, before that person appeared, the human race was not the spirit of anything, nor were they cared for by the Heavenly Daos. The human race was only the slaves of the various races. But that almighty expert forcibly slaughtered our enslavers until their blood rained down from the heavens. Eventually, the nine heavens lowered their heads, and the Heavenly Daos gave us their favor, accepting the human race as supreme. It was only after this moment that the human race truly rose, having the blessing of the Heavenly Daos. We then truly started to comprehend the Heavenly Daos that enabled us to create our own cultivation techniques and abilities. Guo Ran, I know that you have immense talent in forging, but don't get complacent. In that era, the human race was the chosen ones of the heavens. Their minds were blessed with divine light, and the ten thousand Daos and laws were open to them. Their comprehension was far greater than the current human race."

Hearing the way that Xia Guhong described it, that the ten thousand Daos and laws were open to them, that their minds were blessed with divine light, Long Chen, Guo Ran, and Xia Chen were shaken. This state, was it not precisely the state of being blessed by the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree?

Guo Ran fell silent. Under the light of the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree, his mind was like a gushing spring, and endless ideas just came flying out. It was like no problem was too difficult for him.

If the people of that era really did have such a constant blessing, then they truly weren't something that the current people could reach.

Guo Ran and Xia Chen had made astonishing gains just from short moments of the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree's blessing. Because of this, they were unable to imagine the wisdom of the people of that era.

"Big brother, who was the almighty expert that you mentioned?" asked Long Chen.

Xia Guhong simply smiled at Long Chen and didn't respond. But that smile already told Long Chen the answer.

Long Chen's heart pounded wildly. As expected, that person had to be the Nine Star Master, the man who caused the nine heavens to lower their heads.

"Then wouldn't the Nine Star Hegemon Body Art be created before the Heavenly Daos recognized the human race?" Thinking of this, Long Chen was even more shocked. The Nine Star Master had essentially

blazed an entirely unprecedented path. But by changing the Nine Star Hegemon Body Art's cultivation path, was he not also blazing his own path?

BOOM!

Suddenly, a heaven-shaking explosion erupted in the distance. Violent auras struck them.

"People are fighting! Let's take a look!"

Guo Ran cried out excitedly and sent the flying boat hurtling over.