

Sect Master 351

Chapter 351: Recruits the dependency

The Taiyi Sect's increasingly developed livestock industry brought great benefits to the sect.

After all, demon beasts were demon beasts. Even the lowest level demon beasts had some value for their blood, flesh, and fur. And the demon beasts that the Taiyi Sect raised were carefully selected. They were easy to raise, had a wide range of uses, and had high cost-effectiveness.

Meng Zhang's decision to hold a grand feast and entertain the guests was not because he had too many spirit stones and nowhere to burn them. It was made after careful consideration.

In the past, the Taiyi Sect had a low profile and Meng Zhang was not a flamboyant person.

When one's personal strength and the sect's overall strength were not good, one could only bide their time and not act recklessly.

But now, such a style of conduct was no longer suitable for the Taiyi Sect.

After several bloody battles, the Taiyi Sect had established its reputation and its current status. If it were to remain as low-key as before, it would only be looked down upon.

This time, the black market sent people to kidnap An Xiaoran. Although a large part of it was White Dove's personal reasons, the Taiyi Sect's lack of deterrence was also a major factor.

If it were the Twin Success Valley of the past, or the Earthfire Sect of today, the black market would probably have given it a second thought before acting. The Taiyi Sect's reputation was far-reaching, but its conduct was too introverted and low-key. It did not match its reputation.

Of course, this was just Meng Zhang's own opinion. It was unknown whether it was true or not.

Meng Zhang wanted to use this opportunity of the Hu Jing Foundation Buildingdharma meeting to make a grand show of the Taiyi Sect's strength and show off its muscles to the outside world.

Showing off muscles was not only about showing off the Taiyi Sect's fighting strength. The sect's management skills, financial resources, and even its connections were important aspects.

In fact, Meng Zhang's actions this time had a quick effect.

The Land Walk Sect sent a messenger to visit, which was a good example.

The Land Walk Sect and the Earthfire Sect were always at odds with each other. After the last dispute, their relationship was extremely tense. They were only a step away from open war.

The Land Walk Sect was much weaker than the Earthfire Sect, but it dared to confront the Earthfire Sect head-on. It must have been instructed by the Flying Swan Sect.

Of course, the Flying Swan Sect, as the ruler of the Endless Sea of Sand, would not openly intervene in this kind of conflict, lest it damage its image of neutrality and fairness.

The Taiyi Sect, Qiaoshou Sect, and Earthfire Sect were also not on good terms. When the Forest Spring Watch was destroyed, they almost went to war.

This time, the Land Walk Sect sent a messenger to attend the Foundation Building dharma meeting. It wanted to take the opportunity to meet with the Taiyi Sect and Qiaoshou Sect's top leaders. Even if they could not form an alliance, they should have some tacit understanding in dealing with the Earthfire Sect.

Meng Zhang and Aunt Jin both met with the Land Walk Sect's messenger. They reached an agreement on many things. Meng Zhang even made it clear that if the Earthfire Sect and the Land Walk Sect went to war, the Taiyi Sect would definitely not sit idly by.

Aunt Jin expressed the same meaning as Meng Zhang and also encouraged the Land Walk Sect. They must not retreat when facing the Earthfire Sect.

Although it was just some worthless verbal promises, the first contact had such a result. It was already very good. The Land Walk Sect's messenger was very satisfied with it.

The Land Walk Sect, the Taiyi Sect, and the Qiaoshou Sect gradually formed an invisible encirclement around the Earthfire Sect. Meng Zhang originally worried that Taiyi Sect would be wary or even oppressed by Flying Swan Sect after it rose to prominence.

But after a series of recent events, he has come to understand many things.

Twin Success Valley was once known for having ten Foundation Building cultivators, including some in the late stage of Foundation Building.

The current Taiyi Sect has a larger territory than Twin Success Valley, but only six Foundation Building cultivators. The number of Qi Refining cultivators is even more disparate.

Taiyi Sect is far from being a threat to Flying Swan Sect with its current strength.

In addition, Meng Zhang even felt that Flying Swan Sect seemed to be planning something big. Taiyi Sect still has some value to Flying Swan Sect.

At least for now, the stronger Taiyi Sect is, the more valuable it is to Flying Swan Sect. Anyway, no matter how powerful Taiyi Sect is,

As long as it does not have a Golden Core Daoist Master, it will not be able to escape Flying Swan Sect's grasp. At the Foundation Building Dharma Assembly in Hu Jing, Meng Zhang also announced that three more small families had joined Taiyi Sect as its vassals.

There are many spirit veins in Taiyi Sect's territory, but the territory is too large and the manpower is too limited. Some places that are too remote are simply too difficult to manage.

Especially some of the more barren spirit veins that do not produce much, they are even more useless to Taiyi Sect.

This time, Meng Zhang chose three spirit veins to house the vassal families.

These three small families were either families that had moved from other places or recently established families by loose cultivators.

These three small families had few members and were of average strength. Having a First Rank spirit vein as the foundation of their family was enough for them.

Meng Zhang also formulated laws for these vassal families to govern them.

The relationship between Taiyi Sect and these small families is similar to that between Flying Swan Sect and its vassal families.

These vassal families regularly pay a certain amount of tribute to Taiyi Sect for the management of their territory. At the same time, they also receive Taiyi Sect's protection.

These vassal families can only recruit cultivators of the same surname and cannot arbitrarily recruit cultivators of other surnames. Of course, special cases such as marriage and adoption are not subject to this restriction.

The family's outstanding disciples are first to join Taiyi Sect and become Taiyi Sect disciples.

In front of the many guests, after a brief but solemn ceremony, the three small families officially became Taiyi Sect's vassals.

In addition to the original vassal family, Shi Family, Taiyi Sect now has four vassal families.

With its own strong strength, an ally in Qiaoshou Sect, and four vassal families, Taiyi Sect finally looks like a regional hegemon.

As long as Taiyi Sect continues to develop in this way, it will not be difficult to become another Twin Success Valley sect.

Of course, for Meng Zhang, becoming another Twin Success Valley is not his goal.

The grand Foundation Building Dharma Assembly in Hu Jing ended in a flurry of excitement. The flowing banquet in Singing Sand City also ended with many cultivators reluctant to leave.

The one who felt the most uncomfortable after Taiyi Sect's display of strength was its neighbor, Earthfire Sect.

The news of the Land Walk Sect envoys visiting Taiyi Sect was no secret. Although it is not known what agreement the Land Walk Sect and Taiyi Sect reached, based on the relationship between these surrounding sects, this is definitely not a good thing for Earthfire Sect.

After Shangguan Longyan was assassinated, the person who took over as the Sect Master of Earthfire Sect was a Foundation Building mid-stage cultivator named Liang Feng.

Speaking of which, Liang Feng was Shangguan Longyan's senior brother, and his personal strength and prestige in the sect were actually stronger than Shangguan Longyan's.

Back then, Shangguan Longyan had the strong support of the Elder of the Fiery Flames, which allowed him to surpass Liang Feng and become the Sect Master of Earthfire Sect.

Chapter 352: New Sect Master

The Great Elder of the Earthfire Sect is not only the Sect's strongest cultivator, but also has an extremely high status within the sect. With the support of the Great Elder, Shangguan Longyan successfully became the Sect Master, and quickly took a firm hold of the position.

Liang Feng was dissatisfied with this, but there was nothing he could do.

Liang Feng looked down on Shangguan Longyan. He felt that Shangguan Longyan was too weak, and was not suitable to be the Sect Master of a sect like the Earthfire Sect.

It was the nature of cultivators of the Earthfire Sect to be brave, diligent, and fearless.

Within the Earthfire Sect, Liang Feng and his supporters were always the most vocal opponents. They intentionally contradicted Shangguan Longyan on many issues.

The Great Elder of the Earthfire Sect, for whatever reason, allowed this situation to develop without interfering.

After the Great Elder became the Sect Master, his strength and status within the sect reached their peak.

Shangguan Longyan took advantage of the Great Elder's prestige to strengthen his own power.

Liang Feng and his supporters were unable to resist, and were kicked out of the sect's upper echelons and sent far away.

The Great Elder had been gone for a long time, and Shangguan Longyan had been assassinated in the Firewell Market. Liang Feng took the opportunity to return to the sect's core, and with the secret support of the Fire Cloud Sect, became the new Sect Master of the Earthfire Sect.

After Liang Feng took over as Sect Master of the Earthfire Sect, he abandoned the cautious and prudent style of Shangguan Longyan, and became more arrogant and domineering.

Under the pretext of hunting down the assassin who killed Shangguan Longyan, Liang Feng caused a lot of trouble in the Firewell Market and its surroundings, causing a lot of chaos.

If it hadn't been for the Flying Swan Sect sending an envoy to chastise him, who knows what kind of trouble the Earthfire Sect would have caused.

Liang Feng's seemingly reckless and brainless style of doing things was very much to the taste of the elders in the sect, and his support within the sect increased greatly.

Perhaps encouraged by something, Liang Feng became even more aggressive towards outsiders.

The Land Walk Sect had always been at odds with the Earthfire Sect, and there had been many conflicts between the two sects.

After Liang Feng became the Sect Master of the Earthfire Sect, he changed Shangguan Longyan's policy of appeasement and instead took the initiative to attack and provoke others.

For a time, there were constant conflicts and skirmishes on the border between the Earthfire Sect and the Land Walk Sect. The cultivators of the two sects had already engaged in several small-scale fights, and some casualties had occurred.

The Land Walk Sect did not back down, and instead strengthened their forces on the border. They also sent people to contact the Taiyi Sect and the Qiaoshou Sect, hoping that the three sects could work together to suppress the Earthfire Sect.

After Liang Feng took over as Sect Master of the Earthfire Sect, his attitude towards the Taiyi Sect and the Qiaoshou Sect was not friendly.

The merchant caravans sent by the Taiyi Sect and the Qiaoshou Sect to the Firewell Market were often deliberately harassed by the Earthfire Sect.

If it hadn't been for the Flying Swan Sect's attitude, and the fact that they didn't want the business environment in the Firewell Market to be affected too much, the Earthfire Sect would probably have banned the merchant caravans of the Taiyi Sect and the Qiaoshou Sect from entering the Firewell Market.

It's worth mentioning that the Taiyi Sect has carefully laid out a network of routes throughout the surrounding area, and their flying boats can already travel to the more distant Flying Swan City, but they have never been able to enter the Firewell Market, which is closer to them.

Due to the various exclusionary measures of the Earthfire Sect, the merchant caravans of the Taiyi Sect and the Qiaoshou Sect could only use land transportation, and had to go through a lot of trouble to enter the Firewell Market.

Of course, the Taiyi Sect and the Qiaoshou Sect would not ignore the Earthfire Sect's unfriendly actions.

After the Land Walk Sect's envoy came to them, the three sects did not formally form an alliance, but they did agree to work together to suppress the Earthfire Sect. The three sects did not join forces to attack Earthfire Sect for the same reason, which was their concern about Flying Swan Sect's attitude. Land Walk Sect and Earthfire Sect were in constant conflict at their border, but they never had a full-scale war.

Small conflicts between cultivation sects are common, and the death of a few cultivators is a daily occurrence. As long as the two sides did not engage in a full-scale war, Flying Swan Sect would not intervene.

As time went by, the state of affairs between Earthfire Sect and Land Walk Sect became normal.

On this day, in an Earthfire Sect secret room, the new Sect Master of Earthfire Sect, Liang Feng, was having a private conversation with two cultivators. The two cultivators were brothers, who called themselves Liu Sen and Liu Lin. Whether or not these were their real names was unknown.

After Liang Feng took over as Sect Master of Earthfire Sect, he recruited these two cultivators into the sect and made them guest elders of Earthfire Sect.

According to Liang Feng's explanation to his fellow disciples, the Liu brothers were originally cultivators from Great Wind City, but because they had offended the local cultivation families, they could no longer stay in Great Wind City. They had no choice but to leave their hometown and make a living in the Endless Sea of Sand.

Liang Feng and the Liu brothers hit it off right away, and they became close friends, sharing many hardships together.

The Liu brothers joined Earthfire Sect, which strengthened the sect's strength, and they also found a place to stay.

The two brothers were both at the late Foundation Building stage of cultivation. After joining the sect, they quickly became Liang Feng's loyal supporters, helping him to quickly take control of the entire Earthfire Sect.

"Sect Master, you must keep your promise." Liu Sen said.

In private, when there was no one else around, the two brothers were not very respectful to Liang Feng, the Sect Master. They had a condescending air about them.

Liang Feng glanced at Liu Sen unhappily, but did not respond to him.

"Sect Master, the benefits from Fire Cloud Sect are not easy to get. If you take the benefits and do not do anything, that is absolutely impossible." Liu Lin said in a sinister voice.

"Who said that I took the benefits and did not do anything? I will naturally do what I promised." Liang Feng hurriedly defended himself.

He did not want to give Fire Cloud Sect that impression.

When Shangguan Longyan was still the Sect Master of Earthfire Sect, Great Elder Lie Yan discovered that he had a faint sense of resistance to Fire Cloud Sect.

So, Great Elder Lie Yan handed over some of the matters related to Fire Cloud Sect to Liang Feng to handle.

Over time, Liang Feng and Fire Cloud Sect became familiar with each other.

This time, after Shangguan Longyan was assassinated, Liang Feng was able to successfully succeed as Sect Master of Earthfire Sect, thanks to the support of Fire Cloud Sect.

Of course, the identities of the Liu brothers were not as simple as they claimed to be, just loose cultivators from Great Wind City. Their other identity was that they were the military inspectors sent by Fire Cloud Sect to Earthfire Sect.

These two brothers were the secret forces cultivated by Fire Cloud Sect, and even most people in Fire Cloud Sect did not know about them.

As the secret pawns of the upper echelons of Fire Cloud Sect, they were sent to a Foundation Building small sect like Earthfire Sect, so they naturally had a heavy responsibility.

Their mission was to ensure that Earthfire Sect always stood on the side of Fire Cloud Sect and could provide various assistance to Fire Cloud Sect's invasion of the Endless Sea of Sand.

The Great Elder Lie Yan of Earthfire Sect had been missing for a long time, and Fire Cloud Sect was getting anxious.

According to their original agreement, the time for the plan to be launched was approaching. Fire Cloud Sect's plan still required the participation of Great Elder Lie Yan.

The Liu brothers' most urgent task now was to find out where Great Elder Lie Yan was.

Chapter 353: Force

It has been over ten years since Flying Swan Sect announced that the Blazing Elder and the others were trapped in Demon Wind Gobi.

Flying Swan Sect has been talking about organizing a rescue mission, but there has been no progress.

For Gold Core Cultivators, ten years is just a short period of time. Three Gold Core Cultivators being trapped for ten years is not a long time.

But Fire Cloud Sect is starting to get impatient.

Especially since Flying Swan Sect said that Demon Wind Gobi was acting strangely and that the demons inside were going to invade Endless Sea of Sand. But it has been so long and no large groups of demons have come out.

This has caused Fire Cloud Sect to doubt Flying Swan Sect's statements.

Fire Cloud Sect also secretly sent out Gold Core Cultivators to sneak into Demon Wind Gobi and try to find the Blazing Elder and the others.

But Demon Wind Gobi is vast and endless. Outsiders who are not familiar with the situation will not be able to find their target.

In addition, there are many demons in Demon Wind Gobi, including Third Rank demons.

The Gold Core Cultivators sent out by Fire Cloud Sect have encountered Third Rank demons and had a fierce conflict.

Even the warlike Gold Core Cultivators of Fire Cloud Sect are not very willing to participate in such meaningless battles.

Sure enough, the Gold Core Cultivators of Fire Cloud Sect did not find the Blazing Elder and the others in Demon Wind Gobi, but they did find a large number of demons gathering in Demon Wind Gobi.

Large groups of demons from different clans, led by their respective leaders, began to slowly migrate towards Flying Swan Sect's territory.

The discovery of the Gold Core Cultivators of Fire Cloud Sect seemed to verify Flying Swan Sect's statements.

At least on the issue of the demons about to launch a large-scale invasion, Flying Swan Sect did not lie.

As for why the demons have not launched their attack yet, there is an explanation.

Third Rank demons are not less intelligent than humans, so of course they must make sufficient preparations and find the right time to launch a fierce attack.

Given the demons' much longer lifespan than humans, spending 10-20 years preparing for war is really not a long time.

After receiving this information, some disputes arose within Fire Cloud Sect.

Most cultivators believe that they should take advantage of the fact that Flying Swan Sect is busy dealing with the demon invasion to launch a sneak attack from behind.

But there are also some cultivators who believe that Flying Swan Sect and Fire Cloud Sect are both Human Clan sects, and that Fire Cloud Sect is attacking at this time, which is tantamount to borrowing the power of demons.

Of course, the disputes within Fire Cloud Sect were not particularly intense, and the voices calling for revenge against Flying Swan Sect as soon as possible dominated.

Those who felt that it was not good to launch a sneak attack on Flying Swan Sect at this time were not doing so for lofty reasons such as Human Clan justice, but because they were worried that it would give other sects a pretext.

Fire Cloud Sect is not without enemies in Jiuqu League.

However, the top of Jiuqu League is suppressed by Primordial Spirit True Monarch, so even if these sects have major conflicts, they will not openly go to war.

Since Fire Cloud Sect wants to take action as soon as possible, the first thing to do is to quickly confirm the condition of Blazing Elder.

Others do not know Blazing Elder's condition, but Flying Swan Sect definitely knows.

If Earthfire Sect starts a war at this time and creates chaos in Endless Sea of Sand, then Flying Swan Sect's attitude towards Earthfire Sect will give us a rough idea of Blazing Elder's condition.

If Blazing Elder is in good condition, and is only temporarily trapped, then even if Flying Swan Sect is unhappy with Earthfire Sect, it will not take harsh measures against Earthfire Sect. However, if the Roaring Blaze Daoist Master had an accident in the Demon Wind Desert, the Flying Swan Sect would not show mercy to the Earthfire Sect.

Therefore, the Fire Cloud Sect secretly supported Liang Feng to become the new Sect Master of the Earthfire Sect, and sent the Liu Family brothers to assist Liang Feng in the Earthfire Sect, and at the same time, urged Liang Feng to follow the orders of the Fire Cloud Sect.

After becoming the Sect Master of the Earthfire Sect, Liang Feng was not very willing to follow the Fire Cloud Sect's plan.

Making enemies everywhere and rashly starting a war was not in the best interests of the Earthfire Sect. Now that he had become the Sect Master of the Earthfire Sect, he naturally had to consider the future of the sect.

In his opinion, the best time for the Earthfire Sect to act was after the Fire Cloud Sect had attacked the Flying Swan Sect. However, he could not make the decision on this major matter.

The Liu Family brothers had already urged Liang Feng several times, but Liang Feng had always been able to find excuses to shirk.

Today, the Liu Family brothers did not let Liang Feng slip away, nor did they listen to his explanation.

"Sect Master, the sect has already sent the final warning. At the latest, you must take action before the end of the year."

"If you continue to shirk at that time, you will have to immediately return all the benefits you have received. The entire Earthfire Sect will have to pay a sufficient price."

Liu Sen issued an ultimatum, and after he finished speaking, he did not wait for Liang Feng to reply before taking Liu Lin away.

The two brothers were so rude, but Liang Feng did not react at all.

He sighed helplessly. This is really easy to get on the boat, but difficult to get off.

A Gold Core Sect like the Fire Cloud Sect is not something that the Earthfire Sect can refuse.

In the past, Liang Feng had taken advantage of various excuses to obtain too many benefits from the Fire Cloud Sect.

The Fire Cloud Sect provided two bottles of pills to improve Liang Feng's cultivation base.

Just last month, Liang Feng completely refined the medicinal power and broke through his cultivation base to the Foundation Building late stage.

Of course, he would never have the chance to advance to the Gold Core Stage in the future by using this method to forcefully break through. Furthermore, the Fire Cloud Sect also provided two groups of strange fire.

Two Qi Refining Completion disciples of the Earthfire Sect went into seclusion and successfully broke through to the Foundation Building Stage after refining the strange fire.

With the addition of the Liu Family brothers, the Earthfire Sect now had as many Foundation Building cultivators as the Twin Success Valley in the past.

As for the various war supplies that the Fire Cloud Sect had secretly provided, there were even more.

Liang Feng secretly calculated that the Earthfire Sect's strength was far greater than that of the Land Walk Sect. If it was only dealing with the Land Walk Sect alone, there would be no problem.

If Taiyi Sect and Qiaoshou Sect intervened, then the outcome would be uncertain. If the Flying Swan Sect interfered, then the consequences would be disastrous.

Liang Feng had thought about it many times. The only way for the Earthfire Sect to win was to launch a surprise attack and defeat the Land Walk Sect as quickly as possible before the outside world could interfere.

As for what the Flying Swan Sect would do after defeating the Land Walk Sect, it was not something that Liang Feng could control. After all, he had already acted according to the orders of the Fire Cloud Sect. The Fire Cloud Sect would not just stand by and watch as the Earthfire Sect was destroyed by the Flying Swan Sect.

Liang Feng, who had had many interactions with the Fire Cloud Sect, had a deep understanding of the Fire Cloud Sect's strength. In his opinion, the Fire Cloud Sect was far stronger than the Flying Swan Sect. If the two sides were to go to war, the Fire Cloud Sect would have a greater chance of winning.

That was why he had bet everything on the Fire Cloud Sect and willingly boarded the Fire Cloud Sect's pirate ship.

The Earthfire Sect did not lose out on joining the Fire Cloud Sect. Just the benefits that had already been obtained were already countless. This was not even counting the future benefits.

The Fire Cloud Sect would need a guide when it invaded the Endless Sea of Sand.

The Endless Sea of Sand was so vast. After the Fire Cloud Sect became the master of the Endless Sea of Sand, it would need loyal subordinates to help manage it.

Chapter 354

As Sect Master Liang Feng of the Earthfire Sect was preparing for battle according to his plan, the situation around him was about to change drastically.

The world does not always develop according to his plans. Plans often cannot keep up with changes.

The starting point of the sudden change in the situation came from the Demon Wind Desert.

In the depths of the Demon Wind Desert, where the Flying Swan Sect's Fei Shi Daoist Master was trapped, a fierce battle was about to break out.

Fei Shi Daoist Master had been trapped there for nearly twenty years, and he had never found a way to escape his enemies and escape.

Three Third Rank demonic beasts formed a loose circle, surrounding Fei Shi Daoist Master.

This situation had not changed in all these years.

Although the two sides had not engaged in direct combat, their Divine Sense had locked onto each other, and their auras had already intertwined.

If either side relaxed even a little, the other side would immediately launch a frenzied attack.

"Lion Demon General, Giant Lizard Demon General, Vulture Demon General, you three have trapped me for so many years, but you have not been able to do anything to me. It would be better for us to retreat and meet again next time."

Fei Shi Daoist Master said slowly.

As soon as a demonic beast enters the Third Rank, it is considered to be a great demon, and the Human Clan often refers to it as a Demon General.

The Third Rank low-grade Demon Generals still retain their demonic beast form. After being promoted to the Third Rank middle grade, many demonic beasts can have a half-demon, half-human form.

Apart from the very stupid ones, most Third Rank demonic beasts can understand some human language. Some of the more intelligent ones can even understand human writing.

Hearing Fei Shi Daoist Master's words, the Giant Lizard Demon General, who was still in his giant lizard form, snorted heavily. The Vulture Demon General, who was still in his vulture form, let out a series of mocking sounds.

Only the Lion Demon General, with the head of a lion and the body of a human, remained motionless, his eyes fixed on Fei Shi Daoist Master.

This was not the first time Fei Shi Daoist Master had spoken. Every time he did, he would be met with this kind of unfriendly reaction.

Fei Shi Daoist Master did not mind. He laughed self-deprecatingly and continued to meditate on the spot.

He did not look at all anxious, as if he was not the one who was trapped there.

Fei Shi Daoist Master had suppressed the Demon Wind Desert for many years. The Third Rank demonic beasts inside had been suppressed by him all year round and could not leave the Demon Wind Desert for even a step.

This time, the Lion Demon General had advanced to the Third Rank middle grade demonic beast and had brought two subordinates to suddenly surround Fei Shi Daoist Master, forcing him to stay here.

With Fei Shi Daoist Master gone, the many demonic beasts in the Demon Wind Desert were left without anyone to suppress them. As the demonic beast clans slowly gathered, the demonic beast army's invasion of the Endless Sea of Sand was imminent.

When he was first trapped, Fei Shi Daoist Master was a little anxious. As time went by, he began to calm down and patiently deal with these three Third Rank demonic beasts.

Fei Shi Daoist Master was trapped there and could not leave. The Lion Demon General and the others were also trapped and could not leave easily.

With the current strength of the Flying Swan Sect, it did not fear the invasion of the demonic beast army.

If it were not for the existence of the Fire Cloud Sect, Fei Shi Daoist Master could have continued to confront the other side for dozens or even hundreds of years, and it would not have been a big problem.

Compared to the demonic beasts in the Demon Wind Desert, the Fire Cloud Sect, which was also a Human Clan sect, was the Flying Swan Sect's greatest enemy.

Fei Shi Daoist Master looked relaxed, seemingly unconcerned as he tangled with the three demonic beasts.

Suddenly, he felt a warm current in his arms. A jade pendant that he had kept close to his body was rapidly heating up.

Because of the interception of the enemy in front of him, the transmission swords and transmission spells were difficult to send out, and Fei Shi Daoist Master temporarily lost contact with the Flying Swan Sect. The jade pendant he held in his arms was made with secret techniques and could only transmit simple information, but it was sufficiently discreet and would not be easily intercepted.

Fei Shi Daoist Master and his fellow disciples had a brief communication through this jade pendant.

He knew that the time was coming, so he pretended to be calm and collected, but he began to prepare silently in the dark and was ready to take action at any time.

After a while, there were violent tremors in the distance. Fei Shi Daoist Master knew that it was his fellow disciples taking action.

The three Third Rank demon beasts also sensed something and each looked towards the direction of the tremors. Of course, there were not just three Third Rank demon beasts in Demon Wind Gobi.

While Lion Demon General and the others were holding Fei Shi Daoist Master captive, the other Third Rank demon beasts were summoning the various demon beast clans in preparation for a large-scale invasion of the Endless Sea of Sand.

From the sound of it, there was at least one Third Rank demon beast fighting with the enemy.

Two years ago, a Gold Core Daoist Master from the Fire Cloud Sect had infiltrated Demon Wind Gobi and encountered a Third Rank demon beast.

After a fierce battle, the Gold Core Daoist Master from the Fire Cloud Sect had voluntarily retreated.

The demon beasts were not very clear about the grievances between the human sects. They only knew that there was a Human Clan Gold Core that had entered Demon Wind Gobi, so all Human Clans were enemies.

Lion Demon General had never left this place, but the other demon beasts would occasionally use secret techniques to send him messages to tell him about the important events that had occurred in Demon Wind Gobi.

From the sound of it, the enemy was in a fierce battle. Could it be that the Human Clan that had voluntarily retreated last time had called for reinforcements?

Including Lion Demon General, the three Third Rank demon generals were all stunned for a moment.

Fei Shi Daoist Master, who had been ready to take action, seized this rare opportunity and suddenly launched a surprise attack.

This was the first time the two sides had fought in nearly 20 years, and Fei Shi Daoist Master seized the initiative with his first move.

A small, portable mountain appeared in Fei Shi Daoist Master's hand. After he raised it, it immediately flew into the air and turned into a mountain, pressing down heavily on Lion Demon General.

Lion Demon General immediately felt as if a mountain was pressing down on him. The weight of the mountain made Lion Demon General, who was extremely powerful, feel as if he could not move.

Lion Demon General let out a loud roar and suddenly exerted his strength. He not only held up the mountain, but almost overturned it.

Lion Demon General had only recently advanced to Third Rank Middle Grade, and his cultivation base was still far inferior to that of a veteran Gold Core Middle Stage Daoist Master like Fei Shi Daoist Master.

If it were not for the help of the Third Rank Low Grade Vulture Demon General and the Giant Lizard Demon General, it would not have been able to hold Fei Shi Daoist Master captive on its own. It was precisely because he was not sure of victory that the warlike Lion Demon General suppressed his nature and only held Fei Shi Daoist Master captive.

He would wait until the various demon beast clans had gathered before launching a beast tide to slowly overwhelm Fei Shi Daoist Master with their numbers.

Of course, neither Fei Yu Daoist Master and Fei Jiang Daoist Master, nor Fei Shi Daoist Master would allow the enemy to complete their plan.

Although Fei Yu Daoist Master and Fei Jiang Daoist Master could only communicate with Fei Shi Daoist Master in simple terms, they had a general idea of what to do.

At this moment, Fei Yu Daoist Master and Fei Jiang Daoist Master were attacking the gathering demon beast clans in the distance.

Fei Shi Daoist Master took this opportunity to take action and try to break free from the enemy's entanglement and escape.

Of course, he could not simply leave the three Third Rank demon beasts. He had to first hurt the enemy and make them afraid to chase after him.

Chapter 355: Withdraw

Fei Shi Daoist Master struck with all his strength, leaving no room for hesitation.

After temporarily trapping the Lion Demon General with his natal spiritual tool, he immediately took action against his true target.

The Lion Demon General was the most powerful, and it would be impossible to harm it in a short amount of time.

The Vulture Demon General was too fast, and it would be difficult to seriously injure it.

Only the Giant Lizard Demon General was large and slow. Even though its skin was thick and its flesh was tough, it could not escape Fei Shi Daoist Master's thunderous attack.

Fei Shi Daoist Master once again summoned a spiritual tool, and a flying sword flew towards the Vulture Demon General's vitals like lightning.

The Vulture Demon General let out a strange cry and spread its wings, engaging the Third Rank flying sword in battle.

The Giant Lizard Demon General took a deep breath and exhaled a pillar of air at Fei Shi Daoist Master.

Fei Shi Daoist Master dodged and took out a talisman made from the skin of some demon beast.

The talisman disappeared in a flash, and the earth shook violently. The ground split open, and a giant hand made entirely of rock emerged from the ground and grabbed the Giant Lizard Demon General.

The Giant Lizard Demon General struggled, causing the giant hand to shake and almost break apart.

This was a Third Rank talisman created by a Third Rank Talisman Master, and its power was no weaker than that of an ordinary Gold Core cultivator.

In the eyes of Gold Core Daoist Masters, only Third Rank Talisman Masters who were also Gold Core Daoist Masters could create Third Rank talismans that could be used in battles of their level.

As for talismans like the ones Guang Zhi Daoist Master made and gave to his fellow disciples for self-defense, since Guang Zhi Daoist Master was not a Third Rank Talisman Master, the Third Rank talismans he created were not even one-tenth as powerful as his own attacks.

Such talismans were not very useful in the eyes of Gold Core Daoist Masters, and they could only be used to bully Foundation Building cultivators.

Many Gold Core Daoist Masters called such talismans fake Third Rank or quasi-Third Rank talismans.

Even in the Jiuqu League, there were not many Talisman Masters who could create real Third Rank talismans.

In addition, to create a real Third Rank talisman, one had to use Third Rank materials.

For example, the talisman paper was made from the fur of a Third Rank demon beast, and the talisman ink was made from the blood of a Third Rank demon beast.

Flying Swan Sect did not have any Third Rank Talisman Masters, and all of the Third Rank talismans in the sect were passed down by the sect's elders. They were used sparingly, so they were not used lightly.

In the Jiuqu League, Gold Core Daoist Masters rarely used spirit stones to trade for Third Rank items. To buy a Third Rank talisman, one also had to rely on luck.

Fei Shi Daoist Master also spent a lot of money this time, casting two Third Rank talismans in a row.

Another Third Rank talisman disappeared in a flash, and a lightning spear appeared in the sky, stabbing towards the Giant Lizard Demon General.

The Giant Lizard Demon General, who was struggling with the stone giant hand, could not dodge in time and could only defend himself with all his might.

The lightning spear easily pierced through the Giant Lizard Demon General's protective light barrier and then stabbed into its body.

The Giant Lizard Demon General's skin was extremely thick and impervious to weapons, and even a normal Third Rank flying sword would have difficulty piercing it.

However, this lightning spear had the power of a Gold Core mid-stage cultivator's full-powered attack, and the lightning attribute was difficult for most demon beasts to defend against.

The Giant Lizard Demon General let out a heaven-shaking scream, and a huge wound appeared on its body. A stream of blood as thick as a bucket gushed out. Fei Shi Daoist Master felt a little regretful that at the critical moment, the Giant Lizard Demon General twisted his body to avoid being stabbed in the heart.

The Giant Lizard Demon General was seriously injured, but he had escaped death.

After being injured, the Giant Lizard Demon General was almost insane, constantly roaring and charging wildly.

The stone giant hand that grabbed the Giant Lizard Demon General was torn to pieces and then completely disappeared.

Fei Shi Daoist Master wanted to take the opportunity to make another strike, but the Lion Demon General on the other side had already lifted the mountain that was pressing on him and was about to rush over to support him.

Fei Shi Daoist Master sighed inwardly, knowing that the opportunity to kill the Giant Lizard Demon General had disappeared.

Of course, the Giant Lizard Demon General was so badly injured that it might not be able to recover in a few decades.

If the next invasion of the demon beasts,

If the Giant Lizard Demon General is missing, the pressure on the Flying Swan Sect will be greatly reduced. Fei Shi Daoist Master retracted the two spiritual tools and flew towards the direction of the noise.

The Lion Demon General and the Vulture Demon General roared in anger and flew closely behind him.

After flying for a long distance, Fei Shi Daoist Master arrived at a vast plain.

The ground was densely packed with all kinds of demon beasts.

These demon beasts were of many different species and belonged to different clans.

Fei Jiang Daoist Master and Fei Yu Daoist Master were dodging in the sky, avoiding the two Third Rank demon beasts chasing them.

One was a giant python and the other was a vicious crocodile, closely chasing the two Human Clan Daoist Masters.

Fei Jiang Daoist Master and Fei Yu Daoist Master did not fight with the enemy head-on, but used guerrilla tactics.

While they were avoiding the Third Rank demon beasts, they had no choice but to fight them. Once they were touched, they would leave immediately and not engage in too much entanglement.

At the same time, they did not forget to attack the demon beast army below.

Under the pressure of the Third Rank demon beasts, the demon beasts of different clans suppressed their differences and gathered here to form a large army. However, the Gold Core Daoist Master's attack was so powerful that after each attack, a large area of the ground would be cleared. Countless demon beasts died, and blood and flesh flew everywhere.

The two Third Rank demon beasts that were chasing Fei Yu Daoist Master and Fei Jiang Daoist Master were furious and almost lost their minds.

They were not concerned about the death of the demon beasts, but were angry that the demon beast army was disturbed.

In the demon beasts, the law of the jungle was more severe than in humans and more direct.

Tigers and rabbits will never be friends, and sheep will always be the food of lions...

If it were not for the strong suppression of the Third Rank demon beasts, so many demon beast clans would never be able to live in peace, let alone form a demon beast army.

After being bombarded by Fei Yu Daoist Master and Fei Jiang Daoist Master, the demon beast army's formation immediately collapsed.

The two Third Rank demon beasts had worked hard to gather all the demon beasts, but they were scared and fled in all directions.

Although only a part of the demon beast army was gathered here, it would take more time to regroup after being dispersed.

When Fei Shi Daoist Master flew over, he just happened to run into the demon beast army in chaos.

Fei Shi Daoist Master laughed out loud, and his hands did not stop moving. He raised the small mountain and pressed it down heavily on the demon beast army below.

The huge mountain fell from the sky and smashed heavily onto the ground. After a loud bang, a violent shockwave spread out in all directions, smashing the demon beast army into a mess.

A deep pit appeared on the ground, filled with the broken flesh and blood of countless demon beasts.

When Fei Shi Daoist Master arrived, the two Third Rank demon beasts that were originally chasing Fei Yu Daoist Master and Fei Jiang Daoist Master immediately stopped chasing and kept a safe distance from the human cultivators.

Chapter 356: Ambush

Fei Shi Daoist Master did not waste time arguing and shouted, "Let's go!"

He then led Fei Jiang Daoist Master and Fei Yu Daoist Master and flew away from the place.

Before their figures disappeared, Lion Demon General and Vulture Demon General followed them.

Lion Demon General had calmed down at this point. He stopped chasing them and watched the three Human Clan Gold Core Daoist Masters disappear with a cold gaze.

Vulture Demon General looked at Lion Demon General with a bit of trepidation.

Although Vulture Demon General was far weaker than Fei Shi Daoist Master, he had a huge advantage in speed.

As long as he let go of his speed and gave it his all, he would be able to catch up to Fei Shi Daoist Master.

However, he was too scared to get too close after seeing the fate of Lizard Demon General. He maintained a speed similar to Lion Demon General and followed closely behind Fei Shi Daoist Master.

The crocodile and python also flew over and joined Lion Demon General.

The crocodile shouted, "These Human Clan are too hateful. I will not let them off."

The python said in a low voice, "Human Clan treats us as nothing and has repeatedly invaded our home. It's a pity that some of them are only interested in their own families and clans and are unwilling to join us and work together with us."

Lion Demon General rolled his eyes at the python and did not say anything. He knew what the python meant, but he had no good solution.

The Third Rank demon beasts in the Demon Wind Desert were not on good terms with each other. They fought and killed each other every day.

Fei ShiDaoist Master was able to suppress the entire Demon Wind Desert with his own strength, not only because of his own powerful strength, but also because of the conflicts between the Third Rank demon beasts.

These Third Rank demon beasts were not a threat to Fei ShiDaoist Master as long as they did not work together.

However, this situation changed with Lion Demon General's advancement to Third Rank middle grade.

After Lion Demon General advanced, he had overwhelming strength, but he did not wantonly slaughter his old enemies. Instead, he united all the Third Rank demon beasts in the Demon Wind Desert and wanted to invade the Endless Sea of Sand.

Of course, not all Third Rank demon beasts were subdued by Lion Demon General and were willing to obey his orders.

For example, the Third Rank raven would rather migrate with its clan and stay away than serve under Lion Demon General.

Lion Demon General had no good solution for this situation and could only let it go.

Lion Demon General did not continue to dwell on what had just happened, but instead, together with the other Third Rank demon beasts, began to gather the scattered demon beast clans and restore the size of the demon beast army.

On the other side, as they slowly moved away from the Demon Wind Desert, the three Human Clan Gold Core Daoist Masters relaxed.

Especially Fei JiangDaoist Master and Fei YuDaoist Master, who were in a good mood because they had successfully helped Fei ShiDaoist Master escape.

However, when Fei ShiDaoist Master asked in detail about the recent situation of the Flying Swan Sect, their moods began to decline.

When Fei ShiDaoist Master was trapped, the two sides could only pass on some simple messages. Fei ShiDaoist Master did not know much about the specific situation of the Flying Swan Sect.

Fei JiangDaoist Master did not say anything, and Fei YuDaoist Master slowly told Fei ShiDaoist Master everything that had happened in the past few years.

After listening to Fei YuDaoist Master's story, Fei ShiDaoist Master fell silent for a long time before saying, "You've suffered a lot these years."

"This time, after I escaped, Lion Demon General should not dare to easily chase me out of the Demon Wind Desert. Before it reorganizes its demon beast army to invade, we still have some time. I hope we can solve the problem with the Fire Cloud Sect first."

Fei ShiDaoist Master did not waste any time and went straight to the point.

"Have you made all the necessary preparations?"

"No problem. We have already contacted the Crane Song Sect. We just need to take action." Fei Yu Daoist Master hurriedly replied when he heard Fei Shi Daoist Master's question. Now, everything is ready, waiting for the right moment. Fei Jiang Daoist Master said.

Fei Shi Daoist Master nodded in satisfaction.

The three Gold Core Daoist Masters rested for a short while before leaving the Endless Sea of Sand and secretly entering the Jiuqu League.

Half a month later,

In a deep mountain within the Jiuqu League. The three Gold Core Daoist Masters of the Flying Swan Sect were conversing with another Gold Core Daoist Master. This Gold Core Daoist Master was an old man dressed in a Taoist robe with a youthful countenance and a head of white hair.

This man was the Xianghe Daoist Master of the Crane Song Sect within the Jiuqu League.

The Fire Cloud Sect also had enemies within the Jiuqu League. Among them, the Crane Song Sect was the Fire Cloud Sects greatest enemy.

The Jiuqu League was a loose alliance formed by many cultivation sects.

Because of various conflicts of interest and historical grudges, the various cultivation sects had many conflicts and contradictions. The Crane Song Sect and the Fire Cloud Sect had an irreconcilable enmity between them.

However, the Jiuqu League was under the suppression of the Primordial Spirit True Monarch. These cultivation sects were only dared to fight in secret, and they would never dare to fight openly.

The Flying Swan Sect did not do anything without preparing, after knowing that the Fire Cloud Sect was about to invade the Endless Sea of Sand. Instead, they actively sought out external help and obtained various assistance.

The Crane Song Sect, the enemy of the Fire Cloud Sect, was the main contact of the Flying Swan Sect.

After the two sects contacted each other, they instantly came to an agreement because they had a common enemy. They formed a temporary alliance.

Of course, the two sects private contacts were highly confidential, and their cooperation was limited to this time against the Fire Cloud Sect.

The Crane Song Sect wanted to continue to stand in the Jiuqu League, and they could not bear the accusation of colluding with outsiders and plotting against their allies.

Originally, according to the Flying Swan Sects plan, they would conceal the death of the Daoist Master Roaring Blaze and wait until the Fire Cloud Sect Gold Core Daoist Masters were ready to meet up with the Daoist Master Roaring Blaze and take action. Then, they would strike and cripple them.

Unfortunately, plans never go as fast as changes.

The Fire Cloud Sect had doubts and did not send any Gold Core Daoist Masters into the Endless Sea of Sand to launch their pre-arranged plan.

On the other hand, because of the cooperation of the Crane Song Sect, the Flying Swan Sect had a better chance to ambush the Gold Core Daoist Masters of the Fire Cloud Sect.

Fei Yu Daoist Master and Fei Jiang Daoist Master were not people who abided by the rules and were old-fashioned. Since they had a better opportunity, they immediately gave up their original plan and immediately began to take action.

The first thing they did was to contact the imprisoned Fei Shi Daoist Master and then help Fei Shi Daoist Master escape.

The three of them took advantage of the time when the demon beasts were invading in full force to travel thousands of miles and cross a long distance to the Jiuqu League.

Three, the three Gold Core Daoist Masters of the Fire Cloud Sect have been lured into the ambush zone by our sect.

Our sect cannot directly participate in the attack. From now on, it will all depend on the three of you.

The Xianghe Daoist Master said solemnly.

The Fire Cloud Sect is the enemy of our two sects. We must seize this opportunity to cripple them.

In order to create this rare opportunity, our sect has paid a great price.

This time, please do it.

The Xianghe Daoist Master bowed solemnly to the three Gold Core Daoist Masters of the Flying Swan Sect.

Chapter 357: Alchemy

Not long after the three Golden Core cultivators of the Flying Swan Sect had secretly infiltrated the Jiuqu League, a piece of news quickly spread throughout the Jiuqu League.

The three Golden Core cultivators of the Fire Cloud Sect had gone to explore the cave of a senior cultivator when they were ambushed by the three Golden Core cultivators of the Flying Swan Sect.

After a great battle, the Fire Cloud Sect side paid the price of one death and two severe injuries, and they fled the cave in a panic.

To put it in another way, this was the Fire Cloud Sect's own fault. The Crane Song Sect had started setting up this trap many years ago, and after careful preparations, it was specifically used to kill the Golden Core cultivators of the Fire Cloud Sect.

However, the Fire Cloud Sect and the Crane Song Sect were both members of the Jiuqu League, and the Crane Song Sect could not act directly.

This time, the Flying Swan Sect had taken the initiative to come knocking, and it was a case of perfect timing.

The two sides were in agreement, and the deal was made.

The Golden Core cultivators of the Fire Cloud Sect were not fools, and the Crane Song Sect had to spend a lot of money to make them fall for it.

This cave of the senior cultivator was real, and this senior cultivator had a lot of history with the Fire Cloud Sect. The legacy he left behind after his death had a great appeal to the cultivators of the Fire Cloud Sect.

However, many years ago, the Crane Song Sect had discovered this cave and obtained the legacy of that senior cultivator.

The Crane Song Sect had been planning this for many years, spending a great deal of effort and paying a heavy price to create such a deadly trap.

The three Golden Core cultivators of the Flying Swan Sect, in conjunction with this trap, had made the Fire Cloud Sect pay a heavy price.

In particular, the fighting strength of Fei Shi Daoist Master was far beyond the expectations of the cultivators of the Fire Cloud Sect.

The Fire Cloud Sect was not completely ignorant of Fei Shi Daoist Master. They knew that the Flying Swan Sect had a Golden Core cultivator who had long been stationed in the Demon Wind Gobi, suppressing the various demon beasts inside.

However, they did not know that Fei Shi Daoist Master had a Golden Core middle stage Cultivation Base, and that he was among the stronger Golden Core middle stage cultivators.

The cultivators that the Fire Cloud Sect had sent to explore the cave were a Golden Core middle stage cultivator and two Golden Core early stage cultivators. On the surface, their strength was about the same as that of the Flying Swan Sect.

However, there were two factors at play: the carefully laid trap of the Crane Song Sect, and the unexpected strength of Fei Shi Daoist Master, who had actually killed a Golden Core early stage cultivator of the Fire Cloud Sect.

The news that the Fire Cloud Sect had suffered a great loss spread quickly, and within a short time, almost all of the forces in the Jiuqu League knew about it.

The Endless Sea of Sand was known for being a barren land, and the Flying Swan Sect was considered a bumpkin by the cultivators of the Jiuqu League.

Although the Fire Cloud Sect was not the strongest power in the Jiuqu League, it was still a first-rate sect, and it had a seat on the Elders' Council.

The Flying Swan Sect's bumpkin had unleashed his divine might, which was too unexpected, and it had shocked all of the forces.

However, despite the shock, not many forces continued to pay attention to this.

Whether it was within or outside the Jiuqu League, there were too many important matters that distracted everyone.

The elder of the Fire Cloud Sect on the Elders' Council of the Jiuqu League was constantly shouting that the Flying Swan Sect had ambushed the Fire Cloud Sect, which was an invasion of the Jiuqu League. The entire Jiuqu League should be enemies with the Flying Swan Sect.

This person's shouting did not cause any ripples within the Jiuqu League.

The feud between the Fire Cloud Sect and the Flying Swan Sect was no secret.

There were a lot of problems within the Jiuqu League, and there were also powerful enemies outside, so there was no extra energy to pay attention to these trivial matters. In fact, the Fire Cloud Sect also vaguely felt the relationship between the Crane Song Sect and this matter.

However, the Crane Song Sect did not take action personally, and the Fire Cloud Sect could not find the Crane Song Sects flaw, so they could only temporarily swallow this dumb loss.

After this failure, the Fire Cloud Sect temporarily suspended its plan to invade the Endless Sea of Sand.

Mainly because of the losses on the Gold Core Daoist Masters side, the Fire Cloud Sect was too painful.

Lets not talk about the one who died, the two who were seriously injured, they need to spend a long time to slowly recover from their injuries.

Of course, the Fire Cloud Sect has more than three Gold Core Daoist Masters, but this failure made the Fire Cloud Sect more cautious. Before they have the confidence to win, they will not act rashly.

The Flying Swan Sect has never thought that it was possible to defeat the Fire Cloud Sect with only one battle. They only need to temporarily deter the Fire Cloud Sect, and gain enough time to first defeat the army of beasts that will soon invade the Endless Sea of Sand. The news of the Flying Swan Sects defeat of the Fire Cloud Sect spread throughout the Jiuqu League at the same time, and quickly spread back to the Endless Sea of Sand.

Originally, Earthfire Sect Master Liang Feng had already wholeheartedly joined the Fire Cloud Sect and was preparing to launch a surprise attack on the Land Walk Sect.

After hearing this news, he was stunned for half a day, and then, regardless of the Liu Family brothers threats, he cancelled his previous surprise attack plan.

The Flying Swan Sect, with the prestige of defeating the Fire Cloud Sect, is at its peak and is in the limelight.

If the Earthfire Sect were to come out at this time to cause trouble and disrupt the order of the Endless Sea of Sand, wouldnt that be bumping into the Flying Swan Sects muzzle.

Even the Gold Core Daoist Master of the Fire Cloud Sect was taken care of by the Flying Swan Sect, let alone a mere Earthfire Sect.

The Land Walk Sect didnt know that it was precisely because of the Flying Swan Sects great show of power this time that they actually escaped a calamity.

In the Taiyi Sect, Meng Zhang was also shocked when he received this news.

However, he didnt have the spare mind to pay attention to these things that were tens of thousands of miles away. All of his thoughts were on the sect.

Just two months ago, the specially cultivated spirit medicine had fully matured, and the materials that needed to be processed with special methods had also been processed. Other spirit medicines that were needed were also collected in full.

Shi Changqing completed all the preparations and began to open the furnace to refine the Lesser Foundation Building Pill. Shi Changqings alchemy skills are at least above average among the Second Rank Alchemists.

He has successfully refined the Foundation Building Pill before, and he is confident in refining the so-called Lesser Foundation Building Pill.

However, when he really opened the furnace to refine it, Shi Changqing realized that something was wrong. The difficulty of refining the Lesser Foundation Building Pill was not inferior to the difficulty of refining the Foundation Building Pill, and there were other challenges.

The finished Lesser Foundation Building Pill has a strong pill toxin, and the pill toxin is even stronger by countless times during the refining process, and it is rampant.

Shi Changqing, who was not fully prepared, was unfortunately hit, and was injured by the pill toxin.

After being injured, Shi Changqings mind was in chaos, and he accidentally blew up the furnace. The refining was a complete failure, and he even lost a Second Rank alchemy furnace.

Although the materials for refining the Lesser Foundation Building Pill are hard to come by and very precious, they are not as difficult to obtain as the materials for refining the Foundation Building Pill.

Even if it failed once, the materials prepared this time are at least enough to refine two furnaces of pills.

The real trouble lies in the fact that Shi Changqing was seriously injured this time.

Being injured by the explosion of the furnace requires a lot of time to recuperate. The most troublesome thing is the pill toxin that was inhaled during the refining process. Even Shi Changqing, an alchemist with a good cultivation base and a good understanding of medicine, needs a long time to completely expel the pill toxin.

Before Shi Changqing fully recovers, the Taiyi Sects work of refining the Lesser Foundation Building Pill can only be put on hold for a while.

Chapter 358: Flaw

The temporary halt in the production of Lesser Foundation Building Pills did not have much impact on others, but it had a significant impact on one person - Meng Zhang's first disciple Niu Dawei.

Niu Dawei had already completed his Qi Refinement and refined his True Qi to near perfection.

A few months ago, he was already able to go into seclusion to break through to the Foundation Building stage, and he was full of confidence that he would succeed.

However, Meng Zhang wanted to be safe and increase his chances of success, so he asked him to wait a little bit and wait for Shi Changqing to refine the Lesser Foundation Building Pills.

However, Shi Changqing failed in his alchemy this time and was also seriously injured, so the production of Lesser Foundation Building Pills had to be postponed.

Meng Zhang was very concerned about his first disciple Niu Dawei, and seeing that there were no Lesser Foundation Building Pills available for the time being, he went to Great Wind City alone.

The last time Gu Yue Huaidie Daoist Master summoned Meng Zhang, she left a token for him, so he could go and pay her a visit at any time after he arrived in Great Wind City.

However, it was very unfortunate that when Meng Zhang came this time, Gu Yue Huaidie Daoist Master was not there, and he only met Gu Yue Youlan.

For the sake of his disciple, Meng Zhang shamelessly asked Gu Yue Youlan for a Foundation Building Pill.

Gu Yue Youlan's status in the Gu Yue Family was far lower than Gu Yue Huaidie's, so she had no way of getting a Foundation Building Pill.

Meng Zhang gritted his teeth and took out the Lesser Foundation Building Pill's formula, hoping to exchange it for a Foundation Building Pill.

In Meng Zhang's opinion, the Lesser Foundation Building Pill formula was still very valuable. Although its efficacy was far inferior to that of the Foundation Building Pill, it was easier to collect the materials.

With the Gu Yue Family's background, they could not continuously refine Foundation Building Pills. However, the Lesser Foundation Building Pill should be able to be mass-produced.

With the Lesser Foundation Building Pill formula, it should be enough to exchange for a Foundation Building Pill.

Through their previous interactions, Meng Zhang was fairly trusting of Gu Yue Huaidie and Gu Yue Youlan. He knew that with their temperament, they would not covet his formula.

All Meng Zhang asked Gu Yue Youlan to do was to help him connect the dots.

Gu Yue Youlan agreed to Meng Zhang's request and invited a family alchemist to come and authenticate the Lesser Foundation Building Pill formula as a matter of routine.

After the alchemist's authentication, he gave Meng Zhang a statement that was absolutely unexpected.

The Gu Yue Family also had a collection of formulas similar to the Lesser Foundation Building Pill. Of course, the effects may not be as good as the Lesser Foundation Building Pill.

The Lesser Foundation Building Pill has many other flaws, but the biggest problem is that when a cultivator uses the Lesser Foundation Building Pill to assist in Foundation Building, the difficulty of breaking through to the Gold Core stage will increase by many times in the future.

If there is no special opportunity, this cultivator will basically be unable to enter the Gold Core stage.

This was the first time Meng Zhang had heard of this flaw in the Lesser Foundation Building Pill.

After a long time of being shocked, he finally calmed down.

At first, he was a little reluctant to believe it, but soon he realized that there was no need for the Gu Yue Family's alchemist to deceive him, and he was telling the truth.

Perhaps for most Qi Refinement stage cultivators, the Foundation Building stage is the end of their path in life, and they should be grateful for being able to Foundation Build.

However, in Meng Zhang's heart, he had higher expectations for his disciple Niu Dawei.

Niu Dawei's path would not end at the Foundation Building stage.

Although Meng Zhang himself was only a Foundation Building stage cultivator, he had a strange confidence that Niu Dawei would break through the Foundation Building stage in the future.

Meng Zhang felt a deep sense of relief that Shi Changqing's alchemy had failed and Niu Dawei had not had the opportunity to use the Lesser Foundation Building Pill to assist in Foundation Building.

Otherwise, Niu Dawei's future would have been ruined.

Of course, because of this fatal flaw, the value of the Lesser Foundation Building Pill has also plummeted.

For those cultivators with a bright future and ambitions for their own path, the Lesser Foundation Building Pill is a poison to be avoided at all costs. In fact, the Gu Yue Family did not mass-produce pills like the Lesser Foundation Building Pill for fear that their children would become complacent once they entered the Foundation Building stage.

For a Gold Core family like the Gu Yue Family, having more Foundation Building cultivators was meaningless.

Only Gold Core cultivators could decide the family's future and fate.

The alchemist revealed some of the Gu Yue Family's secrets because he knew that Gu Yue Huaidie was interested in Meng Zhang.

The Gu Yue Family gave up the benefits of producing pills like the Lesser Foundation Building Pill, which resulted in fewer Foundation Building cultivators in the family. This was to ensure that the cultivators in the family were always striving to reach the Gold Core stage.

In fact, every Foundation Building cultivator born into a Gold Core family like the Gu Yue Family had the ambition to reach the Gold Core stage.

Meng Zhang wanted to know if the Twin Success Valley knew about this flaw in the Lesser Foundation Building Pill back then.

Of course, this flaw in the Lesser Foundation Building Pill did not matter to most cultivators who had taken it, so it was not really a flaw.

After the Flying Swan Sect took over the Endless Sea of Sand, and before the Guang Zhi Daoist Master from the Forest Spring Watch appeared, no other sect in the Endless Sea of Sand had a Gold Core Daoist Master, except for the Flying Swan Sect.

Moreover, just because the Twin Success Valley had created the Lesser Foundation Building Pill did not mean that all of the Foundation Building cultivators in the Twin Success Valley had successfully reached the Foundation Building stage after taking the Lesser Foundation Building Pill.

With the Twin Success Valley's power and wealth, it was not difficult to obtain one or two Foundation Building Pills for the promising disciples in the sect.

Because of this major flaw, the Lesser Foundation Building Pill recipe Meng Zhang provided had little value to the Gu Yue Family.

Even with Gu Yue Huaidie and Gu Yue Youlan's help, it could not be exchanged for a real Foundation Building Pill.

Of course, according to the alchemist, the Lesser Foundation Building Pill still had some reference value. For alchemists like them, it could be used as a reference.

Therefore, the alchemist was willing to give Meng Zhang some spirit stones or spiritual items in exchange for reading the recipe.

The Gu Yue Family was quite straightforward, so Meng Zhang accepted the compensation.

As for the Foundation Building Pill, Gu Yue Youlan could only apologize to Meng Zhang.

If Meng Zhang really needed a Foundation Building Pill, he could wait for Gu Yue Huaidie to return. However, even Gu Yue Youlan did not know when Gu Yue Huaidie would return.

After Meng Zhang left the Gu Yue Family, he was a little hesitant about whether to risk it and extort Ye Feifan again. He did not know if Ye Feifan still had any Foundation Building Pills.

Meng Zhang stayed in his quiet room alone and used the Grand Evolving Fortune to consume a lot of calculation tallies to perform some calculations.

The result of the calculations shocked him. Ye Feifan did indeed have Foundation Building Pills, but if Meng Zhang contacted Ye Feifan again, he would be killed.

After getting this result, Meng Zhang not only gave up the idea of contacting Ye Feifan, but also immediately left Great Wind City and returned to the Endless Sea of Sand as fast as he could.

After returning to the Taiyi Sect, Meng Zhang felt a little ashamed to face his disciple Niu Dawei.

He called Niu Dawei over and apologized to him, saying that he had made a wasted trip and did not get any Foundation Building Pills. He was a very incompetent master.

Chapter 359: Foundation Building late stage

After listening to Meng Zhang's words, Niu Dawei comforted Meng Zhang instead.

Niu Dawei said that he was deeply grateful for the master's kindness, and that the master had done enough for him.

The path of cultivation is long, and the master cannot take care of him for the rest of his life. The road ahead is still a long way to go.

Niu Dawei went on to say that with his aptitude and solid foundation, there was little difference between having or not having a Foundation Building Pill when breaking through to the Foundation Building stage.

Even without a Foundation Building Pill, he would be able to break through to the Foundation Building stage.

Although Meng Zhang knew that Niu Dawei was probably trying to comfort himself, he was still very pleased that he had such a strong spirit.

None of them were the type of people who liked to act like children, and they would never create a tear-jerking scene of parting.

Not long after Niu Dawei and Meng Zhang finished talking, he began to close his doors and strive for the Foundation Building stage.

As the Taiyi Sect Master's eldest disciple, Niu Dawei was relatively popular in the sect.

After the news of his seclusion spread, many people were very excited, hoping that he would successfully break through to the Foundation Building stage and come out of seclusion.

Breaking through to the Foundation Building stage was not something that could be done overnight, especially without the aid of items like Foundation Building Pills. It might take more time.

As the head of a sect, Meng Zhang had a lot of other things to do. He could only temporarily suppress his worries about Niu Dawei and believe that Niu Dawei would definitely succeed.

After the news of the Flying Swan Sect's defeat of the Fire Cloud Sect spread, Meng Zhang's first thought was of the Earthfire Sect.

The Earthfire Sect thought that their collusion with the Fire Cloud Sect was a secret, but not only did Meng Zhang know about it, but the Flying Swan Sect was also well aware of it.

Meng Zhang had hoped that the Flying Swan Sect would be able to take down the Earthfire Sect this time, and even better, to destroy the Earthfire Sect. Maybe the Taiyi Sect could follow behind and reap some benefits.

But to Meng Zhang's disappointment, the Flying Swan Sect did not make a move against the Earthfire Sect, and the situation remained the same.

Since the Flying Swan Sect was not taking action, the Taiyi Sect would not take the initiative to attack the Earthfire Sect and start a war.

So Meng Zhang put his mind back on his own cultivation.

Less than half a year after Niu Dawei's seclusion, Meng Zhang also broke through to the Foundation Building late stage during a routine cultivation session.

Meng Zhang's journey from the Qi Refining stage to the Foundation Building stage had been smooth sailing, without any obstacles. What obstacles, what bottlenecks, all did not exist for him.

It was just a small realm break, and he didn't have to risk his life, nor was there any earth-shattering movement. Everything was calm and natural.

This is probably the most enviable thing about a talented cultivator like Meng Zhang.

As long as the cultivation resources were not lacking, and as long as he cultivated step by step, his cultivation base would naturally improve.

The next step for Meng Zhang, from the Foundation Building late stage to the Foundation Building completion, was also not difficult, and he only needed to slowly accumulate.

But breaking through to the Gold Core stage was much more difficult.

These difficulties were both internal and external.

Even for a cultivator with top-grade spiritual roots like Meng Zhang, the Gold Core stage was still a huge hurdle.

No matter how good his aptitude or how hard he cultivated, a cultivator could not say for sure that he would be able to enter the Gold Core stage.

Breaking through to the Gold Core stage required a cultivator's physical body, true qi, and soul to be at a very high level. It was also a great test of a cultivator's character.

These were just some of the difficulties Meng Zhang faced. In addition, as the ruler of the Endless Sea of Sand, would the Flying Swan Sect be willing to see Meng Zhang break through to the Gold Core stage? Flying Swan Sect's attitude in the past was very clear: they absolutely would not allow other forces to produce a Gold Core Daoist Master. Meng Zhang has a good relationship with Flying Swan Sect, and Taiyi Sect has great utility for Flying Swan Sect. But just based on this, it is likely that Flying Swan Sect will not let it go. Meng Zhang would probably have to be more careful and spend more time planning if he wants to break through to the Gold Core stage. Of course, Meng Zhang does not need to think about it that far for now; he is just being prepared.

Flying Swan Sect, which Meng Zhang considers an obstacle, has also encountered a huge problem at this time. A large number of monsters in the Demon Wind Desert, after a long period of preparation, finally broke out of the Demon Wind Desert and invaded the Endless Sea of Sand. The massive and impressive monster army, like a tidal wave, madly charged towards the Endless Sea of Sand. The first obstacle they faced was a defensive line that Flying Swan Sect had spent years building up. Lion Demon General, Vulture Demon General, Giant Python Demon General, and Ferocious Crocodile Demon General led their respective clans as the main force, with dozens of other clans of monsters as vassals, and crashed into Flying Swan Sect's army, which was on high alert.

Flying Swan Sect's three Gold Core Daoist Masters, Fei Shi Daoist Master, Fei Jiang Daoist Master, and Fei Yu Daoist Master, personally led the majority of Flying Swan Sect's forces to meet the madly surging monster army. An unprecedented bloody battle began. The monsters had an absolute advantage in numbers, but the human cultivators were not only full of strange skills and secret arts, but also skilled in using external objects such as magic tools and talismans. Lion Demon General and the other four Third Rank monsters were slightly inferior to the three Gold Core Daoist Masters of the Human Clan. However, after they gathered their own clans, with the support of their clans' power, they fought the three Human Clan Gold Core Daoist Masters to a standstill.

Shortly after the fierce battle broke out, it became extremely bloody, and both sides suffered heavy casualties. Especially since the last sand monster riot had not been long ago, