

Nine Star 4061

Chapter 4061: Leaving the Fiend Eye

"Wait, the Heaven Earth Cauldron is actually used for alchemy?" Long Chen asked, a mixture of surprise and delight in his tone.

"Not quite. Only the Earth Cauldron can be used for alchemy, as it focuses on life and defense. On the other hand, the Heaven Cauldron is a killing weapon, focusing on offense and slaughter. One Heaven and one Earth, their characteristics are different. The Earth Cauldron can't become a powerful weapon used to kill your enemies, but you can gain other benefits from it. Furthermore, if you use it to refine pills, the pills will become spiritual entities and draw down heavenly tribulation. The Earth Cauldron can then absorb the power of heavenly tribulation to strengthen itself," said the dragon expert.

"So that's the case!" Long Chen was overjoyed as he really had profited this time.

"Senior, can I increase my cultivation base now?" asked Long Chen.

"Now still isn't the time. In truth, the disparities between human realms aren't all that substantial. It's all about preparing to become a Heaven Venerate. Before a Heaven Venerate, whether you're an Immortal King, a World King, a Mortal Venerate, or an Earth Venerate, the difference fades away—you'd all be crushed by the might of a Heaven Venerate.

"You are now in the golden period for cultivating the Dragon Soul Body Forging Art, and you will have around one month until this golden period is over. Thus, you should focus on it for now. Once the foundation of your body is solid, raising your realm will take no more than a thought. Raising one Heavenstage a day will be nothing difficult. Once your Blood Qi circulates at will, once you can unleash and pull back your power with ease, once the ways to use the power of your blood, qi, bones, spirit, soul, will, and mind are engraved into the depths of your soul and woven into your combat instincts, you can raise your realm. Upon reaching the pinnacle of the Immortal King realm, when you've harnessed King Qi and your will covers the heavens, you can then strive to further evolve your Seven Star Battle Armor. If you trust me, just do as I say," said the dragon expert.

"What are you saying, senior? You saved this life of mine. Of course I trust you."

"Hmph. I'm just worried about you getting into one of your tempers again and causing trouble. Well, it wouldn't be the first time," snorted the dragon expert.

Long Chen had not listened to the dragon expert multiple times now. That was why it warned Long Chen, to avoid him messing around.

It had to be known that when it came to certain things, you had to follow the prescribed order. Otherwise, it could easily cause major trouble—one mistake and Long Chen's life would be lost. Thus, the dragon expert had no choice but to give a stern warning, or Long Chen would never listen.

Long Chen naturally acted very obedient now, as he knew that the dragon expert would not harm him. However, when they had different philosophies, Long Chen would still listen to himself.

Of course, Long Chen only thought this and didn't say anything to avoid enraging the dragon expert. If the dragon expert were to stop speaking to him in the future, he would be doomed. After all, he still had many things that he had to learn from it.

The Earth Cauldron had absorbed the life crystal, but fortunately, the fiend eye didn't show any reaction. Seeing this, Uncle Tree sighed with relief.

Long Chen then had Guo Ran gather the rust that had fallen off. Since this rust came from the Earth Cauldron, Long Chen still had a purpose for it.

"Boss, it doesn't seem like this rust has any power at all."

Guo Ran examined the rust and found that other than having the power of time on it, it didn't seem to be able to cause any injury to anyone. It was a far cry from the rust scrapped from the chains of the Ghost Ship.

"I know. Keep the rust. When there's time, help me create a few fakes of the Earth Cauldron. Then add this rust to it, and we'll see if we can find a few fools who want to trade them with good stuff," said Long Chen.

"Goddamn!" Guo Ran stared at his boss admiringly. This was his boss, a wellspring for all kinds of cons.

After all, the Heaven Earth Cauldron was an existence of legends. Who had personally seen it before? Thus, inspecting the rust would be the best way to verify its authenticity.

Suddenly, Long Chen pointed a finger, and black flames flew out, landing on the sea of skeletons. This was the Yan Xu Flame, something capable of incinerating all things.

Those corpses quickly ignited. They had eroded after all this time, so as soon as the fire touched them, they turned to ash.

"Dust to dust, earth to earth. Since you're already dead, your husks don't need to remain. I just wonder whether or not you will enter the cycle of reincarnation," Long Chen sighed.

"How pitiful. The nameless fallen of the heavenly river. It's like being trapped in a nightmare. I wonder if their beloved are all awaiting word of them." Yu Qingxuan held Long Chen's hand as she watched all those corpses turn to dust.

Every single one of them had been a living person. They had fathers, mothers, wives, husbands, and children. Perhaps the thoughts of those who missed them could call back their souls?

Long Chen held Yu Qingxuan's hand tightly, feeling the same sadness as well. Thinking about it, fate had always been a merciless whip that drove all the lifeforms of the world.

Everyone was racing as fast as they could, but as soon as they slowed down, they were struck by that merciless whip and turned to dust.

Just how much had Long Chen thirsted for power when he was bullied by others? Just how badly had he envied cultivators, envied their powerful abilities that allowed them to control their own fates?

However, once he set foot onto the path of cultivation, he found that he had leapt from a pool to a raging river. The path of cultivation was one of no return.

The higher his cultivation base grew, the more he felt like his fate was not under his control. Looking at these corpses, Long Chen had a feeling that if he didn't work hard enough, he would also become one of them.

Even if he worked as hard as he could, who could guarantee that they wouldn't be the next one lying in this hole? Heaven and earth were like a gameboard, while everyone was a game piece. If they wanted to escape the board, they had to constantly cultivate and get stronger so that they would become the ones playing the game.

After watching the corpses burning, Long Chen and the others left this dark hole.

This place had special spatial laws, but they were no problem for Uncle Tree. He simply stood behind Long Chen, and Xia Chen was instantly capable of sending the battleship into the sky.

The altar grew smaller and smaller below them until it vanished. However, it took quite a long time for the battleship to rise above the whirlpool.

When Uncle Tree saw the whirlpool fall further and further into the distance, he smiled.

"Uncle tree, you'll be able to return home soon." Long Chen saw how emotional he was. He knew that after being enslaved for so many years, this release had to feel indescribable.

"It's all thanks to you, master," said Uncle Tree.

Just then, the entire sea began to roil, and the sound of the void breaking rang out. They then saw an enormous entity appear.

Xia Chen and the others jumped in fright when they saw it.

"A Ghost Ship!"

Chapter 4062: Expert of the Primal Chaos Era

When the sinister wind blew, the world grew dark and dim, covered by black clouds. In an instant, thick ghost qi filled the air.

With it, everyone's hair stood on end, and a freezing sensation ran through their bones. It was like they had fallen into an icehouse, and an icy hand was wrapping around their souls. They didn't even dare to move.

They simply watched as a giant wooden ship broke through the waves. It was enormous, almost like a floating island. Compared to it, Guo Ran's battleship was like an ant in front of a dragon.

The pitch-black wooden ship had spots of rust on it, while the mast and sail were riddled with holes, looking like they were on the verge of collapse.

"Damn, what a huge ship. But it's actually a dugout!" Guo Ran instantly saw that despite its size, its shape was that of a simple dugout.

“Good, a lucky ship! Xia Chen, send us over! Be careful not to touch the chains or body, or our battleship will instantly collapse,” said Long Chen excitedly.

“Boss, are you serious?” Xia Chen was green with fright.

“Come on, it’s not like it’s the first time!” Long Chen smiled.

Last time, he had been conned by the Soaring Dragon Company and stumbled upon a Ghost Ship in an unexpected turn of events. After that, Long Chen managed to send the Ghost Ship charging straight into the Soaring Dragon Company’s pier.

Hearing his boss’s order, Xia Chen could only summon his courage. He then turned the battleship, sending it toward the Ghost Ship at maximum speed.

Despite that, the Ghost Ship was actually much faster than them, reaching them in just a few seconds.

Fortunately, despite sailing across the air rapidly, it was more like flying on top of the surface of the water. Since there were no raging waves, they didn’t need to fear that the ship would capsize.

Standing at the head of the Ghost Ship, Long Chen checked his timing and tossed a chain accurately onto the ship’s railing.

During his previous encounter on the Ghost Ship, Long Chen had successfully obtained quite a few chains. While a portion of them had been expended, he still had an ample supply. These chains were Long Chen’s sole defense against the power of corrosion, as other chains would instantly decay before even getting close to the Ghost Ship.

Borrowing the Ghost Ship’s momentum, with a simple pull, Long Chen ended up on the railings. After he landed, he immediately tossed the chain behind him to Uncle Tree.

Uncle Tree simply caught it with his left hand and raised his right hand toward everyone else. Branches then grew out of his arm and wrapped around everyone else.

Long Chen pulled, and everyone flew into the air, accurately landing on the Ghost Ship.

“Don’t touch the mast or the sail. Also, don’t touch anything made of iron,” warned Long Chen.

Long Chen found that this Ghost Ship was different from all the other Ghost Ships that he had encountered. The iron parts were covered in specks of rust and gave off a very frightening feeling. This was definitely a particularly special Ghost Ship.

Everyone felt chills seeing it. Even if Long Chen didn’t say anything, they wouldn’t dare to touch anything here. After all, the aura was too sinister, too frightening.

“Master, this place is ominous. There are strange fluctuations. There are many impure things down below.” Uncle Tree’s gaze cautiously swept through the ship, his expression grave.

Compared to the other Ghost Ships, this one wasn’t covered in corpse soldiers, so the top of the ship was completely empty.

Long Chen also had a bad feeling. At this moment, they heard a strange noise beneath their feet.

It was an extremely odd noise, like footsteps yet also like a broom sweeping. When it appeared, it felt like millions of needles stabbing their souls, causing their souls to quiver and their skins to become covered in goosebumps.

As this sound pierced their souls, to say that they weren't afraid would be a lie. The most terrifying thing was that they still had no idea what it was.

"Don't worry, I have the Ghost Sovereign's mark on me, so the Ghost Ship's lifeforms won't attack me. Let's take a look," said Long Chen.

Long Chen started walking to the center of the ship because he saw a passageway there.

Everyone simply followed behind him. The Ghost Ship was so large that it took them a full two hours to reach the entrance.

On the way, they kept hearing strange noises. Fortunately, they were true experts; otherwise, just those unknown noises would cause their souls to crumble.

It was also fortunate that they had Long Chen by their side. Otherwise, they wouldn't have dared to keep going. Once they arrived at the entrance, they saw that it led to the lower level.

As soon as they walked in, the world grew darker, and those strange noises also grew clearer.

They didn't know how long they walked down the passageway before they reached the lower level. There was not much light here, but some did come through the small chinks in the deck, so it wasn't particularly difficult to see their surroundings.

They had just walked down when they heard strange noises behind them. Guo Ran screamed. Not that far from him, a strange lifeform suddenly appeared.

Guo Ran instinctively summoned his armor and hacked his saber at this lifeform.

When the spark flew, that lifeform quivered ever so slightly, while Guo Ran was tumbling back. Uncle Tree had to catch him and drag him back, countering the power. It was only thanks to him that Guo Ran didn't cough up blood.

Because of the sparks, everyone managed to see what Guo Ran had attacked. It was a lifeform in ancient battle armor, its body gaunt and its eyes sealed shut. It was completely devoid of life.

Its general form resembled that of a human, with limbs and proportions akin to one. Yet, a horn protruding from its head indicated its non-human origin.

Guo Ran's attack only caused its body to sway, and it ignored Long Chen. Its legs were dragging across the ground as it continued walking.

"What kind of lifeform is this?! How is it so powerful?!" exclaimed Guo Ran. He had not been holding back with his last attack, but he was unable to damage this lifeform in the slightest.

In fact, all he caused was the slightest mark on its armor, a mark as fine as a strand of hair. It was impossible to notice it without looking.

“This person was a Heaven Venerate when he was alive. Furthermore, he should be considered a very strong existence amongst Heaven Venerates,” said Uncle Tree as he examined this lifeform.

“A Heaven Venerate corpse!”

They were all startled. They had only experienced just how terrifying Heaven Venerates were. So, why was there a Heaven Venerate corpse here? Could it be that Heaven Venerates were actually all over the place?

The sound that they had been hearing came from its feet dragging across the ground. This lifeform’s posture was bizarre. It was moving slowly, as if every step was laborious.

Just then, they saw another strange lifeform in the distance. Just like this one, it was dragging its feet, its movements odd.

Long Chen observed that their footsteps maintained a consistent and uniform distance from one another. Each step was flawlessly identical.

Suddenly, Long Chen saw that these lifeforms seemed to be holding something. Also, they were expressionlessly walking in one direction.

Long Chen beckoned everyone, and they rushed off in the direction those lifeforms were going. Before long, they encountered a barrier obstructing their path. Beyond the barrier stood an imposing figure.

At the sight of this entity, Long Chen's very soul quivered, and even Uncle Tree's countenance shifted.

“An expert from the primal chaos era!”

Chapter 4063: Warrior of the Starry Sky

This was a large, long-haired man who was a whole head taller than Long Chen and extremely muscular. Also, his upper body’s scarlet, copper, and bronze-colored skin was covered in strange marks.

At this moment, he was standing within the barrier, his body bound by chains that connected him to the ship from below and above.

From what Long Chen could see, those chains had black qi swirling around them. It seemed that some energy was being slowly injected into his body.

Even from a great distance, Long Chen and the others could sense the terrifying primal chaos qi coming from this person's body. Even if Uncle Tree didn’t say anything, they would have been able to tell that he was from the primal chaos era.

However, the lifeform gave off no aura of life as though it was a corpse. But why would a corpse be bound with chains?

Just then, one of those strange lifeforms appeared in front of the barrier and slowly extended a hand. At this time, Long Chen finally saw what it was holding. It was a thumb-sized crystal.

The crystal then merged into the barrier and transformed into threads like a spiderweb that wrapped around the long-haired man.

When those black threads merged into his body, the chains on him quivered. Long Chen then saw strange fluctuations on top of the chains.

“It’s absorbing this person’s life energy?! He’s not dead?!” Long Chen was startled. This lifeform from the primal chaos era wasn’t dead? It still had life energy to absorb? That was too terrifying. A lifeform from the primal chaos era, was that not a true living fossil?

“It seems that these lifeforms and chains are absorbing his life energy so that he doesn’t wake up. Master, take a look. All of these lifeforms are walking like machines, using the black crystals to absorb his life energy. This expert from the primal chaos era has such astonishing life energy that they can only use this method to prevent him from awakening. It seems that this entire Ghost Ship is set up as a prison, and the only one in this prison is him,” deduced Uncle Tree gravely.

Long Chen nodded. “That seems to be the case. We just have no idea what kind of background this lifeform has. Should we save him or not? If he turns on us, we’ll have died to our own hands.”

Long Chen continued to examine the long-haired man. Although he was just silently standing there like a corpse, Long Chen could sense the apocalyptic power within his body.

Once he woke up, let alone him, even a Heaven Venerate would only be an ant in front of this existence.

From Uncle Tree’s expression, it seemed that this expert was many times stronger than him as well. They simply weren’t on the same level.

“Senior, senior, wake up. What is going on? What should I do?” Long Chen called out to the dragon expert with his soul.

However, the dragon expert didn’t reply. Even when Long Chen shouted several more times, he still got nothing. Just as Long Chen thought that he couldn’t reach the dragon expert, its voice suddenly rang out.

“A Warrior of the Starry Sky? You’ve actually encountered him?” The dragon expert’s voice was filled with a hint of astonishment.

“Warrior of the Starry Sky? That sounds a bit familiar. I feel like I’ve heard it before.” Long Chen felt like he had heard this name before, but he wasn’t able to recall where.

“Of course it’s familiar. Back in Pill Valley, that girl Wan Qing asked you about the origin of shooting stars, and you came up with some ridiculous story about you being an unrivaled Warrior of the Starry Sky who would give her shooting stars. You don’t remember your own cons?”

Long Chen was embarrassed. No wonder it sounded so familiar, so he had come up with that name himself. He hadn’t expected the random name he had tossed out to be a true existence.

To alleviate his embarrassment, Long Chen asked, “Senior, can he be saved? Should I save him?”

“You can save him, and he won’t attack you. The Ghost Sovereign is trying to turn this guy into his puppet. That is why he left him with the slightest trace of life. However, a Warrior of the Starry Sky possesses an extremely strong life force. If his life energy was not being constantly kept in check, he would quickly awaken. That’s why they are using this barrier and crystals to bind him. They don’t want the flame of his life to extinguish, but they also don’t want him to awaken,” said the dragon expert.

Long Chen felt much more at ease after hearing that. After all, the enemy of his enemy was his friend. If the Ghost Sovereign wanted to do something, Long Chen should stop him whenever he could. Even if he couldn't get anything good from it, he didn't mind.

Normally, the core of something was located at the center or head. However, this Ghost Ship's core was actually located at the tail.

There was a giant rudder here, which was sealed. But fortunately, Long Chen already had some experience. By inserting Spiritual Strength into it, it quickly reacted. Once he could control the rudder, he could guide the Ghost Ship wherever he wanted.

However, this time, Long Chen didn't just want to control the direction but also the entire Ghost Ship.

Enduring the pain, he took off the eyepatch. As his left eye creaked open, a chilling scream nearly escaped his lips, despite his remarkable pain tolerance.

From deep within his eyes, the hell flower manifested once more, causing the rudder to quiver. At that moment, everything in the Ghost Ship appeared within Long Chen's mind's eye.

Grimacing in agony, Long Chen covered his left eye with a trembling hand. He could no longer see out of it. To use it repeatedly without it fully recovering was exacting a heavy toll on it.

After a moment, Long Chen wiped off the blood flowing out of his eye. Afraid that Yu Qingxuan would feel worried, he only returned after he was able to control his expression.

With this new information, he knew that this Ghost Ship had three levels. The Warrior of the Starry Sky was bound in the middle level, and the crystals were from a chest in the lower level.

Just like that, the puppets were constantly going from the lower level to the middle level, their movements robotic.

Originally, there was a barrier between the two levels. But with Long Chen's new control over the Ghost Ship, this barrier had no effect on him. He then arrived at the chest of crystals and saw countless thumb-sized crystals here, all of them containing an immense amount of life energy.

Long Chen had no idea what use these things could have, so he simply tossed them into the primal chaos space. With that, the puppets just began to randomly rove around the chest since there were no crystals.

Having lost their purpose, those puppets were like idiots not knowing what to do.

After that, Long Chen had Xia Chen steer them, and they directly used this giant Ghost Ship to travel.

Long Chen and the others stood guard over the Warrior of the Starry Sky. On the seventh day, the latter's hand quivered, exciting Long Chen and the others.

Chapter 4064: Whale Corpse

The warrior's fingers twitched a few times, emitting sharp metallic sounds as though his knuckles had rusted, causing all the people around to wince.

“It’s only been seven days, and he has recovered a bit? Is the lifeforce of a Warrior of the Starry Sky really so amazing?” asked Long Chen.

“I can only look at him through your eyes, so I cannot judge his true power. But if he can start freeing himself up from the Ghost Sovereign’s laws in just seven days, he probably is extraordinary even amongst Warriors of the Starry Sky,” said the dragon expert with a hint of interest in its tone.

“Why are they called Warriors of the Starry Sky?” asked Long Chen.

“Because they are from the Starry Sky race of the primal chaos era and have innate star diagrams on their bodies. Relying on astral energy to cultivate, they were said to be the strongest warriors beneath the starry sky back then. They were fearless, but they mysteriously vanished in the immemorial era. Due to how much time has passed, the legends of the Warriors of the Starry Sky are not known to many,” said the dragon expert.

“The strongest warriors beneath the starry sky?”

Long Chen’s heart shook. Didn’t that mean that they were unrivaled? Or did it mean that there were stronger existences above the starry sky?

“Boss, there’s land up ahead!”

Xia Chen’s excited cry rang out while everyone was paying attention to the Warrior of the Starry Sky. Thus, Long Chen and the others were pleasantly surprised. Had they crossed the heavenly river so quickly?

Feeling a bit reluctant, Long Chen and the others left the side of the warrior and went up the Ghost Ship. As expected, there was an endless landmass up ahead.

“No, master, that’s not land! That is the body of a lifeform!” It was Uncle Tree who cried out upon seeing that ‘land’.

“A body? What?!” Guo Ran and the others couldn’t believe their ears.

They were still very far from the landmass. However, from what they saw, it seemed to cover the entire horizon and spread as far as they could see. What lifeform’s body could be so large?

“Could it be...?” wondered Long Chen.

“Yes, it probably is. No other lifeform would be that big.” Uncle Tree nodded, thinking the exact same thing as Long Chen.

The Ghost Ship continued onward. Once they were closer to the ‘landmass’, a bloody scent struck them as they saw countless birds, fish-like monsters, and sea demons around.

They saw multiple sea demons that were so powerful that they should be considered Heaven Venerates. From the Ghost Ship, they could see their enormous bodies.

There were countless sea demons devouring this ‘landmass’. When the Ghost Ship got close, those terrifying sea demons retreated, with some even directly fleeing.

“Is this a sea whale? But...” Guo Ran still couldn’t believe what he was seeing.

“The one we saw was probably a young sea whale, but this one should be a mature one whose longevity reached an end and died of old age here,” said Long Chen.

“Died of old age? No way! Shouldn’t an existence of this level be immortal? Even if they do die, their bodies should be immune to rot and decay! It wouldn’t be something that can be consumed like this!” said Guo Ran.

“All things in this world have their own fate. Also, the sea whale race is different from the Kunpeng race. They always follow the natural Dao and do not fight against the heavens, allowing the bindings of the Heavenly Daos. They are born in the sea, grow in the sea, and die in the sea. And before dying, they allow their cultivation base to dissipate so that other lifeforms can consume them. All their defenses are removed as they await for death to descend. Everything that the great sea gave them, they will give back to the sea. It is their way of repaying the place that raised them. This can be considered another kind of nirvanic rebirth. When their flesh is consumed, their bodies sink to the bottom of the sea. After that, more sea demons will continue consuming them until they fall all the way to the depths of the seafloor, and the weakest lifeforms at the bottom of the sea will consume the leftovers, gaining enough nutrients for them to grow and reproduce for millions of years. From the point that the sea whales die to the point that their corpses fall to the bottom of the sea, tens of thousands of years will have passed. This process is given a mournful yet beautiful name: the whale fall. The whale devours ten thousand lifeforms, and the whale fall feeds ten thousand lifeforms. Before this, we saw a sea whale devouring countless sea demons. Now, we see the whale fall feed countless sea demons. It is like fate,” sighed Long Chen emotionally.

The sea whale couldn’t be called a saint, but at least it knew when to repay kindness. It followed the natural Dao and didn’t just selfishly demand more and more. In the end, it returned everything back to the sea.

But humans? Only a few would do such a thing. After all, humans were the greediest bunch. No matter how much they obtained, they always demanded more.

Fiends killed each other. As for humans? They were sometimes even worse than fiends. Just what made humans so cruel? Pure greed? It probably wasn’t so simple.

Was there a sinister hand within heaven and earth constantly drawing out the darkness within people’s hearts, pushing humanity into the depths of evil?

When the Ghost Ship passed by the sea whale’s corpse, some sea demons roared at them, glaring at the Ghost Ship, fearful yet unwilling to leave their territories.

“It’s too bad that it’s too big. There’s no way to store it,” said Guo Ran.

“What, you want to eat it too? It returns its body to the sea, and you weren’t born from the sea,” said Xia Chen.

“You’re right,” Guo Ran sighed.

“Let’s go around.”

Long Chen looked at the immense flesh and blood. To tell the truth, he was a bit enticed. If this was tossed into the primal chaos space, who knew just how much life energy would be unleashed? Would the Fusang Trees and the Moon Trees instantly grow into towering trees?

However, Long Chen had his own bottom line. Xia Chen was correct. The sea whale had returned itself to the sea. If he were to take it, it would be like stealing from charity. Long Chen couldn't do such a thing. Thus, he could only sigh and leave.

The sea whale's size could not be calculated with simple numbers. It took Long Chen and the others three days to go from its body to its head.

During these three days, they only grew more shocked. Just how many beasts did the sea whale consume in its life in order to grow to this size? Fortunately, it returned itself to the sea. Otherwise, perhaps every lifeform in the sea would be devoured.

When they reached the head of the sea whale, they were surprised to find that this region had no sea demons.

"What's going on? Is the whale's head too tough for them to eat?" Guo Ran couldn't help looking at Long Chen.

Long Chen was also puzzled. "Don't look at me. Everything I know is just from the academy's books. I don't know what's happening."

Just then, they heard the sound of chains being dragged across the deck, causing them to turn back and see that the Warrior of the Starry Sky had walked onto the deck, having left the formation.

With deliberate slowness, the Warrior of the Starry Sky tilted his head upward, allowing his hair to fall back and reveal his bronze-colored face. He then looked at the sea whale and suddenly raised a hand.

BOOM!

To everyone's surprise, the sea whale's head exploded, and an enormous thing flew out of it, heading straight toward the Ghost Ship.

"It's the sea whale's crystal core!" exclaimed Long Chen.

Chapter 4065: Unmatched Power

When the giant crystal core flew into that person's hand, astral light flowed out. The next moment, the enormous crystal core shrank and was caught by him.

Crunch.

The warrior directly opened his mouth and bit down, causing sparks to fly around. To everyone's surprise, the sea whale's crystal core was forcibly devoured bite by bite.

Long Chen and the others stood in stunned silence, unable to react as they watched the astonishing scene unfold before them. The individual before them appeared utterly famished, devouring the crystal core with an almost desperate intensity. When he was done, a gradual spark of vitality slowly began to shine on his body. He seemed to have been revitalized.

Suddenly, the Ghost Ship quivered and he actually jumped to the sea whale's head. That was where the crystal core had flown out of.

He then reached in and pulled. As he did so, the heavens quivered and astral light condensed into a starry giant behind him.

The starry giant was as tall as the heavens and was composed of the light of billions of stars. At this moment, this giant figure also reached toward the sea whale's head.

BOOM!

With a heaven-shaking explosion, the sea whale's corpse unleashed huge waves, while Long Chen and the others saw something unimaginable.

They saw the giant starry hand forcibly pull out the sea whale's giant spine.

The immense power caused its corpse to deform and the sea demons to flee in terror.

BOOM!

An enormous spine then appeared above the nine heavens, so enormous that it looked like a heavenly whip, giving off a terrifying divine pressure.

When the sea whale died, it dissipated all its defenses so that others could devour its body. However, there were two places where it could not dissipate its energy. Those places were its crystal core and its bones.

The crystal core was where all its energy concentrated, while the bones were the foundation that supported its immense body. Thus, even the sea whale was unable to dissipate the energy within them.

It was only once its flesh and blood were fully consumed that the energy of its crystal core and bones would slowly dissipate. And only then could its bones sink to the depths of the sea and continue providing food for the lifeforms at the bottom of the sea.

When the spine was ripped out of its body, it was like a divine whip, an existence that shook countless souls.

When the astral light and giant figure vanished, the whip rapidly shrank until it was only three meters long and then wrapped around the warrior's waist.

The warrior looked around as if appraising where he was. After that, he simply stepped into the void. With a few steps, he vanished, leaving behind the shocked Long Chen and the others.

"How terrifying!"

"What level is he at!?"

Guo Ran and the others stared at each other, stunned.

The Heaven Venerate that they had previously encountered had been so powerful that even their combined forces hadn't been enough to beat him.

After that, they entered a fiend eye and saw Uncle Tree kill a Heaven Venerate with one blow. That told them that even Heaven Venerates were not unrivaled existences.

Then they encountered this lifeform of the primal chaos era. He had been on the verge of death, but as soon as he woke up, he managed to rip out the sea whale's crystal core and spine.

After he consumed the crystal core and seemed to take the spine as a weapon, he simply left. In front of him, perhaps even Heaven Venerates could only kneel and scam away.

"Following boss always lets me see more of the world. People ask me why I'm so low-key. The main thing is that how could I be high-key after seeing so many terrifying existences?" said Xia Chen with a hint of terror.

Arrogant people were people who hadn't seen the world. People who had seen the world never felt themselves to be so powerful because they had seen a vaster world. Only frogs at the bottom of a well continued to croak loudly as if afraid others wouldn't know of their existence.

"Fuck, he didn't even say thank you! What strongest warrior beneath the starry sky? He's simply rude!" Although Long Chen didn't mind, as he didn't think that this person could give him anything good anyway, for him to leave without even saying a word was not very polite.

"Boss, what are you talking about?" asked Guo Ran and the others, feeling startled.

Long Chen had yet to tell them about the Warriors of the Starry Sky. Now that they asked, he explained simply. Guo Ran and the others had also previously never heard of Warriors of the Starry Sky. But after seeing this person's terrifying power, they had to agree with Long Chen's explanation.

"The strongest warriors beneath the starry sky. It seems that they need not have any qualms about that statement," said Xia Chen.

"That was because, I feel like once the Dragonblood Legion reaches the peak, we'll be the ones to have that title," said Guo Ran confidently.

"Who are you bragging to? If you have the energy, you should think about how to raise your own power. If you aim so high that the footsteps are too big, you might pull a muscle," said Long Chen.

The power of this warrior was so great that it was enough to make others feel despair. Saying that they would surpass this person was definitely bragging too early.

The Warrior of the Starry Sky was gone, while the sea demons devouring the sea whale were also scared away. But it probably wouldn't be long before they all came back.

On the Ghost Ship, no one dared to attack Long Chen and the others, so everything went smoothly. Xia Chen continued to steer them on their way, going around the sea whale's corpse.

As they traveled, Long Chen tried to get the puppets under control. But despite his best efforts, he was unable to do so. Just like that, his dream of turning them into his puppets couldn't come true.

Now, all they had left to do was take a long journey across the heavenly river. Thus, Long Chen decided to use the Earth Cauldron to refine pills.

He should really refine more pills. As before this, all of his Immortal King Pills had been distributed to everyone. Through the Huayun Trading Company, he was able to send pills to the Luo family in the Darklight Heaven, along with countless Heavenly Dao Fruits. Long Chen wanted to turn the Luo family into a supreme force to make up for his mother's actions.

During this time, the Demon Moon Furnace and the Moon and Star Refining Furnace had not been slacking either. They helped Long Chen refine countless pills. Some were given to Xia Chen and the others, and some were sent away.

Thanks to it, Xia Chen, Guo Ran, and the others reached the seventh Heavenstage of the Immortal King realm. Their Heavenly Dao Crowns grew increasingly solid, and so did their control over heaven and earth's energy.

Right now, only Long Chen was still at the initial Immortal King realm. He didn't even count as having reached the first Heavenstage. In terms of realm, he had been tossed far into the distance.

However, he was in no rush. Even the dragon expert had told him that the cultivation path of the Nine Star Hegemon Body Art was one that focused on the physical body as a foundation. After raising the power of his physical body, raising his realm would be as easy as raising a hand. Moreover, he didn't even have to worry about his foundation growing unsteady.

When Long Chen took out the Earth Cauldron to refine pills, he suddenly realized a problem.

"If I use the Earth Cauldron to refine pills, won't my heart-devil be released?"

In an instant, Long Chen's excitement vanished. If his heart-devil was unleashed, it would disturb his mind and emotions. Furthermore, given that Long Chen had trapped him this time, no one could guess what kind of retaliatory actions he might pursue.

"Well, I suppose I'll take a look. Perhaps we can talk it out." Long Chen carefully opened the lid the tiniest bit. Any movement from his heart-devil and he would slam it shut.

However, when his mind crept into the Earth Cauldron, Long Chen's expression completely changed. The Earth Cauldron was completely empty, and the sealed heart-devil was gone.

Chapter 4066: Lost Heart-Devil

Long Chen was wary of his heart-devil suddenly trying to escape. Thus, he was rather reluctant to use the Earth Cauldron to refine pills, fearing that doing so would release his heart-devil. As a result, he suspected that his heart-devil was tricking him into fully opening the lid so that it would escape.

But to his astonishment, Long Chen eventually found that his heart-devil was truly gone, and the Earth Cauldron was completely empty. Even when Long Chen double-checked, he could find no trace of his heart-devil's existence.

"How? How can this be?"

Long Chen was dumbfounded. His heart-devil was really gone? Had it been refined? However, Long Chen quickly tossed aside that thought. His heart-devil was another side of him, so it couldn't just disappear like that.

