

Resonance 941

Chapter 0941: Five Lineages Gather

The Spiritual Resonance Cave was located in the northern plains of the Heavenly Origin Divine Continent, a region known as the Heavenly Star Plains. The plains were vast and never-ending, and they were home to three small kingdoms. In addition to that, there was also the Astral Sect, which held considerable influence and controlled the three kingdoms.

The Astral Sect was considered a middle tier power in the Heavenly Origin Divine Continent. Although they did not have any Kings, their foundation was sufficient to establish them as the undisputed tyrant of the Heavenly Star Plains.

However, this situation had been upended by the emergence of the Spiritual Resonance Cave. It was a secret realm that had attracted the attention of all the Heavenly Emperor powers, and the Astral Sect was not powerful enough to monopolize it.

The bright side was that the Astral Sect did not respond to the situation foolishly. They decisively ceded the area that contained the Spiritual Resonance Cave and left it to the Heavenly Emperor powers to manage.

After that, there were several struggles between the powers as they finalized how the Spiritual Resonance Cave was to be shared and controlled. Because the Astral Sect had been flexible, adapting to the circumstances and ceding the area, they were given a share of the Resonant Talismans and allowed to enter the Spiritual Resonance Cave too.

The Bloodline of Heavenly Emperor Li was situated quite a distance from the Heavenly Star Plains, so their group would require the aid of numerous teleportation formations to arrive there. The five parties from the Heavenly Dragon's Five Lineages would congregate on the way, eventually forming a gigantic formation that would arrive at the Spiritual Resonance Cave together.

A gigantic, dragon-shaped ship cruised above the clouds, blasting majestic amounts of energy out of its tail and scattering the clouds in its wake.

The ship maintained a stable speed as it soared forward.

On a viewing platform on the ship, Li Luo was sitting cross-legged with his eyes shut, intently focused on his Cosmic Sword Intent and the Wood Dragon Fang Sword.

This cultivation session lasted for a quite a while before he finally heaved a sigh of relief and opened his eyes.

The sight that greeted him took him by surprise.

On the opposite side of the tea table was Li Lingjing, who had been sitting there for an unknown amount of time. She had not disturbed Li Luo, only supporting her head with a single hand as she quietly stared outside, observing the clouds.

A slight breeze ruffled her hair, and her flawless face seemed to possess a sort of indifference to all things. Meanwhile, her eyes seemed to contain a myriad of thoughts as she pondered silently.

However, she suddenly felt Li Luo's gaze upon her, and a smile surfaced on her lips. The previous sense of indifference seemed to have vanished into thin air.

"Are you finished?" She grinned at Li Luo.

"Cousin Lingjing, it seems you've been in a good mood recently," Li Luo replied.

Li Lingjing's slender, jade-like fingers were gingerly grasping a cup of tea. "Perhaps it's because I've left Dragon's Fang Mountain."

Li Luo was a little surprised. "You don't like staying there?"

"It's not that I don't like it... It's just that the stress of being there is too much to bear. You must know that I've always been worried that the Soul Eater True Devil was too thorny a problem. What if the elders had lost patience and decided to rely on a... simpler method?"

Li Luo smiled in understanding. It was easier to just eliminate both the Soul Eater True Devil and her together.

"I truly have to thank you. If not for you, I don't think the Lineage Chief would have chosen to put in so much effort and time to allow me to recover." Li Lingjing blinked coquettishly, and a genuine smile formed on her face.

Her eyes were crystal-clear like an untouched lake, and Li Luo could see his reflection within them. He sheepishly replied, "You don't have to act so courteously. Since your problem has been fixed and the Soul Eater True Devil has been purged, I can probably recommend you to the Dragon's Fang Guardians if you wish..."

"The Dragon's Fang Guardians, huh..." Li Lingjing seemed to be lost in thought for a moment. That was her goal in the past, but her thoughts and feelings had changed after all these years.

"Let's talk about this next time." Instead, she chose to cut this conversation off immediately.

"What is your goal for the future, Cousin Li Luo?" Li Lingjing asked.

Li Luo gave it a little thought before replying, "My sole aim is to step into the Duke Stage within the next three years."

If he couldn't do so, he'd be as dead as a doornail anyways.

"Three years to reach the Duke Stage?" Li Lingjing looked at him in utter shock. Although this wasn't too hard a goal as the Duke Stage was something all youths aspired towards, Li Luo was only at the Fiend Finisher Tier, meaning there was an entire stage between him and his goal.

Additionally, was breaking into the Duke Stage so easily done? Even peak talents who had an easy time cultivating before reaching the Heavenly Resonance Tier were often stumped by the massive mountain known as the Greater Heavenly Resonance Tier. And the path to becoming a Duke was even harder.

Many geniuses spent much longer than three years to take the final step. Thus, Li Luo's goal to reach the Duke Stage from the Fiend Finisher Tier was no simple task, especially with the time limit of three years.

However, looking at Li Luo's staunch gaze, Li Lingjing knew he wasn't joking. She nodded silently before saying, "Your body is full of mysteries, Cousin Li Luo. I have a feeling that it might not be impossible for you."

"Then I have to thank you in advance." He grinned before he followed up with his own question. "Then what about you? What is your goal?"

Li Lingjing's tilted her head slightly. Strands of black hair fell loosely from her temple as she beamed. "My goal is..."

Before she could finish speaking, the sounds of footsteps rang out and she paused as she glanced at Li Luo.

At that point, Deng Fengxian entered.

"Banner Leader Li Luo, the Dragon's Blood Lineage has sent a message. They are requesting for us to head towards the third cabin," Deng Fengxian explained.

Li Luo was a little surprised as he asked, "Who sent this message? When did the Dragon's Blood Lineage become the leader?"

Deng Fengxian shook his head. "It was a message from Li Wuyuan. He was the previous generation's Dragon's Head."

Li Luo's brows lifted slightly. He had seen Li Wuyuan once when the five lineages had gathered. The individual seemed to be rather pompous and arrogant, but the fact that he was once the Dragon's Head demonstrated that he wasn't weak.

However, what right did he have to give orders?

This command was not like one made by a Dragon's Head, but like one ordered by a Lineage Chief.

Li Luo shook his head, intending to ignore him. If he had time, he would spend it on cultivating and obtaining more strands of sword intent.

However, Deng Fengxian's next sentence caused him to helplessly shake his head.

"Li Fengyi has already made her way there."

Li Luo placed his cup of tea down and got up. With Li Fengyi's brash and wild personality, she might very well provoke trouble. Li Luo was not interested in seeing his Second Sister suffer.

"Let's go. Let's take a look at what the previous generation's Dragon's Head is like and see what he's up to," Li Luo said to Li Lingjing.

"Li Wuyuan...?" Her gaze flashed and she nodded slightly.

"I suppose that works out. I've always wanted to meet him. The Dragon's Head seat he was sitting on was originally slated to be mine..."

Chapter 0942: Leader

When Li Luo arrived at the third cabin, he realized that numerous individuals had gathered. All of the squads from the five lineages had arrived, showing that Li Wuyuan's prestige and influence was quite considerable.

When the group of three arrived, numerous gazes shot over. Li Luo was not new to the Dragon's Fang Lineage, and he was also the newest Dragon's Head as well as the highest ranked Banner Leader in the Fiendish Devil Cave. These titles represented that he was the undisputed number one in his generation.

Although the ones attending the Spiritual Resonance Cave were from the previous generation of the Twenty Banners and Li Wuyuan was the Dragon's Head back then, Li Luo's position could not be ignored either.

"Over here!" Li Fengyi's voice rang out. When Li Luo looked over, he saw the people from the Dragon's Fang Lineage gathered over at her location. Beside her was Li Jingtao, Li Fuling, and the rest.

As he made his way over, he passed by the Dragon's Scale Lineage's squad. Noticing Lu Qingmei, gave her a friendly greeting.

Lu Qingmei acknowledged him with a nod, though her gaze towards Li Luo turned a little fiery. This was not because she had any special feelings for him, but rather a naked admission that now he was an even better opponent than before.

By Lu Qingmei's side was a tall and well-built youth who similarly stared at Li Luo. He then flashed a smile towards Lu Qingmei. "Junior Sister Qingmei, is he this generation's Dragon's Head? He's only at the Fiend Finisher Tier and yet can sit firmly on his seat. This is something that has never happened in the history of the Twenty Banners."

The youth's name was Li Guan. He was the previous generation's Holy Scale Banner Leader and was currently comparable in strength to Li Fuling, being at the seven-pearl tier. Lu Qingmei calmly replied, "Li Luo possesses triple resonances, so even though he's only at the Fiend Finisher Tier, his resonant power is extremely robust, comparable to someone with an eighth-grade resonance at the one-pearl tier. Additionally, he has cultivated a Destiny-grade Duke Art and is easily able to fight against a two-pearl. I have a feeling that when he steps into the Heavenly Pearl Tier, not even a four or five-pearl will be his match."

Li Guan's eyebrows jumped. Lu Qingmei's evaluation of him was exceptional, but it was unfortunate that the gathering Li Wuyuan had organized today was directly targeted at Li Luo. The Dragon's Blood Lineage's four banners had tyrannically monopolized the position of Dragon's Head for countless generations, and Li Luo, having broken the stalemate, would incite retaliation.

At the very least, they would look to suppress his sharp edge and halt his momentum.

The Heavenly Dragon's Five Lineages belonged to the same family, but internal competition was brutal. Under the gazes of everyone present, Li Luo made his way towards Li Fengyi. The moment he paused, the sound of laughter rang out. "Is this the newest Dragon's Head?"

Li Luo traced the source of the laughter to the Dragon's Blood Lineage. There was a youth wearing a dark-red battlesuit, and his gaze was peerlessly sharp, giving off an aggressive intent as he was stared at.

Naturally, it was Li Wuyuan.

Li Luo returned the smile. "Greetings, Senior Li Wuyuan."

Based on seniority, he should have been addressed as "Senior Cousin," but since they were not familiar with each other, Li Luo couldn't be bothered to even try.

"Junior Brother Li Luo, you are late. Is this how the Dragon's Fang Lineage does things? Always acting so casually? Your personality will cause you to suffer when you enter the Dragon's Fang Guardians." Li Wuyuan smiled cheerily as he rebuked like a senior guiding a junior.

Beside him, Li Hongli's arms were crossed as she gleefully watched Li Wuyuan targeting Li Luo. Li Luo had swept away all his opponents, and it was rare to see anyone suppress him.

Never losing in a battle of words, Li Luo helplessly retorted, "Do you have an abundance of free time, Senior Brother Wuyuan? Why waste everyone's time by gathering all of the squads to speak of meaningless frivolities?"

This caused Li Wuyuan's eyes to shrink. He shot a razor-sharp gaze at Li Luo for a few breaths before he indifferently smiled. "Junior Brother Li Luo, aren't you acting out of line? The Twenty Banners can be considered to be beneath the Five Guardian Armies."

Li Luo paused for a moment before removing the Green Nether Hall Master's plaque from his pocket sphere and displaying a warm smile. "I'm sorry, I'm the representative for the Green Nether Hall Master. Although it is only temporary, if you want to talk about our respective positions, then you should not be referring to me as 'Junior Brother.' The correct title should be 'Hall Master,' specifically for you."

This caused the atmosphere to freeze up, and everyone stared at the Green Nether Main Hall Master plaque with strange looks. The position of Main Hall Master possessed significant influence and might. Much less Li Wuyuan, even the Grand Commanders of the Five Guardian Armies had to treat Li Luo with respect.

However... Li Luo only had Fiend Finisher Tier strength. Why would Lineage Chief Li Jingzhe give the Green Nether Hall Master plaque to him? Additionally, he had even temporarily given him the role?

Was this some sort of children's game?

Still, Li Jingzhe was the Dragon's Fang Lineage's Lineage Chief, and not even the Dragon's Blood Lineage's Li Tianji could question his decisions.

Thus, when faced with the plaque in Li Luo's hand, everyone could only gulp as they watched the scene unfold.

"I wanted to interact with you on equal terms, but then you went ahead and pulled rank. How can I feel comfortable when I'm placed in such a position?" Li Luo sighed unhappily. Li Wuyuan's expression had turned stiff. He had no idea that Li Luo held such an important position. Did the Dragon's Fang Lineage simply do as they pleased? Lineage Chief Li Jingzhe spoiled Li Luo a little too much!

With a face full of smiles, Li Luo then waved the plaque in his face.

Li Wuyuan deeply sighed before he respectfully clasped his hands. "Greetings, Hall Master Li Luo."

However, his body remained as rigid as a lifeless corpse, while his eyes burned with seething fury.

All of the excitement that had bubbled up within Li Hongli and the rest had also vanished.

However, Li Luo did not push his luck; he slowly stashed away the plaque. "Forget it. Why don't we just speak our minds? Otherwise, others might think that I, the Hall Master, am bullying an inferior."

These words caused the rest to relax a little. Otherwise, they would have made up excuses to escape, to prevent a situation where they had to greet Li Luo based on his title.

Li Wuyuan snorted in his heart. "Why didn't he say that earlier? Before I had to greet him!"

His expression calmed down and he calmly replied, "I have gathered all the squads to discuss our strategy in the Spiritual Resonance Cave. The cave will be full of individuals from all sorts of powers, and even some rogue cultivators will be in the mix. Although we are from a Heavenly Emperor power, we cannot let our guard down, and we have to work together. There are also geniuses from other similar powers that are eyeing us covetously. Our numbers are not small, and I believe we need a leader to properly display our combined strengths and take command over the situation to prevent trouble from occurring."

He clearly stated his opinion right off the bat.

The group before him did not reject his intentions. There were quite a number of them, and they might not be able to coordinate well if they worked together. That would only spell disaster.

"Since we have to choose a leader, naturally the strongest amongst us will take charge. Thus, I feel that Cousin Li Wuyuan is the best fit," Li Hongli immediately proposed.

The people from the Dragon's Blood Lineage immediately voiced their support.

"Hmph. I feel that based on our ranks, Li Luo as the Green Nether Hall Master is best suited for the role," Li Fengyi retorted. How could she not tell that the Dragon's Blood Lineage was just planning to prop Li Wuyuan up into the role? If he was able to command all the squads and had unkind intentions, he might simply relegate the Dragon's Fang Lineage to the most dangerous roles, forcing them to fight to the death in order to preserve harmony within the group.

"The Spiritual Resonance Cave is full of talented individuals from the other powers. Would they hold any regard towards our Hall Master?" Li Hongli coolly enunciated.

Someone from the Dragon's Bone Lineage then expressed his support. "Strength is king in the Dragon's Bone Lineage."

Some individuals from the other lineages similarly nodded in agreement. The Spiritual Resonance Cave was full of strong foes, and only one's strength would reign supreme. Parties would only reach a consensus when the leader's strength was respected.

Li Fengyi clenched her teeth, keen on retorting, but Li Fuling held her back. She then took a step forward and calmly said, "Since strength is what matters, we'll have to fight and see who is truly the best."

Li Fuling understood Li Fengyi's worries, and since they were all from the Dragon's Fang Lineage, she would naturally support her.

Li Wuyuan's gaze fell upon Li Fuling, and a hint of a smile could be seen in the corner of his lips. "Li Fuling, we've exchanged blows many times, yet you've never won. What need is there to fight? If you really want to, I'll naturally give you the chance."

Li Wuyuan waved his sleeve, and a yellow light shot out. It transformed into a large, yellow cauldron decorated with the carvings of tens of thousands of large mountains. It radiated a sense of immense weight.

The appearance of the cauldron caused the expressions of the crowd to change.

"That is Li Wuyuan's Ten Thousand Mountains Heavy Cauldron. It might be a purple-eye treasured artifact, but its weight is exceptional. No one below the eight-pearl tier can deal with it, and it is unknown just how many people were simply crushed by it during exchanges in the Five Guardian Armies," someone from the Five Guardian Armies said.

"Li Fuling, if you can receive an attack from me, you will have the right to compete for the spot of leader." Li Wuyuan gave a wry smile. The cauldron was then shrouded with the force of enhanced gravity, causing the air to tremble as it directly pushed down towards Li Wuyuan.

When Li Fuling saw this, she hurriedly pushed Li Fengyi away, and her expression turned solemn. Gritting her teeth, resonant power poured out of her body without pause, and seven Heavenly Pearls appeared behind her, swallowing vast amounts of worldly natural energy.

She pushed outwards with a palm, then an energy palm manifested and directly clashed with the large cauldron.

Weng!

Berserk amounts of energy blasted out in every direction, forcing everyone nearby to stumble backwards.

However, their gazes remained affixed to the battle, closely watching the clash. They only saw the domineering cauldron resolutely pushing forward and the palm manifestation being pushed back, slowly fragmenting in the process.

Clearly, Li Fuling's seven-pearl strength was unable to resist Li Wuyuan's cauldron's suppression.

No one was surprised by this outcome. Li Fuling had already been defeated countless times before this.

Li Wuyuan leisurely watched the sight as his lips curled up into a smile.

The people from the Dragon's Blood Lineage were also cheering and praising Li Wuyuan's indomitable might. This was the power of the previous generation's Dragon's Head!

Peng!

As the spectators continued to chatter, the heavy cauldron continued to press downwards. The palm manifestation, unable to resist any longer, shattered into motes of light.

The cauldron descended upon Li Fuling with unstoppable vigor, and her expression became unbearably ugly.

However, a slender, jade-like arm stretched out just as it was about to strike her, forming a fist.

It then crashed into the heavy cauldron.

Dong!

A crisp sound rang out, and energy swept across the entire area.

To everyone's surprise, the heavy cauldron that Li Fuling was unable to struggle against was sent flying by a single punch, left to crash into the floor with its full weight. The room was protected by countless energy runes that began to show signs of breaking.

The atmosphere in the massive ship fell silent.

The shocked glances then turned towards the one who had struck out. The culprit was a young lady whom they had no recollection of. She flashed a confident smile at their shell-shocked faces. "Wow... what a heavy cauldron. My hand does feel a little sore after hitting it..."

Chapter 0943: Cousin Lingjing's Performance

When the cauldron lodged itself onto the floorboards, the ship fell into silence.

Everyone stared at the young lady that had stood up. She had a fair and pretty face, and her silky hair was rolled up in a casual manner. There was a faint smile on her lips and a bright glow in her dark eyes, exuding an indescribable charm.

The members of the Dragon's Fang Lineage were the only ones who weren't surprised to see her.

They did not recognize Li Lingjing at all. As such, the same thought was in their minds. Just where had this girl come from? Had she really just deflected a blow from Li Wuyuan with a single strike? That was a blow from Li Wuyuan, an eight-pearl. It was not something that an ordinary person could have fended off.

Clap, clap!

At this point, Li Luo started clapping. He turned towards Li Lingjing and gave her a thumbs up. "Cousin Lingjing, beautiful strike," he praised.

Li Lingjing smiled humbly as she replied, "You flatter me."

Seeing this, Li Fengyi's eyes lit up immediately. She grabbed Li Lingjing's arm and asked, "When did you become so strong, Cousin Lingjing?"

She hadn't interacted with Li Lingjing after they arrived at the Dragon's Fang Mountain Range from their trip to the Western Region. Back then, she was definitely nowhere near this level.

"It wasn't a big deal. That cauldron is pretty ordinary," Li Lingjing responded with a smile.

By now, Li Fuling had recovered from the shock. She was looking at Li Lingjing with a complex expression on her face. "You've broken through?" she asked.

No matter how annoying Li Wuyuan was, his strength was undeniable. He had even secured a seat in the Dragon's Blood Guardians with his eight-pearl cultivation. Yet Li Lingjing had managed to deflect his cauldron so easily. Her strength had to be way above a seven-pearl to be able to do that.

"I am not sure." Li Lingjing shook her head gently.

She then gave Li Fuling a playful smile and continued, "I'm a very different person nowadays."

Seeing that strange response, Li Fuling took it as a yes. She was completely baffled by this. Who would have thought that Li Lingjing could return to the peak after that great incident many years ago?

It was as though the talented girl from Western City had never been set back by that disaster.

She now basked in the limelight even though she had never entered the Twenty Banners or the Dragon's Fang Guardians.

"Who are you? There's no mention of anyone like you in the Dragon's Fang Guardians," Li Wuyuan asked in a deep voice as he stared at Li Lingjing with his sharp eyes.

Clearly, he felt threatened by the strength that Li Lingjing had just displayed.

In response, Li Luo smiled a little and said, "This is Cousin Li Lingjing from the Dragon's Fang Lineage. Speaking of which, I think she's from the same generation as you, Senior Li Wuyuan. If she hadn't faced an unfortunate setback a few years ago, she would have been in the Twenty Banners competing with you for the position of Dragon's Head."

"Li Lingjing?" Li Wuyuan frowned when he heard this. It was indeed a familiar name.

At this moment, another comrade of his walked up and whispered into his ear, reminding him of who exactly she was.

His face changed gradually after a while. "So you're Li Lingjing from Western City. I've heard quite a bit about you," Li Wuyuan said.

There were many rumors floating around when he secured the position of Dragon's Head. Many had said that Li Lingjing from Western City would have given him a tough fight for it if she were around.

However, Li Wuyuan simply scoffed at the notion and regarded those words as complaints from losers. After all, what kind of threat could a so-called genius pose if she could not even enter the Twenty Banners?

Who would have thought that he would meet Li Lingjing in such a situation after so many years?

Moreover, her strength was clear from the previous strike. She was at least an eight-pearl.

"Just what in the world did this girl go through? How could she match our progress after being gone for so many years?"

"What an honor." Li Lingjing smiled lightly in response.

She glanced over at the cauldron that had been knocked over and continued, "In that case, shall we now restart our discussion about the leader?"

Hearing this, Li Wuyuan's eyebrows tightened and he waved his hand. The cauldron flew over and shrank until it could fit in his palm before returning to its owner.

At the same time, he continued to look at Li Lingjing carefully, as though contemplating whether he should test her strength right here.

At this point, Li Hongli voiced out with a cold laugh, "Since you're neither from the Twenty Banners nor the Five Guardian Armies, what gives you the right to be here?"

Li Lingjing thought about it for a moment before she replied, "Well... I'm the personal bodyguard for Cousin Li Luo. This is the mission given to me by the Lineage Chief. If you have any questions, you may want to clarify with the Lineage Chief yourself."

Hearing this, Li Hongli froze and snorted. Going to Li Jingzhe for clarification was totally out of the question. Not to mention her, even her father would not dare to do so.

At this point, Li Guan from the Dragon's Scale Lineage chimed in to mediate the tense situation. "There's no need to get so heated, guys. After all, the so-called leader is just a title. Since both Li Wuyuan and Li Lingjing have such convincing strength, why don't the two of you be joint leaders? You can both work together and lead us in the fight for the opportunities. Isn't that much better?"

What he was trying to say was that there was no need for things to turn too ugly right here. Both of them could easily resolve this by taking a step back.

Hearing this, the others started discussing among themselves too. Many agreed to the suggestion.

The eyes of Li Wuyuan changed for a moment before his face calmed down. With a slight smile, he said, "Indeed, it's a blessing for us to have Junior Li Lingjing helping out with the Spiritual Resonance Cave. I'm fine with stepping back. We can both be joint leaders and secure this opportunity for our people."

At this point, Li Wuyuan had to retreat no matter how unwilling he was. After all, he had to be wary of Li Lingjing's true strength.

Unfortunately, this also meant that he would no longer be able to pull Li Luo down using the authority of being the leader. That plan had been completely foiled.

At the same moment, Li Lingjing smiled lightly and said, "Conversely, I am kind of introverted and not suited to be a leader. However, Cousin Li Luo is good-looking, kind-hearted, and outspoken. He is the perfect candidate in place of me."

Everyone was speechless when they heard this. How were the three mentioned qualities even relevant?

"That's not a bad suggestion. We'll be very comfortable following the lead of the Dragon's Heads of both our generations," Li Guan replied with a smile after giving it some thought.

Li Luo sighed and said, "Since Cousin Lingjing kindly pointed out my three greatest strengths, I have no choice but to accept the role reluctantly."

Hearing this, everyone stared at him in disbelief. Was this a thick-skinned person's thought process?

Li Wuyuan could not be bothered to argue anymore. He turned around and headed off without saying a word. He had the strength of an eight-pearl. This was leagues above that of Li Luo. What made him think that he could be joint leaders with him? This was an embarrassment for Li Wuyuan.

Nonetheless, the other members of the Dragon's Blood Lineage left too, following Li Wuyuan. It seemed like this matter had been settled for now.

After all, it was a suggestion brought up by Li Wuyuan from the start. The other lineages had no objection to this, so they gradually left the venue too.

Li Luo smiled when he saw this. "You're truly the Dragon's Fang Lineage's ace. The moment you took action, we immediately crushed the Dragon's Blood Lineage's ambition."

Hearing this, Li Lingjing smiled and replied, "I'm just a helper taking instructions from you, Cousin Li Luo. Feel free to let me know if you need anything."

"I wouldn't dare. I'm afraid I'll be struck accidentally when you feel riled up," Li Luo hurriedly replied.

Li Lingjing couldn't help but cover her mouth and chuckle when she heard this. Bantering with Li Luo always felt so relaxing.

Despite the laughter, she suddenly frowned a little and glanced over in a specific direction. For a moment, she seemed to have felt an inexplicable chill in her heart.

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In an extremely dark room containing a secret altar

A shadowy figure slowly strolled out of the darkness, heading towards the altar. His indifferent eyes pierced through the empty darkness and stared at the bronze lamps on the altar. The flames were as large as beans, swaying in the cold, chilly air.

"The Spiritual Resonance Cave will be opening soon, and it'll be a grand affair. Many young talents will gather in one place."

Laughter filled with desire and greed echoed from the figure at this point. "What a great opportunity. If we feed these young and exceptional talents to the Variants, surely they'll mature faster."

"After preparing for so many years, it's about time we acted," another figure hidden in the shadows muttered to himself.

"Eh?"

One of them suddenly showed a surprised reaction. Their attention was concentrated on one of the bronze lamps that had long burned out. For a moment, it let out a dim light. "This Variant... interesting."

The eyes of the mysterious figures in the black mist were steeped in abstruse mysteries. No one could guess what their intentions were.

Chapter 0944: Pagoda

A few days later, Li Luo and the rest arrived at the Heavenly Star Plains to enter the Spiritual Resonance Cave.

They could sense their surroundings becoming more active as soon as they looked out from their ship. Shadows flashed by from time to time as numerous ships from the other powers overhead.

Everyone was obviously heading to the same destination.

This was undoubtedly one of the main events for the younger generation of the Heavenly Origin Divine Continent.

However, what attracted their attention was the sight that greeted them when they arrived. A gigantic portal was present in the sky. It seemed as though it was condensed from massive amounts of worldly natural energy, and there were countless intricate, gray runes decorating it.

The energy portal seemed to be closed, but there were numerous streams of light leaking from a crack within, as though it might burst open at any point in time.

This portal was the pathway that would take them to the Spiritual Resonance Cave.

The air around the portal was surrounded by wards. These wards had the function of closing off the portal whilst giving off an aura that would frighten even Dukes.

This was the ward that was jointly controlled by the four Heavenly Emperor bloodlines. All of the top powers had worked together to construct the ward for the purpose of ensuring that others could not destroy the Spiritual Resonance Cave. At the same time, it was meant to ensure that everyone followed the agreement. The opportunities that could be obtained within were rare, and although Dukes were prevented from entering, it was still considered important for the younger generation's growth. Creating a secret realm of the same caliber would require the Heavenly Emperor powers on the Heavenly Origin Divine Continent to consume significant amounts of their accumulated resources.

Meanwhile, near the bottom of the energy portal were quite a number of pagodas of differing heights.

These pagodas were the footholds which the Heavenly Emperor powers had constructed.

Li Luo and the rest obediently sat in their ship, which headed directly towards the portal. In the end, it descended towards one of the pagodas that was far out in front. Numerous experts from the Bloodline of Heavenly Emperor Li flew out of it to receive the ship.

Li Jinpan and Li Qingpeng then reappeared before the squads from the numerous lineages. As they faced the excited and curious youths, they explained the situation. "The Spiritual Resonance Cave should open tomorrow, so you can explore the surroundings tonight if you are interested. This is the gathering place of all of the elites of your generation, and it could be good to get to know them better. Additionally, be present at the Golden Dragon Bank's area tonight. They will be operating a market, and it will have items that are specifically aimed at individuals at the Heavenly Resonance Tier and below. There will be some useful items such as rare medicinal pills, spirit liquids and purifying lights. Even violet-eye treasured artifacts, secret arts, Duke Arts, and Royal Engravings will be available. If you want to take a look, you have to prepare sufficient amounts of skygold. The items there will be even more expensive than usual."

These words stirred up the crowd, and even Li Luo was interested in taking a look. The Spiritual Resonance Cave was full of dangers, and any items that could bolster his strength would improve his odds.

As for the items being more expensive? One could only say that the Golden Dragon Bank would take any and all opportunities to turn a profit. Even the expedition to the cave was an event that they wouldn't pass up on.

Whilst Li Luo remained in his thoughts, the others entered the tall pagoda and went to their assigned rooms for rest.

However, Li Luo's momentary peace was then interrupted by Li Fengyi, who had burst in. "Little Brother, accompany me to the market! If there's anything you want, your Elder Sister here will buy it for you."

Looking at her exuberant expression, Li Luo couldn't help but smile, though he did not reject her. He was interested in seeing just what the Golden Dragon Bank had brought and if there was anything that he could use.

Thus, he went next door to find Li Lingjing and invited her along. Li Lingjing had wanted to rest, but when she remembered that this was a den full of snakes and dragons, she agreed to ensure that no mishaps would occur.

Li Fengyi then rallied Li Jingtao and Li Fuling before they headed towards the Golden Dragon Bank's area.

The Golden Dragon Bank had similarly constructed a pagoda of their own, the only difference was that it was striking gold in color. This made it not only the most conspicuous, but the most luxurious as well.

Outside the pagoda was a golden hall, and it was densely packed with people milling about. It seemed as though everyone had gathered inside it, and the market had caught everyone's interest.

A female attendant welcomed the group when they arrived at the golden hall, and she immediately recognized who they were. The Golden Dragon Bank had done their homework on the talented individuals entering the Spiritual Resonance Cave, and upon meeting the well-endowed heirs, they respectfully led them to the higher levels.

The second level was even more extravagant, dazzling everyone with its resplendent light. There were about half as many individuals on this level, but those who had the right to peruse this floor were typically the elites of their factions.

Within the massive hall were neatly lined-up stores with countless crystal cases that were swirling with energy. It was clear that the wares were inside the cases.

There was even an area full of sumptuous delights and wines, which all patrons were invited to partake in. It could be said that their service was excellent. However, the most eye-catching sight in the second level was not a precious treasure. There was actually a small ring of people in the hall, and in the center was an incomparably beautiful goddess. Her beautiful face was like an exquisite painting, and every frown and smile she graced the world with would dull the radiance of the treasures all around them.

It was the Fairy of Water, Qin Yi.

Countless heroic and handsome young men were surrounding her. They all had respectable backgrounds and were also adored within their own factions. However, they were currently all staring at Qin Yi with a hint of passion in their gazes.

Additionally, her beauty was well known to all the youths of the Heavenly Origin Divine Continent. She also possessed a position of high standing, being from the Bloodline of Heavenly Emperor Qing. And most importantly, she possessed a ninth-grade water resonance.

Her gorgeous appearance coupled with her natural talent made her a goddess that attracted the attention of many.

However, as soon as Li Luo's gaze fell upon Qin Yi, she seemed to sense something. She raised her head slightly, looking over with her crystal-clear eyes that were like an undisturbed lake.

When their gazes met, they showed each other seemingly gentle smiles.

However, their smiles did not go unnoticed. At this moment, there was a pretty figure covered by a veil standing by the railings on a level above them. When she noticed Li Luo walking in, her eyes instantly stuck to him.

She saw the two exchanging smiles, and she couldn't stop her starry eyes from squinting a little.

Chapter 0945: Six Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill

After Qin Yi and Li Luo's gazes met, they retracted a short moment later.

However, the people around Qin Yi noticed this, and one of them was someone Li Luo was well acquainted with—Zhao Jingyu. He hated Li Luo to the bone, and he started glaring right at him the moment he arrived.

His eyes flashed as he casually remarked, "Haha! Fairy Qin, I heard about what happened during the Bloodline of Heavenly Emperor Li's Dragonbreath Pool Battle. Li Luo slipped past you when you were busy suppressing Li Qingfeng and the rest and barrelled towards the Golden Dragon Pillar. What was meant to be for you was snatched out of your grasp. Only a bumpkin that was raised in an outer divine continent would do something so despicable."

His single sentence incited the wrath of all the youths around her. They instantly began to make disparaging comments towards Li Luo. They might not have known what had actually occurred, but that was not important. What mattered was expressing their attitude towards this situation, supporting the female goddess before them, and insulting Li Luo!

Qin Yi gave a shallow smile as she praised, "It seems that a few months after that, Li Luo ended up becoming the Dragon's Head of the Bloodline of Heavenly Emperor Li. It seems like everyone underestimated him."

Zhao Jingyu smirked coldly. "That just means that this generation of the Twenty Banners is full of incapable fools. Only then could a bumpkin step over them. It's truly embarrassing."

The crowd around them similarly heard Qin Yi's words, and their assessment of Li Luo subconsciously increased as a result, along with their enmity. Although they all knew of the grievances Qin Yi's mother

held towards Li Luo's parents, they knew that Li Luo himself was quite good-looking. Therefore, they thought that if their goddess wasn't careful, she might very well be entrapped by his charm.

Thus, they wholly agreed with Zhao Jingyu's words and simultaneously started to denigrate the Twenty Banners of the Bloodline of Heavenly Emperor Li.

Li Luo, on the other hand, remained uninterested in replying to him, even when faced with his slander. He had no intention of interacting with Qin Yi, as the previous generation's enmity had doomed them to be on opposing sides till the end of time. Furthermore, Qin Yi was one of the top three threats to him in the Spiritual Resonance Cave.

If there was a chance, he would strike first and gain the advantage. As Li Luo thought about these things, he paused before the crystal cases and gleefully inspected the contents within.

Before him were numerous mysterious goods. Some of them were not of a particularly high grade, but they were rarely seen outside. There were even some spirit pills that temporarily bolstered one's strength, which would be exceptionally helpful in the expedition they were about to undertake.

Clearly, these were all items that were handpicked by the Golden Dragon Bank to ensure that they were relevant and desirable. The only problem was that the prices were multiple times higher than usual.

Additionally, Li Luo also saw a few violet-eye treasured artifacts. Even though they only had a single violet-eye mark, their might could not be discounted.

He had no need to buy any of them, as he did not lack for violet-eye treasured artifacts. To be fair, single violet-eyes were a little beneath him. If they wanted to entice him, it had to be at least in the twin or triple violet-eye grade. As he continued to browse, he very quickly found what he was looking for.

It was a black pill that looked like a pebble that could be picked out of a river. On its surface were six small holes that were constantly emitting smoke.

"Six Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill." Li Luo stared at the black pill with great interest, his heart trembling.

This pill was most suitable for those at the Fiend Finisher Tier as it could increase one's Fiend Dipper Energy by around fifty feet, which would save him painstaking cultivation time.

Li Luo currently possessed six hundred and fifty feet of Fiend Dipper Energy, all of which he had acquired through laborious cultivation. Additionally, the greater the amount of Fiend Dipper Energy he had, the more difficult it was to further grow it. Thus, many opted to utilize pills to supplement their cultivation, and Dipper Smelting Pills were most ideal.

The only disadvantage was that Dipper Smelting Pills would only work the first time they were consumed. One's body would develop a resistance towards them after a single use, and the same pill would thereafter become utterly ineffective.

Dipper Smelting Pills came in three grades, which were separated into three, six, and nine orifices. The Nine Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill was the best, with almost no side effects. The other two possessed certain impurities that would potentially affect the quality of one's Fiend Dipper Energy, making it more difficult to cultivate in the future.

However, most people did not aim to raise the grade of their Fiend Dipper Energy to the utmost, and thus pills like the Six Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill were greatly desired treasures. The moment they appeared on the market, they would be snatched up.

Li Luo glanced at the price tag and mumbled to himself, "Six Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill, three million skygold per pill." These pills were usually only sold for two million, but they had been severely marked up here. The Golden Dragon Bank truly understood how to extract every piece of skygold from their clients.

Li Luo felt a little depressed. He was someone that held great aspirations, so he desired to reach the limit of nine hundred and ninety feet Fiend Dipper Energy. Thus, he was a little concerned about this pill's potential side effects. Otherwise, he would have bought one before coming here. However, now that the Spiritual Resonance Cave was about to open, no one knew just what would happen in the future. A single Six Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill would suffice in a time of urgency.

With this in mind, he took out an object that the female attendant had previously provided to him. He then input a bid into the Six Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill's assigned number within the list.

Three point two million skygold.

The moment he did so, a new number jumped to the top of a screen situated in the middle of the hall.

It was the amount that Li Luo had input.

If no one else chose to bid within the next five minutes, then Li Luo would obtain the Six Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill for his listed price.

However, such a fortuitous situation did not occur, as a new message was broadcasted onto the screen immediately.

"Number fifty-eight has raised the bid for the Six Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill to five million." Li Luo felt a little taken aback. If one was sufficiently wealthy, they could directly buy the item without needing to wait for the five minute delay.

The only thing was that the Six Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill was at most valued at four million skygold. Just who was so insane as to pay five million for it?

When Li Luo thought about it, he glanced towards Qin Yi's little circle and briefly crossed gazes with Zhao Jingyu. He was currently beaming uncontrollably, and he waved the plaque in his hand, showing that it had the number fifty-eight engraved upon it. Li Luo sighed. Of course it was this idiot.

"Wow... now this seems familiar." Li Luo sighed.[1]

He did not seem infuriated, only smiling and shaking his head. This Six Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill was meant to be an auxiliary means anyway, so it didn't matter if it was snatched away.

However, right as the Six Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill was about to be snatched away, two more bids appeared on the screen for the other pills.

Li Luo had casually bid on two other items, increasing the price by one hundred thousand skygold each.

When he raised his head, he flashed Zhao Jingyu a slight smile.

Yet Zhao Jingyu only returned a cold smile this time. He did not continue to bid and instead turned his attention towards the youths around him, speaking a few sentences with a mocking look.

When the other geniuses heard his words, they similarly glanced at Li Luo. Then two of them raised their hands and similarly bought out the two newly bidden pills.

The powers they were affiliated with were close allies with the Bloodline of Heavenly Emperor Zhao. Thus, when they saw Zhao Jingyu's expression, they naturally would not mind offending Li Luo.

"What boldness." Li Luo sighed.

However, he did not get angry. On the other hand, Li Fengyi, who was watching him attempt to bid on the items, immediately frowned and began to run her mouth off.

Li Luo hurriedly restrained her. "Forget it. I never really wanted to purchase those pills and was just messing with them."

Li Fengyi angrily retorted, "Whether you want to or not is a separate thing. Their actions are clearly meant to provoke us."

Li Luo then reassured her a few more times before she huffily said, "We'll wait till we enter the Spiritual Resonance Cave. Then we will see!"

This was accompanied by a quick nod from Li Luo.

Qin Yi noticed their actions. She said to the young men around her, "I'm afraid those aren't things that Li Luo truly desires. Why would you go to that extent to snatch them from him?"

"I'm just messing around," Zhao Jingyu guffawed.

"It's just a few million skygold. Banner Leader Li Luo is too poor to keep up," the rest mocked.

Qin Yi also understood their intentions and did not comment further. In actuality, she had hoped that Li Luo would obtain the Six Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill, as choosing to use it would actually weaken the threat of him in future.

People like him and her were in it for the long run, and every step had to be incomparably firm. If their foundation lagged behind in one stage, it would be extraordinarily hard to compensate for it later on, and the cost would be massive.

As the group were lost in their differing thoughts, the veiled figure who was standing by the third floor's railing with eyes as clear as an icy lake frowned slightly. After a moment, she beckoned to an attendant that was closely following behind her and uttered two sentences very softly. "Young mistress?" The attendant seemed a little surprised when she heard her words. However, the veiled figure lightly waved her hand, and the attendant turned to do what she was told to do.

A while later, Li Luo, who was now loafing around, suddenly saw a new item appear on the screen. It was something he could not tear his eyes away from.

There were two lines written up there. "Nine Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill. Starting Bid: five million skygold."

Chapter 0946: Nine Orifices

When the Nine Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill appeared on the screen, it not only attracted Li Luo's attention, but also countless shocked gazes from the others on the second level.

The Nine Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill was the highest grade of Dipper Smelting Pills. It would increase one's Fiend Dipper Energy by a significant amount, and there would be no side effects due to the refinement process. Thus, this was the most highly sought after pill for those at the Fiend Finisher Tier. However, they were rarely seen, and even the Golden Dragon Bank branch in the Heavenly Origin Divine Continent only found one every few months. Every time one appeared for sale, every single superpower would look to snatch it up.

Li Luo had already requested for the Dragon's Fang Lineage to obtain a Nine Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill, but the odds of finding one were slim. Thus, he would have to wait for quite a while. Although he didn't want to wait, there was no other choice. The Nine Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill was simply too precious and scarce. There were too many monks and too little gruel to go around, so he had to wait even with his special status.

Thus, he was filled with exuberance as soon as he saw the Nine Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill appear on the screen. This was like finding a pillow when he was drowsy. If he could obtain it, his Fiend Dipper Energy would increase significantly and he would have greater confidence in the Spiritual Resonance Cave expedition.

However, what Li Luo found strange was that the Nine Orifices Dipper Smelting Pills did not have a buyout price, and it looked as though a struggle would ensue over it.

Still, Li Luo immediately entered his bid.

"Five and a half million skygold."

Normally speaking, the price of a Nine Orifices Dipper Smelting Pills was around nine million skygold. However, the prices of the goods here were on the higher side, and with the special circumstances at hand, Li Luo knew that he likely wouldn't be able to afford it.

As Li Luo continued to ponder over his bidding strategy, a few new bids came in shortly after, and the new price was six and a half million skygold.

The sudden increase had attracted countless individuals' attention.

Qin Yi lifted her head gently, showing her beautiful face. She was peering at the constantly jumping bid. Her eyes flickered slightly as she could instinctively guess that Li Luo needed this pill the most.

"Hmph! There is absolutely zero chance Li Luo will get his hands on the Nine Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill when we're around." Zhao Jingyu coldly grinned as he shot a dirty glance towards Li Luo. He hated Li Luo to the bone after what had happened in the Western Region's Dark Domain, and this would be a good way to sate his vengeance.

He would not let Li Luo obtain it without a fight. He would make the latter pay a heavy price if he wished to do so.

Thus, Zhao Jingyu happily placed a bid, and the price of the pill increased to seven and a half million skygold.

Li Luo remained calm, never once looking towards Zhao Jingyu. He then increased the bid by another million.

Zhao Jingyu then aggressively raised the bid to ten million in one go.

This was already above the estimated value of the pill. After thinking about it, Li Luo no longer continued to bid mindlessly. Although he had received his Hall Master salary in advance and possessed several dozen million skygold, Zhao Jingyu was clearly maliciously targeting him with his bids. Therefore, he would have to overpay a significant amount to secure the pill.

Zhao Jingyu mockingly asked in a loud voice, "Does Dragon's Head Li Luo no longer wish to bid? Is it not worth it to you?"

"If you want it so much, just take it. Oh? It looks like you managed to find a new arm to stick back on. It's a pity it's not the original one," Li Luo remarked as he glanced at him carefully.

Zhao Jingyu's gaze turned incensed. He was almost about to erupt, but he forcefully restrained himself and mocked, "So what if you're the Dragon's Head? You're just cheap. Is this a habit you've cultivated after spending an impoverished life in the outer divine continent?"

When faced with Zhao Jingyu's ridicule, Li Luo did not react, but it was at this point that Li Fengyi's angry voice rang out. She directly increased the bid.

Twelve million skygold!

"The Bloodline of Heavenly Emperor Zhao always deals with things in the most pathetic ways." Li Fengyi snorted.

Zhao Jingyu smirked and then immediately raised the bid to fourteen million skygold. This caused countless gasps to erupt in the second floor, and even those who were interested in the pill gave up on the idea of trying to fight for it. It seemed as though this was going to be a battle between the two, to see who was simply more magnanimous.

Li Fengyi's expression turned frigid, and she was about to up her bid as well.

However Li Luo restrained her. This sort of meaningless battle was unnecessary. Zhao Jingyu simply wanted to push the price up, and the pill was not very helpful to him.

"Forget it, there's no need to spend this much money. Just give it to him. When we head off to the Spiritual Resonance Cave, we can just search his pocket sphere for it if the opportunity arises. He's a wonderful person after all! Have you forgotten how he snatched away five dragon fangs but gave them to us in the end?" Li Luo reminded her.

When the people around them heard his vicious words, they stared at Li Luo in a daze. Li Luo had chosen to ignore Zhao Jingyu in the face of his aggressive acts, and they had thought that he was just weak... But now it looked like his true intention was much more ruthless than they had imagined.

Li Fengyi then laughed gaily. She stopped bidding and glared at Zhao Jingyu. "If we meet in the Spiritual Resonance Cave, you won't just be losing an arm this time."

Zhao Jingyu's expression turned gloomy, and he looked like he was about to explode in fury.

"What grand words."

However, another voice rang out before Zhao Jingyu could reply, and a heavy spear suddenly pierced through the air. It was wreathed in ferocious amounts of energy and elicited a sonic boom with its sheer speed as it launched towards Li Fengyi.

Li Luo frowned and activated his triple resonances before taking half a step forward. His resonant power poured out and he struck out with a fist surrounded with dual resonance power.

Bang!

He met the spear with a punch, causing berserk energy to blast in every direction.

Li Luo's arm felt a little numb, and a titanic force was channeled through his body as a result. He activated the Myriad Resonances Dragon Fang Sword Formation within his body to dissipate the remaining traces of energy.

The spear then shot back to its owner, who was standing on some steps. He was a wiry youth with a vicious gaze.

"It seems like you have a little bit of strength, being able to receive my spear," he said indifferently.

"Zhao Shenjiang!" Li Fengyi's expression changed when she saw him.

Li Luo glanced at him momentarily before retorting, "Is everyone from the Bloodline of Heavenly Emperor Zhao unruly?"

Zhao Shenjiang stood in place as he observed Li Luo. "Only the weak care about rules, Li Luo. You chopped off Jingyu's arm in the Western Region's Dark Domain, so if we meet in the Spiritual Resonance Cave, I won't let you leave alive."

Li Luo nodded and sighed. "Zhao Jingyu ended up serving me five dragon fangs the last time we met. You should probably decide what you want to offer me as a gift as well. From my impression, the people of the Bloodline of Heavenly Emperor Zhao are very charitable."

"Then you better receive it well." Zhao Shenjiang's sudden reply was steeped in unrestrained killing intent. "Furthermore..." He glanced at the Nine Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill that was currently being bid for.

"It's almost time." Li Luo didn't respond, but just as Li Fengyi was about to act, the bid on the screen changed. It rose to twenty million!

The second level erupted into shock, and everyone glanced at each other in absolute disbelief. This was more than double the pill's actual value.

Was there someone else in the room didn't understand the value of money?

Li Luo was a little taken aback. He glanced at Li Fengyi, who hurriedly shook her head. "It wasn't me."

Even Zhao Jingyu was completely shocked by the explosive increase in price. Even he would feel the pinch if he spent twenty million on the pill, as that was close to half his net worth.

Thus, he hesitated and no longer dared to raise the bid. His aim was just to obstruct Li Luo from obtaining the pill smoothly, and it seemed as though his goal had been achieved.

"Li Luo, aren't you going to fight for it? You're entering the Spiritual Resonance Cave tomorrow, and it's the best way for you to raise your strength." Zhao Jingyu flashed Li Luo a smile that was not a smile.

Li Luo ignored him. A moment later, the Nine Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill was successfully auctioned off without further complications. The final price of twenty million skygold made countless wealthy geniuses click their tongues.

Such a waste of resources was not often seen.

Li Luo similarly sighed as he planned to continue browsing the goods available. However, shortly after, a lady appeared before him with a jade case in hand.

It was slightly ajar, and one could see an eye-catching pill with nine orifices inside. This attracted everyone's attention.

Everyone instantly recognized that it was the Nine Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill.

Qin Yi, Zhao Jingyu, Zhao Shenjiang, and the rest similarly looked over as well.

When the lady arrived before Li Luo, she delivered the jade case to him before his suspicious gaze.

Li Luo frowned and asked, "What is this?"

Under the crowd's watchful eyes, the lady calmly announced, "Dragon's Head Li Luo, do not decline a gift from an old friend."

Chapter 0947: Great Sanguine Poison Art

"An old friend?" The lady's words caused a look of confusion to surface on Li Luo's face. Just what sort of old friend did he have in the Heavenly Origin Divine Continent?

When faced with his lost expression, the lady did not reply, only raising the case towards him, demonstrating that he should accept it.

When Li Fengyi saw this, she took the initiative to hurry over. "Third Brother, your friend is truly magnanimous! Why would she spend twenty million on a Nine Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill just for you?"

Li Luo didn't exactly know how he ought to reply. None of the old friends he knew were this reckless with money.

So who was it that was handing him this pill? What was the person's goal?

Before he could recover from the shock, the youthful lady left without any further explanation.

Li Luo could only helplessly shake his head.

Li Fengyi then handed him the jade case, and Li Luo started inspecting the Nine Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill before storing it in his pocket sphere. This whole series of events was too strange, so he would get Li Qingpeng to inspect it before he did anything.

However, he trusted that there were no issues with the pill. Spending such a large sum of money just for an overt plot would truly be underestimating Li Luo's intelligence.

When Li Luo raised his head, he glanced at the ashen Zhao Jingyu and smiled. "I'm sorry, it looks like the prize landed in my hands again."

The corner of Zhao Jingyu's mouth twitched a little. This sort of development was beyond his expectations. But even though he knew that the pill would eventually land in Li Luo's hands, twenty million was simply too much for him, and he would not have bidden further.

But it didn't matter. It was just a single Dipper Smelting Pill. Even though it could bolster Li Luo's strength, it wouldn't allow him to break into the Heavenly Pearl Tier in one night.

So long as Li Luo didn't break through, Zhao Shenjiang would be able to thoroughly suppress him.

Thus, he smiled coldly and no longer deigned to fight with Li Luo.

Li Luo didn't bother with him either, turning to find other useful objects.

The second floor then regained a sense of peace and quiet.

On the third level, the veiled lady was closely observing Li Luo. Her red lips curved up slightly before she turned around and stepped away.

Arriving at the back of the hall, she saw the attendant who had been tasked to deliver the pill.

"I'm sorry for troubling you, Elder Sister Jin." She smiled.

Although the youthful lady wasn't special in terms of looks, her eyes belied a strong and fierce spirit as she spoke to the veiled girl before her. "Young Mistress, that Nine Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill was prepared for you by the household head. You not only didn't use it, you even gave it away..."

The veiled girl laughed lightly. "That pill is more useful to him than me. We are old friends, and he has frightening talent. He will definitely rise up amongst the youths in the Heavenly Origin Divine Continent and surpass everyone in his generation."

"Well, it looks like he's not at that point yet. He might have become the Dragon's Head of the Bloodline of Heavenly Emperor Li, but getting the best of geniuses like Qin Yi and Zhao Shenjiang will not be an easy task," the lady known as Elder Sister Jin replied.

The girl then responded, "Elder Sister Jin, you should not look down upon him. He has paved his way through a road of absolute despair and he is a creator of miracles. Although Qin Yi and Zhao Shenjiang

are stronger than him now, it's only because he arrived at the Bloodline of Heavenly Emperor Li a year ago. Even with so little time, he was able to conquer all of the talents produced by his bloodline and became the Dragon's Head. Thus, if you give him a bit more time, he will be nipping right at the heels of Qin Yi and Zhao Shenjiang and their ilk. Beating them will not be impossible."

Elder Sister Jin nodded. "Based on your words, he does seem extraordinary... However, it also seems like you are well acquainted with him, Young Mistress."

This seemed like something even mere old friends would not know.

The girl paused before replying, "I guess you can say we are best friends."

Elder Sister Jin glanced at her. How could a boy and a girl be best friends? However, Li Luo's status was considerable—he was indeed a good fit for the young mistress.

The girl did not continue elaborating, changing the subject immediately. "The reason I've come to the Heavenly Origin Divine Continent is because of a particular opportunity in the Spiritual Resonance Cave. My father told me that it would benefit me when it came to the Holy Seed Inheritance."

Elder Sister Jin replied, "Young Mistress, you are truly endowed with talent. You've spent many years roaming the outer continent, yet your body revealed signs of fusing with the Holy Seed Inheritance as soon as you came here. The Family Patriarch does not wish for you to return to the mountain too soon. His intention is to keep your talent hidden so others will not desire it for themselves. So, Young Mistress, please do not blame the Family Patriarch for his actions, as he feels extremely guilty about you."

The girl smiled sweetly. "Are those the words Father asked you to say?"

Elder Sister Jin smiled awkwardly.

The girl shook her head. "I don't hate him. The years I've spent following my mother have been full of joy, and I've never lacked for anything."

Her tone then changed. "The Spiritual Resonance Cave will be full of danger, and I might need this friend's help. This is why I opted to give him the Nine Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill. It could be as a way of thanking him in advance."

Elder Sister Jin found this a little amusing. The Family Patriarch had dispatched countless guardians for the young mistress' expedition into the Spiritual Resonance Cave, and she was just one of many. Even though Li Luo was the Bloodline of Heavenly Emperor Li's Dragon's Head, he was still on the weaker side in the grand scheme of things. Therefore, his strength would not be very helpful to them. The young mistress had a proud personality and had clearly come up with some other reason for giving the pill away.

"If all you wanted to do was give him the Nine Orifices Dipper Smelting Pill, why did you have to increase the bid as well? Don't you feel that that was extraneous?" Elder Sister Jin asked curiously.

The girl then playfully beamed. "Doesn't that Zhao Jingyu character like to play around? I wanted to tease him as well."

Elder Sister Jin helplessly shrugged, but then she realized that the young mistress was dissatisfied with the way Zhao Jingyu and the rest had maliciously bided against Li Luo, and thus she had opted to take such an action to vent on his behalf.

At this point, she glanced at the girl. It seemed as though they weren't simply just best friends, she had gone beyond that with her actions.

"Young Mistress, do you want to talk to him?" Elder Sister Jin asked.

The girl paused for a moment before shaking her head. "There is no rush. My father said I had to keep this trip a secret. I'll find a way to meet him in the Spiritual Resonance Cave."

Elder Sister Jin did not ask any further, only following the girl who was now walking away into the distance.

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Li Luo, on the other hand, remained within the second level of the Golden Dragon Bank's hall, searching for other items he needed. He indeed managed to find something useful.

It was a secret art.

The Great Sanguine Poison Art, an unorthodox technique that allowed one to refine one's blood essence with some sort of poison to create a blood poison. Most individuals had no interest in such an art, but Li Luo saw it differently.

This was because there was still a trace of the dual poison within his body. It was toxic and domineering, and even a Heavenly Resonance Tier cultivator would not dare to purify it.[1]

Li Luo's intention had been to seal the poison within his body and imprison it in a resonant bubble to be used on an unsuspecting opponent in battle. Thus, even after he arrived at the Dragon's Fang Lineage, he had not asked Li Jingzhe to assist him with purging it. The Great Sanguine Poison Art would not merely detoxify his body, it would fuse the poison with his blood essence, allowing him to create a blood poison.

The strength of the blood poison would surpass the poison that was still stored in the resonant bubbles in his body.

Thus, the Great Sanguine Poison Art seemed to be a good fit for him. Li Luo did not hesitate to directly buy out the art, denying others an opportunity to throw a wrench into his plans. However, he did have to spend five million skygold.

After storing the Great Sanguine Poison Art, he felt as though he had made a worthwhile deal.

Just as he was about to leave, he saw that Zhao Jingyu was bidding on a fifth-grade Royal Engraving known as the Underworld Thunder Runic Arrow. When activated, it would create a runic arrow that possessed immense might. Zhao Jingyu was similarly ensuring that he was well stocked and ready to confront the challenges that awaited him in the Spiritual Resonance Cave. The Underworld Thunder Runic Arrow was priced around six million skygold, and its bid was still increasing.

That being said, Zhao Jingyu seemed determined to obtain the item. This notion alone seemed to have scared away a few of his competitors.

Li Luo, on the other hand, held no regard for him.

He then immediately entered a bid for nine million.

The sight of this infuriated Zhao Jingyu so much that his face turned green.

Although he knew that Li Luo was messing with him, he truly desired the item and thus he eventually gritted his teeth and hunkered down, bidding eleven million. This was almost twice as expensive as what it was usually worth.

This was met with Li Luo's grinning visage, which was also coupled with a thumbs up.

Zhao Jingyu's face twitched and his gaze turned so ferocious that a mere glance could tear Li Luo apart.

Li Luo, however, completely disregarded him as he looked at the Underworld Thunder Runic Arrow engraving with much interest. It would actually be very useful to him. If he could couple it with his Heavenly Dragon's Sunchaser Bow, the combined power would be mind blowing. But there was no need for him to struggle over it with Zhao Jingyu, as the price was not worth it any more.

He would find a better opportunity to fish it out of his pocket sphere later... Li Luo then flashed a warm smile towards Zhao Jingyu and sighed.

Ah... how familiar... After which, he called out to Li Fengyi and the rest before making his way back.

Chapter 0948: Golden Dew Platform

The next day, Li Luo was standing on the pagoda, his gaze scanning the area below him. He noticed that countless figures were rushing through the plains, finally stopping before the closest group of pagodas.

These individuals seemed quite young and were full of vitality and motivation, likely elites from their respective power. All of them were here for the Spiritual Resonance Cave, hoping to gain some splendid opportunities within.

"As expected of the inner divine continent." Li Luo sighed as he observed the large number of talented geniuses. Whether it was in terms of demeanor or presence, they were all head and shoulders above the ones he had encountered during the Holy Grail Meet.

The difference in the foundations of the two continents was clearly as vast as the distance between them.

This was to be expected though. The inner divine continents enjoyed a significant advantage in resources and were also the core of the world. Worldly natural energy condensed in majestic amounts in the air, and there were ample amounts of cultivation resources available. This was something that the outer divine continents could not compete with. Even if two people had similar talent, lacking resources would result in their development being as different as night and day.

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At this point, Li Luo heard Li Fengyi calling for him as the rest were prepared to leave.

Li Luo thus turned around and started to descend the pagoda, eventually arriving at a humongous hall. All of the geniuses from the different lineages had already gathered and were clearly eager to get going, their eyes filled with anticipation.

The Spiritual Resonance Cave was not only a land of opportunities, but a place for one to establish their name in the Heavenly Origin Divine Continent. If one could stand out amongst the crowd, their reputation would precede them, and they would become a true leader of the younger generation.

Obtaining such a reputation was also appreciated by the powers behind them as more resources would be funneled into that individual. Even Heavenly Emperor powers required fresh blood to emerge to prove to the world that their prosperity would last forever.

In front of the crowd was also a group of Hall Masters that had been dispatched by the various lineages to escort them. This showed exactly how important this expedition was.

Specifically, there were two leaders amongst the Hall Masters.

The first one was Li Luo's eldest uncle, Li Qingpeng, and the other was someone who seemed even more imposing. When the other Hall Masters looked at him, they acted extremely polite.

It was the Dragon's Blood Lineage's Gold Blood Hall Master, Li Jiluo.

He was an upper eighth-grade Duke, and he could be considered to be the strongest Hall Master in the five lineages. There were rumors saying that he might become a ninth-grade Duke soon.

One should not underestimate the difference between the two levels. Countless talented and brilliant individuals throughout history had failed to take that step forward. By that point in their lives, most of them had already fully excavated their potential and were at their limit. They would naturally not advance every few years like they did during the early parts of the Duke Stage. Although one should strive to make it as far as possible, it was much easier said than done.

Ninth-grade Dukes were extremely rare as they were just beneath the almighty Kings. If they were able to create a miracle and take one more step forward, they would completely transcend and enter the realm of Kings.

A King was an apex existence even amongst the Heavenly Emperor powers. They far surpassed any Duke.

Li Jiluo was a reputable middle-aged man. His expression was calm and his body was built like a sturdy mountain. He gave off an unshakeable presence, and whenever his placid gaze swept past the young geniuses before him, they all felt a sense of pressure weighing down upon them.

As the Bloodline of Heavenly Emperor Li's strongest Hall Master, he possessed significant sway... That being said, he was the strongest only because Li Taixuan had left the Heavenly Origin Divine Continent. "The Spiritual Resonance Cave is about to open, and I'm sure you have seen the commotion outside. Everyone who enters needs to be wary, as it's a den of both snakes and dragons. Merely being members of the Bloodline of Heavenly Emperor Li will not be enough to ward off those who hold malicious intent towards you. Geniuses always fall whenever the Spiritual Resonance Cave opens, even those from Heavenly Emperor powers." Li Jiluo's calm words landed in everyone's ears.

Everyone's hearts trembled as they solemnly agreed.

"I'll stop with the unnecessary words and move on to what's important. When you enter the Spiritual Resonance Cave, the most important thing is to collect a spiritual liquid known as Spirit Resonance Golden Dew and use it to cleanse your Resonant Talismans. Spiritual Resonance Golden Dew is a special form of energy liquid that is unique to the cave."

He then raised his hand and created some images with his resonant power, which took the shape of a drop of golden liquid. The four elements were circulating visibly within the mysterious liquid, so the crowd found it very easy to recognize.

"The Resonant Talismans only provide the first level of access within the cave. Only with the aid of Spirit Resonance Golden Dew can you unlock the second level. The second level will then allow you to enter the Golden Dew Platform. Quite a few people are allowed on it, and at a specific time, the Golden Dew Platform will receive a baptism of power from the Spiritual Resonance Cave. Those who have secured a spot will have their resonance tempered and purified. If your luck is good and you have a solid foundation already established, you may find an opportunity for your resonance to evolve. When one's resonance evolves, its purity and grade elevate. Thus, everyone tries to earn a spot on the Golden Dew Platform. Based on our investigations, there are three platforms to choose from when the time comes."

Li Jiluo's words caused everyone's expressions to change, and unadulterated excitement could be seen in their eyes. Everyone knew how difficult it was to raise the grade of one's resonance, and even though spirit liquids and purifying lights could be used, the process was slow and there was a limit to how much could be used. Consuming large amounts would cause impurities to accumulate, and they would eventually seal off one's resonant palace, preventing any further improvement.

The Golden Dew Platform had the ability to raise the grade of one's resonance almost instantly, a result that would require an incredible amount of spirit liquids and purifying lights...

"The Golden Dew Platform, huh..." Li Luo's gaze similarly flickered, and his heart started beating with excitement. His blank palaces allowed him to use unlimited amounts of spirit liquids and purifying lights. That being said, time was still needed for his resonances to be tempered.

He really wanted to obtain a ninth-grade resonance, but alas, he had neither the resources nor the time.

Thus, the Golden Dew Platform was something that greatly appealed to him.

"The Golden Dew Platforms have limited spots, so the competition for each one will be fierce. You will have to rely on your own strength if you wish to obtain one," Li Jiluo continued.

The crowd nodded in understanding.

"I have a question, Hall Master Li Jiluo. How much Spirit Resonance Golden Dew is needed to gain access to the Golden Dew Platform?" Lu Qingmei suddenly asked.

"Thirty drops," Li Jiluo replied. "Thus, once you enter the cave, your main goal should be to obtain as many drops of Spirit Resonance Golden Dew as possible. They can be found in places where worldly natural energy is most dense and abundant, and you will be able to sense them. However, the Golden Dew Platform is not the end objective—it can be argued to be just the start. It is only afterwards that the inner regions of the Spiritual Resonance Cave will open up. However, the situation inside is

constantly transforming and unpredictable, which is why we have no information about it for you. The only thing we can say is that there are numerous rare treasures within, and they are capable of assisting individuals with developing a secondary resonance or even a second resonance."

This caused numerous individuals to gulp in anticipation. Secondary resonances or even a second resonance altogether? Such a treasure would shake the continent if it was found, and every Heavenly Emperor power would fight over it.

Such treasures would usually only appear in the Nobles' Battlefields, and no one had guessed that they could be found inside the Spiritual Resonance Cave. It was no wonder the Heavenly Emperor powers took advantage of this place and formed an agreement to share the location. If any sole party were to monopolize this special area, they would inevitably attract both jealousy and hostility from others.

"The Spiritual Resonance Cave is as amazing as expected," Li Luo thought to himself. At the same time, his evaluation of the secret realm created by the Sacred Void Resonance Sect increased. That ancient sect must have been extraordinary in the past. Perhaps even when taking every power in the world into consideration, the Sacred Void Resonance Sect was at the very top.

As a result, Li Luo couldn't help but think of the Acquired Resonance Godly Forging Art which he had cultivated. From a certain point of view, he was a part of the Sacred Void Resonance Sect, and the cave could be considered a connection. As Li Luo thought about all this, the sound of energy clashing intensified outside. It sounded like thunder reverberating throughout the land.

"The cave is about to open," Li Jiluo explained as the worldly natural energy in the vicinity shuddered, a sign that the Spiritual Resonance Cave was opening.

Everyone filed out of the pagoda immediately and stared into the distinct sky. The somewhat illusory energy portal was now absorbing copious amounts of worldly natural energy. After which, the portal began to open.

Boom!

As boundless amounts of energy congregated, the thunderous booms continued to ring out.

Countless gazes fired up upon witnessing this.

Opportunities were about to descend, and they would have to wrestle for them with their own hands.

After several minutes, the portal was completely open, and a mysterious fragrance wafted outwards.

Bang!

Countless figures rushed into the skies, exuding glorious amounts of resonant power as they directly dashed into the portal.

"Go! Your opportunities await. The rest will be up to you." Li Jiluo's gaze was calm as he waved his sleeve. Massive amounts of resonant power poured forth and directly picked up the crowd, sending them shooting towards the open portal.

Chapter 0949: Changes

When Li Luo stepped into the portal, the space around him twisted violently. His environment started changing repeatedly as well.

In the next moment, he found himself in a new place. Looking down, he could see a vast space before his eyes. The mountains extended endlessly, as if he was on a whole new continent.

The air was filled with a mystical aura that stirred up his three resonant palaces. It was as if the palaces were yearning for something that could only be found here.

"Is this the Spiritual Resonance Cave?" Li Luo thought to himself.

Judging from the reaction of his resonant palaces, this place was truly amazing for upgrading one's resonance.

However, his expression suddenly changed in that short moment too. As he traveled towards the cave, the triple resonances within his body started acting as if they had gone out of control. His resonant power leaked out nonstop.

Even the Acquired Resonance Godly Forging Art that had been dormant all this while started to act up. This sudden change caught Li Luo by surprise. He focused his thoughts and forcefully stopped his resonant power from flowing out to the surroundings. Otherwise, he could've ended up injured.

Fortunately, this situation only lasted for a few moments before his triple resonant powers returned to their respective resonant palaces.

Nonetheless, Li Luo continued reflecting on the sudden change as he stared deep into the cave. This change simply had to be related to the Spiritual Resonance Cave.

But why?

Was it because his resonances were cultivated from the Acquired Resonance Godly Forging Art? After all, the Acquired Resonance Godly Forging Art had originated from the Sacred Void Resonance Sect. The Spiritual Resonance Cave was created by them, and as such, it wouldn't be surprising if the two had a connection to each other.

As Li Luo pondered this, the space around him began to twist even more aggressively. He suddenly felt himself falling down at a really fast pace. A few moments later, his surroundings changed yet again.

He found himself on an elevated platform brimming with people. Noise filled the air like the cries of devils, making everyone frown.

"Cousin Li Luo, over here."

A familiar voice came from the front at this moment. When Li Luo lifted his head to take a look, he spotted Li Lingjing waving at him. The location was filled with countless other people from the Heavenly Dragon's Five Lineages.

"Third Brother, what took you so long? I thought you had been teleported to another platform," Li Jingtao asked him.

In response, Li Luo shook his head with a smile. He knew in his heart that the delay must have been related to the strange developments earlier.

"Guys..."

Li Wuyuan from the Dragon's Blood Guardians began speaking after his attention shifted from Li Luo over to the crowd. "Since everyone has arrived, let's discuss our next step."

At this point, Li Guan from the Dragon's Scale Lineage spoke up as well. "Similar to the past, each lineage will move out on their own, right? After all, the Spirit Resonance Golden Dew is limited in supply. If the five lineages moved out together, it'd be hard for us to allocate the limited amount of dew."

Hearing this, the other lineages nodded in agreement. It seemed moving individually would be the most efficient way forward for each lineage.

However, Li Wuyuan smiled and replied, "That is indeed the case under normal circumstances. However... what if we know of a spot where there is significant amounts of Spirit Resonance Golden Dew?"

Li Guan, Li Fuling, and the rest were surprised to hear about this. Looking back at Li Wuyuan, they asked, "Somewhere where there's a lot of Spirit Resonance Golden Dew?"

Li Wuyuan simply smiled and replied, "Based on a conservative estimate, we should be able to get a hundred or so drops of Spirit Resonance Golden Dew there."

Everyone was moved immediately. With a hundred or so droplets, they could reserve quite a few Golden Dew Platform spots. This would save them a huge amount of time and resources compared to searching around on their own.

Even Li Luo could not help but glance at Li Wuyuan at this point. This guy was truly extraordinary, consistently pulling tricks out of his bag.

"That spot contains an extremely high concentration of worldly natural energy. As a result, it will be highly coveted. Due to the special conditions of the Spiritual Resonance Cave, such a place may also give birth to a Guardian Spirit commonly known as a Resonant Imp. These imps have no minds of their own and exist purely as bodies of concentrated energy. As a result, they are extremely strong and really challenging to deal with. I am sharing this information with everyone here just to be safe. Of course, none of us will be working for free. We'll each get a designated district to reap our rewards later, which will definitely be much better than what we would have gotten if we each searched separately. However, I'll be upfront here. This precious piece of information came from the Dragon's Blood Lineage, so we'll have the say here. You all will have to follow our instructions." At this point, Li Wuyuan paused for a moment and glanced over at the Dragon's Fang Lineage. Among the five lineages, the two of them were always at loggerheads, especially now that Li Luo and Li Lingjing were around.

As for the other three lineages, Li Guan, Li Ju, and Li Wenshan were the decision makers for the Dragon's Scale Lineage, the Dragon's Bone Lineage, and the Dragon's Horn Lineage respectively. They had no objections to this proposal, given that the information was indeed offered by the Dragon's Blood Lineage.

For the Dragon's Fang Lineage, Li Fuling hesitated for a moment after hearing the pitch. She looked over to Li Lingjing at this point, as she was the strongest person in the Dragon's Fang Lineage.

However, Li Lingjing simply showed her a look of innocence and pointed towards Li Luo. "Ask him," she said with a look of nonchalance, as if she did not care about any of this and would leave all the decision-making to Li Luo.

Seeing this, Li Fuling glared helplessly at her. Under normal circumstances, she would have been the leader for the Dragon's Fang Lineage. However, Li Lingjing acted like she would take all instructions from Li Luo. This left Li Fuling in a really awkward spot.

However, she did not have much of a choice. Li Fuling looked over to Li Luo next.

Li Luo rubbed his chin and pondered over it for a moment. As an essential component for the Golden Dew Platform, the Spirit Resonance Golden Dew was indeed the top of their priorities at present. The information from Li Wuyuan was truly attractive. If they could join in and get some Spirit Resonance Golden Dew for themselves, it would indeed not be a bad offer.

However, he could not let his guard down against Li Wuyuan. He had to remain vigilant, or he could be tricked by the guy.

After giving it some thought, Li Luo raised his head with a smile and replied, "Since Senior Li Wuyuan is so generously sharing his information, the Dragon's Fang Lineage, as a closely related lineage, will definitely give you our full support."

Hearing this, Li Wuyuan's face did not change as he said, "Wise choice, Junior Li Luo."

With everything settled, he did not waste any more words. "In that case, let us head out immediately before any other major powers catch onto it."

His body shook for a moment before a pair of dragon wings made of energy extended from his back. With a wave of his wings, a gust was kicked up and he flew off into the sky.

Seeing this, the others also activated their Sanctified Dragon's Bodies and followed after him.

However, Li Lingjing could only watch with a sad expression. She turned towards Li Luo and said, "I did not cultivate the Sanctified Dragon's Body."

After all, she had never joined the Twenty Banners, so she naturally did not have the chance to cultivate the unique art belonging to the Heavenly Dragon's Five Lineages.

Li Luo waved his hand and replied generously, "I'll find a way to get you one when we return."

"Thank you very much, Cousin Li Luo," Li Lingjing responded gleefully.

At the next moment, she summoned up her enormous resonant power and was about to leap through the air. Since she was at the Heavenly Pearl Tier, she had the stamina to do this for a long period of time. However, she sensed a strange, chilly sensation within her at this moment again. She turned around hastily and stared at the crowd behind her. Her eyes had become really cold and terrifying at this point.

The people behind her got frightened immediately, and they retreated from her frightening gaze. However, Li Lingjing did not notice anything unusual after scanning around. She simply raised her eyebrows in response.

"What's the matter, Cousin Lingjing?" Li Luo asked when he sensed her reaction.

Li Lingjing thought about it for a moment before she shook her head and smiled. "Nothing, let's go."

Following this, her slender figure leapt into the air effortlessly.

Li Luo spread out his wings and followed after her.

After they were quite some distance away, a figure back at the stone platform slowly raised his head. He appeared ordinary, without much of an expression on his face.

However, if one were to look closely at his eyes, a chill would run up their spine. There appeared to be something slowly crawling around deep in his black eyes.

He did not even have eyeballs at all—his eye sockets were occupied by a group of creepy, weird worms entangled together.

The black worms would stretch out from the pupils from time to time, giving off an eerie chill and weird glow.

As the figure watched Li Lingjing fly into the distance, he seemed to murmur something quietly to himself. "Number three... shall we go after her?"

"Forget it... let's prepare the food here first."

In a rather rigid fashion, the figure turned his head as he watched the crowd fly off in all directions. A tinge of human greed and desire seemed to surface on his emotionless face.

Chapter 0950: The Well Developed Key Location

The group from the Heavenly Dragon's Five Lineages left together, with tens of them in a single file. It was a really grand sight that inevitably attracted the curious gazes of others.

Some of the rogue cultivators began to follow after them sneakily. However, Li Wuyuan gave them a vicious warning immediately. With lightning speed, he instantly eliminated the rogue cultivator that was closest to them. Seeing this, the other rogue cultivators dispersed and dared not follow them thereafter.

The group did not experience any further delay as they extended their wings and flew into the sky.

Li Luo was in the mix as well. However, he was constantly inspecting the environment around him at the same time. For some reason, he felt a familiar sense of belonging in the Spiritual Resonance Cave, as if it was particularly friendly towards him...

Was it because of the Acquired Resonance Godly Forging Art? He had thought about it previously. Since the Spiritual Resonance Cave could have originated from the Sacred Void Resonance Sect, this might have been a training ground for their disciples back in the old days. As a result, he had a special affinity with the cave as he had cultivated the Acquired Resonance Godly Forging Art himself.

Perhaps this place was treating him as a disciple of the Sacred Void Resonance Sect?

As Li Luo was thinking about this, Li Fuling had flown closer to him. Hiding her voice with resonant power, she whispered into his ear, "If Li Wuyuan is willing to share this bountiful location with us, it must truly be grand."

Li Luo nodded in agreement. The more Spirit Resonance Golden Dew that could be found in a location, the stronger the Guardian Spirit. In addition, news of this location might have been known to other major forces apart from the Dragon's Blood Lineage.

Otherwise, Li Wuyuan would not have been so generous in sharing this piece of intel. There was a really high chance that the reason he had gathered the whole lineage was because the Dragon's Blood Lineage would not be able to secure the spot alone.

And the amount of caution he was exercising proved that the location was definitely not to be underestimated.

"We have to be careful. Li Wuyuan has always disliked the Dragon's Fang Lineage. It won't be surprising if he is plotting against us. Although he might not dare to kill us upfront, it would still be really disastrous for our progress if we suffered heavy casualties here," Li Luo reminded her.

Li Fuling nodded slightly in agreement.

As they rushed over to the location, the group did not stop for any breaks along the way. After an hour or so, Li Luo and the rest could finally sense Li Wuyuan slowing down.

Li Luo sort of understood what was happening. When he looked down below, there was an enormous mountain that looked like a giant tortoise, stretching far into the distance with no end in sight.

The mountain itself was exuding extremely pure worldly natural energy.

As Li Luo studied the mountain from above, he could faintly feel some traces of energy left behind by humans. This was akin to the remnant of some sort of ward.

Without a doubt, the high concentration of worldly natural energy in this mountain was the work of some ward left behind by someone. The worldly natural energy accumulated over many years became the majestic sight before them today. This was the main reason why this area had evolved into a prime location for condensing Spirit Resonance Golden Dew.

However, there was nothing surprising about it. The different powers would send people into the Spiritual Resonance Cave from time to time. They would definitely have tasks and missions to accomplish. One of the tasks was probably to give a helping hand in creating such locations, which would gradually develop over the years in preparation for the next Spiritual Resonance Cave opening.

That would be the time where they would send a team in for the harvest.

Unfortunately, this strategy had a high chance of failure. After all, they would be away from the area for years after setting up the ward, and there was no way for them to maintain it. If there were any sudden changes during that time, it would result in failure and all their hard work being wasted.

Nonetheless, looking at the high concentration of energy in the area, it was clearly a success this time.

Everyone was thrilled at the sight. There was a clear look of excitement on Li Wuyuan's face as he waved his hand and signaled to the group to descend.

One after another, everyone landed in the deep depths of the huge mountain.

At this moment, Li Wuyuan took out a special device to check out the energy levels in the surroundings. After a while, a huge smile appeared on his face and he put the device away.

"Guys, we're really lucky. The development of this location has been exceptionally successful. We should have a great harvest ahead of us," Li Wuyuan told the group with a big smile.

Everyone was delighted to hear that. After all, it was a truly pleasant surprise that they could achieve a portion of their goal so soon.

"Brother Wuyuan, you truly came prepared. The Dragon's Blood Lineage really thought it through," Li Guan from the Dragon's Scale Lineage praised him with a smile.

Beside him, the other members from the Dragon's Scale Lineage, including Lu Qingmei, were also really grateful for this wondrous surprise.

Li Wuyuan had clearly gained some reputation and admiration with this.

With a wave of his hand, he smiled lightly and replied, "No worries, we are all from the same family. I will definitely not let you all down."

Everyone grinned happily in response.

At this point, Li Luo also had a look of admiration on his face. Li Wuyuan was clearly trying to win the people's hearts here. However, Li Luo was not bothered by it at all. As long as he could get his hands on the Spirit Resonance Golden Dew, it did not matter what Li Wuyuan was planning. Even if he wanted to contest for the position of Lineage Chief in the Dragon's Blood Lineage next year, Li Luo would not mind giving him his full support! Li Fuling also nodded in approval and replied on behalf of the Dragon's Fang Lineage. "This is indeed a really good spot. However, will the other major forces catch wind of this place too?"

Li Wuyuan grinned and replied, "Don't worry, this place has been set up by the Dragon's Blood Lineage. If any other powers lay their eyes on it, we'll just fight them off. Is there anyone that the Bloodline of Heavenly Emperor Li needs to be afraid of?"

Hearing this, Li Fuling did not comment any further.

Unsurprisingly, Li Hongli pouted at this point and retorted, "Why do you have so many complaints even though you're following along to enjoy the perks? Is this how the Dragon's Fang Lineage acts?"

Furious at these words, Li Fengyi shouted back immediately, "If you guys could do it alone, why ask us along? Aren't you just asking us to help fend off any threats? Why act so high and mighty?"

Li Hongli glared back angrily. However, she was stopped by Li Wuyuan just as she was about to scream back.

"Let's not waste time with all these words. We should allocate the different districts now, and any Spirit Resonance Golden Dew found in these districts will belong to the respective lineages. Of course, this is all assuming that we are able to get rid of the Guardian Spirit," Li Wuyuan said calmly as resonant power surged in his palm and a rough map of the area appeared.

He cut across the map with his fingertips, leaving behind an energy line that left the center area open. "This district belongs to the Dragon's Blood Lineage. The rewards will be the best there since that spot has the highest concentration of energy. However, since this location was developed by the Dragon's Blood Lineage, no one has any issues with us reaping the most rewards, right?"

Hearing this, there were no objections from any of the other four lineages. After all, it was just like Li Wuyuan had said.

In the next moment, Li Wuyuan divided the area into four other districts and looked over to the Dragon's Fang Lineage. "Which district would you all like?"

Li Fuling was surprised by this sudden move. Who would have thought that Li Wuyuan would give them the second choice? Without a doubt, she would go for the western district, which contained the second highest concentration of energy.

However, Li Luo stopped her right before she made her choice. He took a look at the forest and replied with a smile, "We'll choose the eastern district."

Li Fuling was stunned by his response. The eastern district had the lowest concentration of energy. How many droplets of Spirit Resonance Golden Dew could they harvest from there? What nonsense was Li Luo up to?

However, she did not voice out her dissatisfaction openly. She still had to maintain an image of harmony within the Dragon's Fang Lineage and thus she simply gave Li Luo a deadly glare before replying, "We'll choose the eastern district."

The other three lineages were shocked at their choice too. However, they would gladly play along if the Dragon's Fang Lineage themselves had made the choice.

Afterwards, the other three lineages made their choices too.

With the allocation of the districts completed, Li Wuyuan continued without much change to his expression, "In that case, we'll each head off to our respective districts. I will now activate the ward, and the worldly natural energy will begin to condense in the area. After four hours or so, it should be ready for harvest."

The other lineages nodded after hearing this, then they brought their teams over to their respective regions.

As the various lineages left the area, Li Hongli threw a glance in the direction that the Dragon's Fang Lineage was heading towards. She frowned and complained, "Brother Wuyuan, I can't believe the Dragon's Fang Lineage did not pick the second most concentrated area."

Li Wuyuan simply smiled. "It seems like Li Luo is really cautious. He knows that we would not give him any benefits without good reason."

At this point, Li Qingfeng also reminded them, "Brother Wuyuan, please don't go overboard with things. If something really does happen to them, no one will be able to save us either."

Li Wuyuan simply grinned. "No worries, I know what I'm doing. We won't be punished, because we're not harming them. However... I wouldn't mind seeing them face a few setbacks. This will surely cripple their morale a little, and no one has any complaints about this... right?"