

Sect Master's Immortal Journey

#Chapter 1: Struggles the position - Read Sect Master's Immortal Journey Chapter 1: Struggles the position

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In the northern edge of the Middle-Earth Continent, there lies an endless expanse of yellow sand and desert. This place is called the Northern Great Desert by the people of Middle-Earth, also known as the Endless Sea of Sand. Despite its desolation and remoteness, it is home to numerous cultivation forces.

Among them, the Taiyi Sect is a rather insignificant one. Just two days ago, Meng Zhang became the new Sect Master of Taiyi Sect. Currently, Meng Zhang sat cross-legged on a cushion like a wooden statue, unmoving. His facial expressions kept changing, reflecting the myriad thoughts running through his mind.

As the new Sect Master of Taiyi Sect, Meng Zhang had been sitting quietly in the sect's main hall for half a day, ignoring all the affairs of the sect. After all, Taiyi Sect was just a small sect with a tiny territory and only a handful of disciples. There were not many urgent matters to deal with.

In his heart, he recalled the appearance and teachings of his late mentor and foster father, Daoist Profound Spirit, the previous Sect Master. When he transmigrated to this world, he was just a baby, and in the blink of an eye, sixteen years had passed. Under the nurturing and careful guidance of Daoist Profound Spirit, Meng Zhang not only integrated fully into this world known as the Grand Dust World, almost forgetting about life on Earth, but also became a Refining Qi cultivator at the fourth stage.

During Daoist Profound Spirit's lifetime, he had told Meng Zhang more than once that Taiyi Sect, as a small sect, could not accommodate a genius like him. With his top-grade spiritual roots, even the major sects with Gold Core Daoist Masters would compete for him. If he joined any of them, he would undoubtedly receive treatment far superior to that of an Inner-Sect Disciple.

These major sects would offer him advanced cultivation techniques and abundant resources for practice. With his talent and efforts, Meng Zhang might have already reached the completion stage of the Refining Qi period. However, due to his sentimental attachment to Taiyi Sect and his wish to revitalize it, Meng Zhang remained there, unable to spread his wings and temporarily lying low like a hidden eagle.

Suddenly, a harsh argument could be heard from outside the main hall, getting closer and closer. Meng Zhang's serene expression turned into a displeased one as his thoughts were interrupted.

The heavy doors of the main hall were forcefully pushed open, and two figures walked in without hesitation. The leader was a burly man in his thirties, with a square face, thick beard, and a rough demeanor. Following behind him was an old man with a goatee, whose face bore a sinister look. His two small, cunning eyes revealed a complexity of thoughts.

Although Meng Zhang had instructed the disciples not to disturb him while he paid respects to the deceased Sect Master, these two annoying individuals clearly ignored his words and barged in.

Suppressing his displeasure due to their identities, Meng Zhang greeted them politely yet distantly, "Zhen Ling (True Spirit) Senior Brother, Fang Meng Senior Brother, what brings you here in such haste?"

Seeing Meng Zhang sitting motionless on the cushion, exuding the aura of a Sect Master, Fang Meng, the burly man and Daoist Profound Spirit's eldest disciple, wore an unhappy expression and said bluntly, "Meng Zhang, although our Taiyi Sect has fallen, we are still a reputable orthodox sect, respecting seniority and distinctions of rank. As your senior brother and a disciple of the master, it's inappropriate for you, his junior disciple, to inherit the position of Taiyi Sect Master. It's hard for others to accept. For your own good and the future of Taiyi Sect, I suggest you step down as Sect Master."

Facing this open confrontation, anger surged within Meng Zhang. However, considering Fang Meng's rough nature, he chose not to engage in an argument.

A little over a month ago, Meng Zhang's mentor and the former Taiyi Sect Master, Daoist Profound Spirit, was summoned by Twin Success Valley to join the crusade against a group of marauding sand monsters. Two days ago, a messenger from Twin Success Valley arrived at Taiyi Sect with the news of Daoist Profound Spirit's death.

In accordance with Daoist Profound Spirit's will, witnessed by the Twin Success Valley's messenger, Meng Zhang, as the last disciple of Daoist Profound Spirit, inherited the position of Taiyi Sect Master. While the messenger was present, no one in the sect opposed Meng Zhang becoming the Sect Master, nor did anyone dare to cause trouble. However, once the messenger left, different voices emerged within the sect.

Fang Meng, as Daoist Profound Spirit's first disciple, had always seen himself as the legitimate heir of Daoist Profound Spirit. In his view, after Daoist Profound Spirit's death, he should rightfully become the Taiyi Sect Master. He couldn't understand how this junior disciple, who usually remained inconspicuous, had somehow managed to confuse their master and take over the position of Sect Master.

"Biting Dog Does Not Bark," Fang Meng cursed inwardly. Seeing Meng Zhang's unyielding expression, he felt that his demands were being disregarded and grew angry.

"Meng Zhang, what kind of virtue and ability do you have to steal the position of Taiyi Sect Master? Master must have been confused in his final moments to hand over the position to you."

"You won't be able to hold on to the position of Taiyi Sect Master. Junior Brother, hand over the position, and when I become the Sect Master, I won't treat you badly," Fang Meng said, softening his tone slightly.

"What a brainless fool, he doesn't even know when he's being used as a tool," Meng Zhang cursed in his heart. However, he couldn't be bothered to argue with Fang Meng and simply responded coldly, "Senior Brother, the position of Taiyi Sect Master that I inherited has the witness of the Twin Success Valley messenger. If you have ulterior motives and want to vie for the position, are you defying Twin Success Valley or opposing them?"

Twin Success Valley was the ruler of the surrounding region, with numerous cultivators and several Foundation Building stage practitioners under its command. Taiyi Sect, with only about ten disciples and lacking even a Refining Qi stage cultivator, was nothing more than an ant in the face of Twin Success Valley.

Even if Fang Meng had ten times more courage, he wouldn't dare to oppose Twin Success Valley. Of course, although Fang Meng had a bad temper, he wasn't foolish. He knew that Meng Zhang was using Twin Success Valley to suppress him.

Twin Success Valley had brought back Daoist Profound Spirit's will and promised to honor it, which was already an act of benevolence. As for the future of Taiyi Sect, Twin Success Valley probably wouldn't bother much. After all, small vassal sects like Taiyi Sect were numerous within Twin Success Valley's territory, and Twin Success Valley didn't have the energy to oversee them all. As long as Taiyi Sect does not rebel and ensures the annual tributes are paid in full, Twin Success Valley is unlikely to interfere in the internal affairs of Taiyi Sect. However, Twin Success Valley's reputation is formidable, which makes Fang Meng somewhat cautious. Besides, Fang Meng still possesses some conscience and is not willing to engage in infighting with his fellow sect members.

Seeing Meng Zhang's firm determination and unwillingness to compromise, it became evident that he had made up his mind to become the Taiyi Sect's Sect Master. Fang Meng decided not to entangle himself further and reached a similar decision.

"Junior Brother, with your abilities, it's unlikely that Taiyi Sect would have any future under your leadership. I won't vie for the position of Sect Master with you to avoid being accused of bullying a junior disciple like you," Fang Meng said.

"From now on, I, Fang Meng, withdraw from Taiyi Sect and will have nothing to do with it anymore. Junior Brother, take care of yourself in the future," he added before leaving.

Although Fang Meng's words sounded righteous, in reality, he didn't have the confidence to defeat Meng Zhang. Despite having practiced for more years, Fang Meng was only at the fourth stage of the Refining Qi cultivation base, whereas Meng Zhang, who was just sixteen, had reached the same stage. Moreover, Meng Zhang cultivated the more profound "Lesser Yang Qi Art" in Taiyi Sect, which had more combat power than Fang Meng's "Yellow Sand Technique."

Fang Meng didn't have the certainty to defeat Meng Zhang, and being the senior brother, he couldn't suppress Meng Zhang either. Being hot-headed and unwilling to be under someone else, Fang Meng chose to leave Taiyi Sect.

Meng Zhang didn't want to argue with someone like Fang Meng, and he didn't bother to stop him either. It was better for everyone to part on good terms rather than harm each other within the same sect.

After Fang Meng left the hall, Meng Zhang turned his attention to Daoist True Spirit. Compared to the straightforward and impulsive Fang Meng, Daoist True Spirit, the old fox, was the real trouble.

Before his mentor Daoist Profound Spirit passed away, Daoist True Spirit had been a restless figure, often creating trouble and engaging in covert conflicts within Taiyi Sect to vie for power and resources. Although Daoist True Spirit was only at the fifth stage of the Refining Qi cultivation base, his strength was far inferior to Daoist Profound Spirit at the sixth stage. However, with his cunning schemes and underhanded methods, Daoist True Spirit had indeed caused a lot of trouble for Daoist Profound Spirit. During Daoist Profound Spirit's lifetime, Daoist True Spirit had some restraint and didn't go too far. But now, with Daoist Profound Spirit gone, Daoist True Spirit immediately emerged and started stirring up trouble.

Although Meng Zhang usually kept quiet and didn't interact much with others in the sect, he was not a fool; he observed everything silently. He could see through Daoist True Spirit's machinations and understood that Fang Meng's aggressive behavior today must have been instigated by Daoist True Spirit.

Since Meng Zhang had already seen through Daoist True Spirit's true nature, he didn't want to engage in any pretense with him and directly asked, "Master Uncle, what brings you here?"

Seeing Fang Meng angrily leaving Taiyi Sect, Daoist True Spirit felt secretly delighted. However, on the surface, he put on a sorrowful expression.

"Why has it come to this? Why has it come to this? We are all fellow sect members. There shouldn't be any insurmountable issues between us," he sighed for a long time before saying to Meng Zhang, "Meng Zhang, although Fang Meng acted impulsively today, it is true that Taiyi Sect has not treated you well."

To protect Meng Zhang, Daoist Profound Spirit had not revealed to the others that Meng Zhang had top-grade spiritual roots. The others in the sect only knew that Meng Zhang had excellent spiritual roots, likely middle-grade.

In reality, even middle-grade spiritual roots were considered very good in the area around Twin Success Valley. In Taiyi Sect, the disciples' spiritual roots were generally nothing special, and among the bottom-grade spiritual roots, they were considered mediocre.

"Meng Zhang, with your spiritual root talent, you indeed deserve a better future. Senior An, who passed by Taiyi Sect last year, was very impressed with you."

Daoist True Spirit referred to the famous An Family's Patriarch, An Lei. Last year, when An Lei passed by Taiyi Sect, he unintentionally discovered Meng Zhang's talents. Although he hadn't recognized Meng Zhang's top-grade spiritual roots, Meng Zhang's displayed potential had already won An Lei's affection.

An Lei immediately declared in front of everyone at Taiyi Sect that he wanted to bring Meng Zhang back to An Family and make him his personal disciple. He even offered to betroth his beloved daughter to Meng Zhang, making him a core disciple of An Family.

Meng Zhang's encounter was a cause of envy for many in Taiyi Sect. It was an extraordinary opportunity to gain both personal and material benefits.

It's important to note that An Family, in the east, had several Foundation Building stage cultivators and was a large cultivation family of the same level as Twin Success Valley.

For a small sect like Taiyi Sect to send an outstanding disciple to a powerful force like An Family was a very common practice in the entire Cultivation World.

However, to everyone's surprise, Meng Zhang voluntarily gave up this heaven-sent opportunity and declined An Lei's invitation, insisting on staying in Taiyi Sect.

Fortunately, An Lei was magnanimous and didn't get angry at Meng Zhang's refusal. Instead, he left behind a message that if Meng Zhang ever changed his mind, An Family would welcome him anytime.