“Did he escape when I used the Earth Cauldron to smash the hell gate?” Long Chen suddenly had a bad feeling. That was the only time the Earth Cauldron had escaped his control, which was also the only time the heart-devil had a chance to escape.

Long Chen felt a chill. Would he be like Leng Yueyan in the future? Would there be two of him?

Even after fully opening the Earth Cauldron, nothing happened. Long Chen was even hoping for his heart-devil to attack him. However, there was nothing like that; the heart-devil was really gone.

Long Chen was disappointed and frustrated, to the extent that even his delight at being able to use the Earth Cauldron to refine pills vanished. The disappearance of his heart-devil worried him, and somehow, he also felt like he had lost the most important thing to him.

Long Chen did resent and fear his heart-devil. But now that his heart-devil was gone, his heart felt empty. His soul was incomplete.

“Fuck, where could he have gone?! How could he leave without even saying goodbye?!” Long Chen muttered to himself as he examined the empty Earth Cauldron.

However, no reply came. Perhaps the Earth Cauldron knew where his heart-devil had gone. However, it didn’t tell Long Chen. It was like a weapon with no emotions, simply icy cold.

After a while, Long Chen suppressed his emotions. The fact that his heart-devil had disappeared was simply reality, but Long Chen believed that he would come to find him.

Without Long Chen, his heart-devil was incomplete. In the same vein, he was also incomplete without his heart-devil. Sooner or later, the two of them would have to face each other again.

Right now, what he needed to do was increase his own power, as he couldn’t afford to be beaten by his heart-devil.

Thus, Long Chen did his best to calm himself down. He then turned his attention to his next goal: refining pills with the Earth Cauldron.

When Long Chen sent flames into the Earth Cauldron, he found that there was no reaction at all. He then kept the flames burning for an hour, but the Earth Cauldron remained ice-cold.

“Tch, it seems that it’s still too early to use it to refine pills. I’ll need to use my flames to awaken its alchemy runes first,” realized Long Chen. With the cauldron still in slumber, unable to assist him, Long Chen would need to awaken the runes first.

As the heir to the Pill Sovereign’s memories, Long Chen naturally knew that this was a necessary step. With Huo Linger’s current power and his powerful Spiritual Strength, even a pill furnace that was a World Domain divine item would have its runes activated in the blink of an eye.

However, the Earth Cauldron had been in the middle of this process for an hour, and it didn’t even heat up in the slightest, let alone activate the runes. Seeing this phenomenon, Long Chen knew that it would be impossible to activate it without warming it up for a few days.

Long Chen then left the matter of heating the cauldron to Huo Linger. After all, he was in no rush. In order to not dwell on the matter of his heart-devil, Long Chen did his best to relax. He spent every day

with Yu Qingxuan at the head of the ship, enjoying the scenery, or drinking with Guo Ran and the others. The rest of their journey across the heavenly river was treated as a vacation.

With them being on the Ghost Ship, the dangers of the heavenly river didn't dare to bother them, directly fleeing at the sight of the Ghost Ship.

However, the Dragonblood warriors were still lively, and other than drinking wine with Long Chen, the rest of their time was spent on cultivation. They often exchanged pointers to corroborate each other's theories.

After all, they had just consumed the Double Supreme Heavenly Dao Fruits, and this rise in power was still new to them. Fully grasping it was not something that could be done in just a day or two.

As they merged this power with their own combat experience, they also trained their cooperation. The Dragonblood Legion was capable of following their boss because they were strong enough, and the important aspect of that was that they had to be able to make up for each other's weaknesses. Together, they would unleash a combined power that was far greater than just a simple addition.

They knew that they were just normal people. The reason that they could reach their current level was, other than Long Chen's contributions, thanks to them being able to work together flawlessly. Outside of the Dragonblood Legion, they were nothing compared to their enemies.

As the first gathered batch of Dragonblood warriors, they had to carry a greater burden on their shoulders, bearing the responsibility of finding more of their comrades and helping them return. But first, they had to find their old level of silent communication, letting the Dragonblood Legion become one iron plate once more.

Once all the Dragonblood warriors were fully gathered, with their combined forces, even a Heaven Venerate was an existence that they could challenge fearlessly.

During this time, Yu Qingxuan didn't slack off either. She personally refined Immortal King Pills for everyone, and her pills were actually much better than Long Chen's.

That was due to Long Chen not having the time to personally refine pills. The majority of his pills were refined by Huo Linger and his furnaces alone. When it came to alchemy, if you weren't practicing, you were regressing. But Long Chen truly didn't have that much time to spend on alchemy.

Yu Qingxuan was different. She focused on it and stubbornly went down the Dao of Alchemy. Otherwise, there was no way she could have refined a peerless grade golden pill at such a young age, shaking the entire alchemy world.

If Long Chen had the same focus on alchemy, his accomplishments would definitely not be inferior to Yu Qingxuan's. However, he had too many things to do, and his attention was split across many things. He did not have Yu Qingxuan's focus in this regard.

Other than that, Yu Qingxuan's core flame was the Heavenly Rainbow Flame, and it was a very pure flame. On the other hand, Long Chen's flame was an amalgamation of many flames. Its destructive power might be amazing, but for refining pills, it was like being a jack of all trades and master of none.

Yu Qingxuan spent her time refining Immortal King Pills. A portion were given to Xia Chen and the others, while the majority were kept for Long Chen. After all, Long Chen had told her that he would need an ocean's worth of pills for when he started to raise his realm.

Half a month passed in this manner, and at this moment, the Earth Cauldron's runes lit up, causing Long Chen to become excited once again.

"I can finally start! Let's see what pills refined by a primal chaos divine item are like!"

Chapter 4067: Rapid Refinement

Just heating up the cauldron already took half a month, so now Long Chen directly started on refining Immortal King Pills. Although the ingredients for the pills were precious, the refinement difficulty wasn't particularly high. Thus, they could only be considered a bit above average among the mainstream pills.

As for why Long Chen refined them, well, it was his first time using the Earth Cauldron to refine pills. He didn't know what the results would be, so he chose the simple Immortal King Pill.

With the cauldron warming complete, Long Chen tossed the medicinal pills inside the cauldron and started refining them into powders.

"What?!"

However, as soon as Long Chen started, he jumped up.

"How is this happening?!"

To the side, Yu Qingxuan, who was standing guard, was also stunned. The ingredients that Long Chen had tossed into the Earth Cauldron directly vanished, and not even the ashes remained.

Yu Qingxuan and Long Chen exchanged a look. As alchemy masters, they had never seen such a thing.

Long Chen tossed more medicinal ingredients, and this time, he saw it clearly. The ingredients instantly melted and were absorbed by the Earth Cauldron.

"Long Chen, do you need to sacrifice enough ingredients to the Earth Cauldron before you can start refining pills?" theorized Yu Qingxuan.

"Perhaps that's the case."

Long Chen began to toss in the medicinal ingredients. At first, it was just a few at a time, but then he started tossing in giant batches.

By the end, Long Chen tossed medicinal ingredients out of the primal chaos space like they were garbage, while Yu Qingxuan fed them to the Earth Cauldron.

Every single one of these ingredients was incredibly precious, and anyone else would die from the pain of losing them all. Fortunately, Long Chen didn't care. He had as many of these precious medicinal ingredients as he needed.

Devil Eye Water Lilies, Divine Whisker Daffodils, Dragon Star Grass—they were tossed out like common grass.

Long Chen decided to see just which was greater, the number of medicinal ingredients he had, or the amount that the Earth Cauldron wanted. If it had the appetite, then it could eat them all.

Seeing this scene, Yu Qingxuan grew numb. She was unable to imagine just how many medicinal ingredients Long Chen had. A full two hours later, they had tossed around a three-thousand-mile mountain of medicinal ingredients inside the Earth Cauldron.

There was no way to calculate the value of these precious ingredients. In any case, Yu Qingxuan had never seen so many ingredients in her lifetime.

Finally, a touch of brown light came from the Earth Cauldron, and the medicinal ingredients that Long Chen tossed in stopped vanishing without a trace.

It seemed as if the Earth Cauldron was finally full. As for the primal chaos space's enormous medicinal field, it was now almost barren.

In order to rapidly restore it, Long Chen tossed another immemorial corpse onto the black soil. Just like that, the medicinal ingredients rapidly proliferated again.

Long Chen finally began to formally refine pills and tossed medicinal ingredients into the Earth Cauldron. Those ingredients instantly melted, and in the blink of an eye, turned into powders.

Yu Qingxuan let out a startled cry. Refining the ingredients into powders was the first step of refining a pill. It looked simple, but in truth, the purity of the medicinal powders directly correlated with the final quality of the pill.

Once the refinement of an ingredient was complete and it was turned into powder, the purity of the powder was set. No matter how many impurities remained, you could only use it or throw it away. There could be no second refinement, otherwise, as you got rid of the impurities, you would also get rid of the essence of the ingredient.

Yu Qingxuan was an alchemy master, so she could instantly tell that these medicinal powders were of the utmost purity, something that should be impossible in practice.

No matter how great your flame control was, there would always be the slightest bit of impurity in the end. It was unavoidable as removing any further impurity would always damage the essence of the end product. It was the so-called essence and dregs being one.

The only way to remove those impurities was to remove them further along in the refinement process, driving them out step by step. However, the greatest goal was to preserve the essence of the medicinal pill.

To their surprise, these powders that Long Chen had just refined got no impurities at all. This defied the common knowledge of the alchemy world.

“Could it be...?”

Long Chen and Yu Qingxuan suddenly thought of a possibility.

Long Chen grew excited. Was this why the Earth Cauldron consumed so many ingredients? Did the Earth Cauldron consume countless medicinal ingredients to turn itself into the nourishing grounds for medicinal pills? When the pill refinement started, the cauldron absorbed the impurities and the essence that came with it to restore its own energy.

Just because alchemists were incapable of something didn't mean that this pill cauldron was incapable of it. Thus, Long Chen and Yu Qingxuan were stunned but also delighted. They saw another path of alchemy before them.

Previously, they had only been caring about their own alchemy techniques, not relying on the pill furnace. But this powerful Earth Cauldron showed them another way to develop their alchemy skills.

Long Chen then fed more medicinal ingredients into the Earth Cauldron, and they were instantly turned into powders without Long Chen even needing to do anything. Everything was simple.

After the medicinal powders were refined, drawing them together, merging them, and closing the lid all went smoothly. There was almost no need for Long Chen to do anything.

However, during the actual pill refinement, the Earth Cauldron's runes lit up. As Long Chen's hand was on the Earth Cauldron's lid, his essence, qi, and spirit were absorbed by the Earth Cauldron.

Long Chen jumped in shock. In all his years, it was his first time encountering such a thing. In all his previous refinements, hadn't it been Spiritual Strength that was necessary? Usually, alchemists would use Spiritual Strength to draw in the power of heaven and earth, awakening the spirit of the pill. Why did it now require his essence, qi, and spirit?

Suddenly, the dome of the heavens shook as tribulation clouds gathered. Yu Qingxuan cried out, "The pill hasn't even formed, but the tribulation clouds have already come?!"

In the immortal world, only golden pills were qualified to summon heavenly tribulation clouds. Spirit pills and treasure pills were not qualified by the Heavenly Daos to unleash such a thing.

However, even if there was heavenly tribulation, it would only occur when the golden pill formed and unleashed its powerful aura. That would then be sensed by the Heavenly Daos, and they would unleash heavenly tribulation.

Unlike usual, the pill had yet to condense, but the tribulation clouds had descended. This phenomenon was something that Yu Qingxuan had never seen before.

Gradually, more tribulation clouds gathered, covering the Ghost Ship. Clearly, the heavens did not care about a Ghost Ship. They would strike down even a Ghost Ship if they had to.

Just then, the Earth Cauldron suddenly opened, and nine pillars of light shot into the sky.

The brilliant golden light left Long Chen and Yu Qingxuan speechless. "Top grade golden pills. Nine top grade golden pills!"

It had to be known that Yu Qingxuan was capable of refining top grade golden pills. In fact, she had even refined a peerless grade golden pill. However, that was something that relied partially on luck.

Perhaps not a single top grade golden pill would appear in a hundred of Yu Qingxuan's refinements. However, Long Chen had refined nine of them at once. They then looked at the beautiful lines swirling around the golden pill, feeling like they were dreaming.

BOOM!

Just then, the tribulation clouds rumbled, and wild lightning crashed down like millions of lightning serpents at the nine golden pills.

Chapter 4068: Landing on the Nirvana Overflow Heaven

Long Chen was about to summon Lei Linger to consume the lightning, but the Earth Cauldron suddenly quivered again. After that, all the lightning serpents instantly vanished.

Heaven and earth became silent as if nothing had occurred. As for the nine golden pills inside the Earth Cauldron, lines of lightning now appeared on top of them. They had become tribulation pills.

"It's... it's done?"

Long Chen was stunned. He felt like the refinement had yet to start, but it was already over. It was so fast that he couldn't even react.

This lightning had almost been equal to the Immortal King tribulation of a Double Supreme. But it was absorbed by the Earth Cauldron before it even fell.

In the blink of an eye, the tribulation was over, and the golden pills turned into tribulation pills. At this moment, Long Chen simply stared at the Immortal King Pills sparkling with golden light and lines of lightning. He had to admit that he was truly shaken.

At first, Long Chen had been thinking that using the Earth Cauldron to refine pills would be incredibly difficult. But after warming it up and sacrificing the medicinal ingredients to it, everything became easy, so easy that he couldn't believe it. It felt like a dream; it didn't seem real.

When he picked up the medicinal pills, he could sense the vast medicinal energy inside of them. A single pill felt like an entire world to itself, and immense energy flowed within it, manifesting its own laws.

"These top grade golden pills are incredibly powerful. I've never seen such powerful golden pills. Long Chen, you're amazing." Yu Qingxuan stared at the golden pills excitedly.

"It's not that I'm amazing, it's the cauldron. I don't dare to believe that this is real," said Long Chen.

Long Chen continued refining pills. After tossing the ingredients inside, everything went as easily as before. At first, the cauldron was sealed in just a few breaths' time. Then, when Long Chen put his hand on the lid, a powerful suction absorbed his essence, qi, and spirit, triggering the tribulation clouds. In the end, the Earth Cauldron simply shook for a bit and all the lightning in the sky vanished, a sign that nine top grade golden pills were born.

Following that, heavenly tribulation began to repeatedly gather and vanish, gather and vanish.

Each cauldron of pills was complete in just a few breaths' time, and Long Chen spent four hours refining like this. In the end, he was incredibly weary, his face pale and his aura weak. It felt like his essence, qi, and spirit were exhausted, so he had no choice but to stop.

In four hours, Long Chen had done two hundred and forty-some refinements, which resulted in over two thousand golden pills.

This result was terrifying. Every cauldron of pills contained only top grade golden pills, and no other tiers appeared, let alone garbage pills. Looking at over two thousand top grade golden pills, Long Chen felt so blessed that he was going to pass out.

"I understand. The Pill Dao is to gather the essence of vegetation with the spiritual qi of heaven and earth, turning it into one body. Between heaven and earth, the alchemist is the bridge. Thus, heaven, earth, and man are three entities in one. The heavens have three treasures, the sun, moon, and stars, while man has three treasures, essence, qi, and spirit. By drawing the essence, qi, and spirit into the pill, you can join the pill with heaven and earth," said Yu Qingxuan.

While Long Chen was bitterly having his essence, qi, and spirit extracted, Yu Qingxuan was pondering what this meant in terms of alchemy. Why was the Earth Cauldron doing this? After comprehending, she grew excited. She had once more broken through a bottleneck on the Pill Dao.

"Qingxuan, why don't you try using the Earth Cauldron? Then we can take turns and refine more pills," said Long Chen.

The Earth Cauldron wasn't something that could see the light of day. However, now they were alone on the heavenly river, so they could be brazen and use it like this. Once they arrived somewhere else, they wouldn't be able to be this careless anymore.

But then, Long Chen felt powerless over the fact that the Earth Cauldron refused to pay any attention to Yu Qingxuan. She couldn't even send her flame into it. Thus, they could only give up.

However, Yu Qingxuan wasn't disappointed. After the failed attempt, she simply took out her own pill furnace and started a refinement. The Earth Cauldron had enlightened her, and when her refinement was complete, it also drew down heavenly tribulation.

This time, the Earth Cauldron didn't move. It seemed that it disdained absorbing heavenly tribulation that it didn't summon.

Long Chen then called out Lei Linger, and she devoured the tribulation lightning. After she was done, Yu Qingxuan opened the lid to reveal a top grade golden pill, along with some other high grade pills as well. This was not luck or coincidence. Her alchemy skills had greatly improved at this one moment.

However, Yu Qingxuan's top grade golden pill had not gone through tribulation, so Long Chen simply handed it to Lei Linger, and Lei Linger quickly returned a tribulation golden pill to her.

"This is possible?" Yu Qingxuan was stunned. Was this not cheating? However, it was truly a tribulation pill. She had never thought that tribulation pills could be created like that.

After resting for a few hours, Long Chen continued refining pills. The effect of top grade golden pills was so great that Long Chen didn't dare to give them to Guo Ran and the others, afraid that they would have trouble with the pills.

However, he had to take advantage while there was no one on the heavenly river to refine as many pills as possible. Yu Qingxuan simply stood beside Long Chen, and at the same time, sensed the fluctuations of the Earth Cauldron, using the experience to corroborate her Pill Dao.

When Long Chen rested, Yu Qingxuan refined pills herself, merging her new insights from the Earth Cauldron into her refinements. Even though she was merely using a World Domain pill furnace, she was also capable of refining top grade golden pills. Almost every single refinement produced one.

Although they were both top grade golden pills, the actual quality of her pills was inferior to the top grade golden pills of the Earth Cauldron. But even so, Yu Qingxuan had improved immensely compared to before.

Yu Qingxuan didn't even care about all the top grade golden pills that she was refining. What truly excited her was that her comprehension of the Pill Dao had climbed a level. It was like she had found the golden key to a treasure chest of enlightenment.

As the two of them continuously refined pills, heavenly tribulation clouds kept forming above them, only to be absorbed by the Earth Cauldron or Lei Linger. It was truly a bizarre scene.

While Long Chen and Yu Qingxuan refined pills, the others didn't slack off either. They focused on their own cultivation. Although they didn't dare to consume the golden pills that Long Chen refined, they did consume the golden pills that Yu Qingxuan refined.

Yu Qingxuan's golden pills were amazingly effective and so powerful that even Guo Ran and the others were almost unable to consume them. They were somewhat unable to suppress their medicinal energy, resulting in their realms almost charging into the eighth Heavenstage after consuming one pill.

However, if they simply broke through like that, it would not be a blessing but rather a problem, causing their foundations to grow unsteady.

Hence, they did their best to suppress the power of the pill while also cultivating, which caused a portion of the medicinal pill's energy to be wasted. Although it was a bit wasteful, it was better than having their foundations grow unstable.

A full month passed just like that. Guo Ran, Xia Chen, and the Dragonblood warriors also managed to slowly break through to the eighth Heavenstage thanks to the golden pills.

On this day, Long Chen finally stopped refining pills and looked into the distance solemnly.

"The wind is rising. Everybody, prepare yourself. The Ghost Ship is about to land, and we're about to set foot into the Nirvana Overflow Heaven."

Hearing this, everyone tensed up. The Nirvana Overflow Heaven was even more ancient than the Violet Flame Heaven, so there were countless experts here. It was their new challenge. At the same time, they looked forward to reuniting with their brothers that had been scattered throughout the Nirvana Overflow Heaven.

Chapter 4069: Demon Tide

While sailing on the heavenly river, there was no wind or waves. Hence, for there to be wind now, there must be a landmass a day's travel away.

Everyone was excited to set foot onto the Nirvana Overflow Heaven, a world on an even higher level than the Violet Flame Heaven.

However, this also meant that there were more dangers there. This higher level referred to the fact that the laws of the Heavenly Daos were more complete there, along with more intact inheritances.

Based on it, the Violet Flame Heaven was more intact than the Darklight Heaven, and the Nirvana Overflow Heaven was even more well preserved than the Violet Flame Heaven. Here, countless ancient inheritances had been fully preserved through the ancient battles.

However, the stronger the world, the greater the competition. As the fighting got even more intense, the outcome was also crueler. Many heavenly geniuses that had crossed heavens to come here silently fell within this competition, becoming other people's stepping stones.

In order to survive within this cruel world, you needed to obey a few laws of survival or had some trump cards that would allow you to adapt to this new environment.

When it came to the heavenly geniuses that came from outside this heaven, perhaps they did have the ability to compete with the native heavenly geniuses, but they didn't have the sufficient backgrounds.

As for the natives, they were naturally arrogant and looked down on any outsiders. They viewed the latter as frogs at the bottom of a well who had not seen the world.

Thus, it was very difficult for outsiders to integrate themselves into this place. Even if they tried to seek shelter at some sects, those sects would keep a close eye on them and conduct a thorough investigation, not trusting the outsiders fully.

Unless you were willing to have a slave mark placed on you, it was difficult to get anyone to accept you. But heavenly geniuses were heavenly geniuses, and to become someone else's slave was unacceptable to them.

Of course, it couldn't be blamed on the sects for not trusting outsiders. After all, the Nirvana Overflow Heaven was different from the Violet Flame Heaven. In the Violet Flame Heaven, although there were many other races, the majority of cultivators were still human. Only a small portion were demonic beasts, and there were even less of other races.

On the other hand, in the Nirvana Overflow Heaven, humans were only twenty percent of all cultivators, occupying only ten percent of the total territory.

The Nirvana Overflow Heaven was truly a land of ten thousand races. All the human race, demonic beast race, devil race, Blood race, Spirit race, Charm race, Netherworld race, and others had inheritances here.

Furthermore, some of their cultivation lands were forbidden for the human race. In fact, if someone were to act wrongly, it might even cause a war between two races.

In any case, in the Nirvana Overflow Heaven, you needed to be wary of the human race and also the other races. It was truly a place of opportunity and danger.

With that in mind, the Nirvana Overflow Heaven had a lot of wild lands from the primal chaos era, which always drew countless adventurers. As a result, countless experts died within them every year. But in the same vein, countless treasures were also brought out of that place each year.

If the Violet Flame Heaven had been ninety percent explored, then the Nirvana Overflow Heaven was a wilderness. People had only explored ten to twenty percent of it.

According to reason, considering how many experts were within the Nirvana Overflow Heaven, the exploration of these lands should be completed very quickly.

However, the relationships between various powers within were rather complex. Many places were occupied by powerful immemorial races. But they themselves didn't explore parts of their land, and they refused to allow others to do so.

Only a small portion of the masterless lands drew adventurers in, as they took the risk of venturing through them. But due to special restrictions from the laws of the Heavenly Daos, many of those areas could not be entered. People could only explore the outer edges.

Thus, when the Nirvana Overflow Heaven was mentioned, all the Violet Flame Heaven's experts wanted to go there but also didn't dare to.

With the Ghost Ship about to land, they were about to arrive in a wild land of legends. Countless dangers and treasures awaited them, filling them with adrenaline.

"Boss, should we switch ships? It would be showing off too much to use a Ghost Ship. If the news from the Violet Flame Heaven reaches this place before us, we'll be exposed," said Xia Chen.

Long Chen nodded. "It would be good to be low-key for a while. Theoretically, the news from the Violet Flame Heaven wouldn't travel here so quickly. I heard that going from the Violet Flame Heaven to the Nirvana Overflow Heaven from the heavenly river normally takes at least half a year. But we only took two months. So, in terms of the information leaking, we shouldn't have to worry about it for now. However, the Nirvana Overflow Heaven has too many immemorial races, many of whom don't have a good relationship with the human race. Thus, we'll be low-key first to figure out the situation here. Let's not instantly become the center of attention."

After all, the Nirvana Overflow Heaven was not the Violet Flame Heaven. Without any helpers to support them, being more reserved was a must.

"Boss, now that we're in the Nirvana Overflow Heaven, shouldn't you lead us through the ancient wild lands? Let's find some treasures!" said Guo Ran.

"When it comes to that, it would be best if we wait until we find Mo Nian. As for me, I'll give up on that. With my bad luck, I kept brushing against death whenever I went somewhere like that. Don't come with me, and it'll be safer for you," said Long Chen with a bitter smile.

Last time, in the three thousand worlds, if it hadn't been for the elder of the Heavenly Eye race taking action, they would have all died in the underground tomb.

Thinking back, those terrifying immemorial corpses were probably at the level of Heaven Venerates. They weren't existences that Long Chen and the others could currently deal with.

That feeling of powerlessness wasn't something that Long Chen wanted to experience again. After all, he couldn't rely on luck to live. He had to have the ability to protect himself before he started running around.

Upon mentioning Mo Nian, Xia Chen and Guo Ran's eyes lit up. They had agreed to go big with Mo Nian once they all arrived in the Nirvana Overflow Heaven.

Just who was Mo Nian? An absolute master at getting rich quickly! If they followed him, they would definitely make huge gains.

Suddenly, they vaguely heard a rumbling sound far in the distance, startling them.

"What is that? It's the aura of the demon race," said Xia Chen. He then looked at the source of the sound but didn't see anything.

As the Ghost Ship crossed the water rapidly, the demonic qi in the air grew stronger and stronger. Just like that, the rumbling noises also grew louder.

"It's a sea demon tide! The sea demons are attacking the land," said Long Chen. He had experienced this kind of tides before.

Trillions of sea demons were charging toward the land, causing huge waves to rise out of the water. This water contained the power of the sea demons, so the waves alone were equivalent to a divine art unleashed by a peak expert, capable of destroying the human race's defenses.

After the waves, there came the sea demons. They would slaughter anyone they saw, painting the land with a bloody and terrifying scene. Unexpectedly, Long Chen and the others ended up encountering such a thing as soon as they arrived in this place.

"Let's take a look. If the sea demons are attacking a human settlement, we'll help. If it's another race, we'll decide whether or not to help when we see them," said Long Chen.

The Ghost Ship sped across the water, and they quickly saw land up ahead. The land was covered in sea demons that were charging forward.

At this moment, rays of divine light blew through their ranks, blasting them apart. Yu Qingxuan cried out, "It's the human race's magical arts!"

"Then we're going to help!"

Long Chen nodded. He could see that these attacks contained the fluctuations of the soul, so they should be from the human race.

"Alright!"

Xia Chen cried out excitedly and sent the Ghost Ship flying straight toward the sea demons.

Chapter 4070: Repaying Kindness With Enmity

As the Ghost Ship sped forward, endless demonic beasts appeared ahead of them. To their surprise, the majority of these demonic beasts had reached the Immortal King realm, and their numbers were staggering.

When those sea demons saw the Ghost Ship, they fled in terror. However, they were too slow compared to it. Thus, when the Ghost Ship passed by them, their bodies stiffened, and they simply floated on the surface of the water, dead.

The Ghost Ship's terrifying aura was something that even Heaven Venerate demonic beasts didn't dare to underestimate, so these Immortal King sea demons simply died after being exposed to its aura.

Wherever the Ghost Ship passed, sea demons floated to the surface of the water. There was no need for the Dragonblood warriors to do anything.

However, they didn't slack off either. They dragged the corpses on board, as they knew that Long Chen was always gathering corpses.

Long Chen directly tossed them into the primal chaos space, letting the black soil devour them. After all, the growth of the Fusang Trees and the Moon Trees required an incredible amount of life energy. They were like bottomless pits. Long Chen could use as many of these corpses as he could get his hands on.

Although the Fusang Trees and the Moon Trees were still in their youth, the amount of life energy that they provided him was also incredible. Other than his eye, any wounds to his physical body could simply be ignored now.

Long Chen and the others rapidly approached the landmass and saw that millions of sea demons had already climbed onto the land.

Through the masses of sea demons, they were vaguely able to see rays of saber-light and sweeping Sword Qi. So, there were human experts fighting the sea demons. At this moment, the ground was already dyed red from fresh blood, and mountains of corpses were piling up.

"There is at least a Heaven Venerate here. It seems that we came for nothing." Long Chen sensed a powerful aura deep within the battlefield and couldn't help smiling.

Although there were many sea demons here, even the strongest one was only at the level of an Earth Venerate. Thus, as long as there was a single Heaven Venerate here, then everything was under control.

However, the Ghost Ship was already charging to the shore, so there was no time to turn around. They simply allowed the Ghost Ship to smash into the land.

The Ghost Ship then smashed a ditch into the land, killing all the sea demons around the ditch.

Thanks to its speed, in an instant, the Ghost Ship came crashing thousands of miles into the land, only coming to a stop at the heart of the battlefield.

This was where the human race had set up their defenses. Here, countless experts were borrowing the power of special equipment to fight off the sea demons.

When the Ghost Ship arrived, countless sea demons died, and only some stronger ones and those that were further away managed to flee like the retreating tide, leaving the battlefield empty.

At this moment, tens of millions of human experts could be seen in the defensive formation, staring in shock at the giant Ghost Ship. They were terrified. For them, this Ghost Ship was even more terrifying than the endless sea demons.

“Uncle Tree, keep your cultivation base concealed,” transmitted Long Chen. Uncle Tree nodded and then suppressed his aura to the peak of the World King realm.

“Who are you?!”

After a moment, the people defending finally noticed Long Chen and the others standing at the head of the Ghost Ship.

The speaker was a fair-skinned man with an acceptable appearance. However, he appeared incredibly arrogant, as if he didn’t place anyone else in his eyes.

Long Chen and the others had brought the Ghost Ship to drive away the sea demons, essentially helping them out, but that person wasn’t the slightest bit thankful. Instead, he seemed like he was interrogating criminals.

“It seems that we were being meddlesome.” Guo Ran curled his lips. Looking at the experts before them, he detected expressions of shock, curiosity, and hostility. But the only thing he didn’t see was gratitude.

The feeling of being snubbed despite their good intentions irritated them. With no other way to steer the Ghost Ship any longer, Long Chen and the others got off and prepared to leave.

However, while Long Chen and the others wanted to leave, the human experts didn’t allow them to go. As soon as they came off the Ghost Ship, that fair-skinned man led his people to block them.

“I asked you a question! Who are you? What is this Ghost Ship?! Are you mute?!” he shouted, angry at Long Chen and the others’ disregard.

“I have no duty to answer you. If you don’t want to die, scram.” Long Chen frowned and looked at this man coldly.

Guo Ran, Xia Chen, and the others were also irritated. Were these people fools? Was this how they treated people who helped them?

If Long Chen and the others hadn’t come, who knew how many of their people would have died? Were they even humans? Even animals wouldn’t repay kindness with enmity, right?

“Hahahaha, what a huge joke! Who do you think you are to talk to me, Ye Wenxuan, like that?!” This fair-skinned man was a late stage Immortal King. Despite that, his aura was extremely powerful. He was a Double Supreme, and he intentionally unleashed his divine pressure when he laughed so that his voice shook the sky.

Before this, he had been leading everyone against the tide of sea demons, unstoppable on the battlefield. But just as he was in the zone, Long Chen and the others suddenly charged in, driving away all the sea demons and taking away his glory.

Furthermore, they were actually driving a Ghost Ship, shocking him, as well as making him feel a bit envious. However, the thing that truly drove him mad was the beautiful Yu Qingxuan. She had her arm wrapped around Long Chen's arm the entire time.

"I don't care who you are, what your status is, or which backer you have. Don't try to probe who I am, and don't try to anger me to test my bottom line. Otherwise, by the time you regret it, it will be too late." Long Chen looked at Ye Wenxuan frostily.

As expected, the information about this place was accurate. The native experts here could instantly tell who was an outsider to this heaven. Although they were all part of the human race, these natives would not welcome you and would even think of ways to make things difficult for you.

Seeing that Long Chen could drive a Ghost Ship and also came from outside this heaven, it seemed that this Ye Wenxuan wanted him to hand over his secrets first.

Long Chen intentionally glanced at a certain location behind the defenses. It was the place where he sensed the powerful aura of a Heaven Venerate.

However, this Heaven Venerate did not reveal themselves, intentionally leaving things to Ye Wenxuan. Clearly, they didn't view Long Chen and the others seriously. They simply wanted him to hand over his secrets.

"It seems that you'll refuse until you're forced to. Then I won't waste more words with you. Capture them all!" Ye Wenxuan sneered and waved his hand. As he did so, dozens of experts stepped forward.

The next moment, with a flash of cold light, dozens of heads flew into the air, accompanied by a rain of blood.