After An Lei left, many in Taiyi Sect mocked Meng Zhang for being a fool to let go of such a great opportunity. Nevertheless, Meng Zhang's loyalty to the sect and his affection for Daoist Profound Spirit were observed by a mysterious presence.

"Meng Zhang, you gave up many opportunities for the sake of your relationship with Senior Xuan Ling. Now that Senior Xuan Ling is gone, Taiyi Sect should no longer hold you back. With your talent and potential, you deserve a better future."

"With your potential, you would have soared to the sky in a better environment. It was Taiyi Sect that held you back," Daoist True Spirit said, pretending to be entirely concerned about Meng Zhang.

Meng Zhang inwardly sneered at Daoist True Spirit's sweet talk. He saw through Daoist True Spirit's schemes and simply stated his determination.

"Since my master entrusted me with the position of Taiyi Sect Master, I will be responsible for Taiyi Sect. Unless I die, I will never give up the position of Taiyi Sect Master."

After speaking, Meng Zhang fell silent and no longer paid attention to whatever Daoist True Spirit said. Despite Daoist True Spirit's attempts to persuade him, Meng Zhang remained unmoved.

Seeing that Meng Zhang wasn't moved by his words, Daoist True Spirit reluctantly left, but not before he secretly plotted his own plans for Taiyi Sect.

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Chapter 2: Sect Master record book

As soon as Daoist True Spirit left the hall, the fake smile on his face disappeared instantly. "This ignorant fool! Don't blame me for disregarding the camaraderie among sect members," he muttered to himself.

At this moment, a young disciple hurriedly ran over from a distance. "Master, Zhang Brothers have already been contacted..."

"Shut up, you idiot!" Daoist True Spirit scolded fiercely.

Startled by Daoist True Spirit's reaction, the young disciple dared not speak further and cautiously followed behind him as they headed towards Daoist True Spirit's residence. Once inside his room and after securing the door, Daoist True Spirit finally spoke about the real matter.

"Now, tell me every detail of how you contacted Zhang Brothers, leaving nothing concealed," he commanded.

While Daoist True Spirit and his disciple, Li Jie, were secretly plotting their grand scheme, chaos erupted again within Taiyi Sect.

As a senior disciple of Taiyi Sect, Fang Meng was also a decisive and quick-tempered individual. After parting ways with Meng Zhang, he quickly made some preparations and intended to leave Taiyi Sect with a few junior disciples.

Though Fang Meng had a somewhat bad temper, he held a certain degree of authority in the sect as the eldest senior brother. Additionally, he was well-liked by many due to his bold and chivalrous nature.

Before leaving, Fang Meng and his junior disciples stole a considerable amount of wealth from Taiyi Sect. However, aware of Meng Zhang's control over the sect's protective array, Fang Meng didn't dare to be too audacious. After hastily looting the resources, he swiftly departed from Taiyi Sect without lingering.

Not long after Fang Meng left with his followers, the main hall where Meng Zhang resided welcomed two other hurried guests.

They were Clear Spirit Daoist and another senior disciple of Xuan Ling Daoist, who cultivated the "Longevity Decision" and had reached the fifth stage of Qi Refinement. He was the most skilled alchemist in Taiyi Sect, in charge of the sect's most valuable asset—the 19-acre spiritual field.

Clear Spirit Daoist had a peaceful disposition and rarely involved himself in other sect matters. He devoted all his energy, even his life, to managing the spiritual field.

He was like a genuine old yellow cow—a crucial pillar of Taiyi Sect. With no other industries, the main source of income for Taiyi Sect depended on the carefully tended spiritual field managed by Clear Spirit Daoist. Every year, the offerings to Twin Success Valley and the cultivation resources for the sect's disciples relied heavily on Clear Spirit Daoist's efforts.

As the sect's leader, Meng Zhang held great respect and admiration for Clear Spirit Daoist, who was diligent and selfless for the greater good.

"Senior Clear Spirit, don't worry. As long as I'm here, Taiyi Sect won't collapse. If Senior Brother Fang Meng is unwilling to be under someone else's rule and wants to leave with his followers, it's his freedom," Meng Zhang gently reassured Clear Spirit Daoist.

Upon hearing the news of Fang Meng's departure, Clear Spirit Daoist, who usually didn't concern himself with external affairs, couldn't sit still. He rushed to the main hall to seek advice from Meng Zhang.

Another guest in the main hall was a young scholar in his twenties, Meng Zhang's senior disciple named Tian Zhen.

Unlike the first senior brother, Fang Meng, Tian Zhen held Meng Zhang in high regard and was his staunch supporter within Taiyi Sect.

In Tian Zhen's heart, Meng Zhang was the undisputed candidate to inherit the position of Taiyi Sect's leader and the only person capable of reviving the sect. He unconditionally supported all of Meng Zhang's decisions.

Therefore, when Tian Zhen, who had heard about Fang Meng's departure, came to seek advice from Meng Zhang, he immediately assisted Meng Zhang in calming down Daoist Clear Spirit.

"Senior Clear Spirit, there's no need to worry. Everyone has their own aspirations, and if Senior Brother Fang wants to leave, no one can stop him. Now that Junior Brother Meng has inherited the position of Sect Master, Taiyi Sect will surely flourish under his leadership." Although Daoist Clear Spirit was not as devoted to Meng Zhang as Tian Zhen, his kind-hearted nature prevented him from directly refuting his junior disciple.

Despite being anxious, after being comforted by Meng Zhang, Daoist Clear Spirit voluntarily left the main hall, constantly muttering to himself, "It's the critical time for the spirit field now, so I should go take care of it. I believe Sect Master can handle all the affairs in the sect."

After Daoist Clear Spirit left, Tian Zhen reported to Meng Zhang, "Sect Master, Fang Meng and his followers took away some superficial wealth. The most important resources of the sect are stored in the sect's main treasury."

"The main treasury is under my personal guard, and no one can approach it without your orders," he assured Meng Zhang.

Meng Zhang valued his loyal supporter greatly, and after explaining a few things to Tian Zhen, he dismissed him. Since becoming the Sect Master of Taiyi Sect, Meng Zhang had entrusted the management of various affairs to Tian Zhen.

Sitting in the main hall, Meng Zhang realized that after Fang Meng's departure, there were not many people left in Taiyi Sect. Daoist Clear Spirit and his two disciples, together with Tian Zhen and himself, amounted to only five people. Even if Daoist True Spirit and his disciple Li Jie were added, they could barely make up two tables of mahjong.

Well, having fewer people to manage would save him some trouble, Meng Zhang thought to himself.

After a while, he took out a thin booklet from his bosom. The cover of the booklet was ink-black, with five golden characters engraved on it: "Sect Master's Chronicle."

This thin booklet was, in fact, a magic tool passed down among the successive Sect Masters of Taiyi Sect. Before being summoned by Huangsha City, the former Sect Master, Daoist Profound Spirit, handed this book to Meng Zhang for safekeeping. Now that Meng Zhang had become the new Sect Master of Taiyi Sect, he naturally inherited this book, which could only be guarded by the Sect Master.

As a disciple of the former Sect Master, Meng Zhang had seen the old Sect Master use this booklet multiple times. His old Sect Master, who had long regarded him as the future Sect Master of Taiyi Sect, never avoided using this booklet in front of him.

Although he had never read the contents inside, Meng Zhang knew how to use the booklet. He opened the cover, revealing a blank page. He infused his true qi, and lines of text immediately appeared on the page.

After a short while, Meng Zhang understood how this booklet worked. Its usage was somewhat similar to an e-book from his past life. By inputting true qi, he could access the content inside and even write on it using true qi.

The successive Sect Masters of Taiyi Sect had treated this booklet as a diary, recording their experiences and observations inside. Though it appeared to have only thin pages, the content inside was vast, amounting to millions of words.

Night had fallen, and there were no other pressing matters today. So, Meng Zhang began to slowly read the contents inside the booklet.

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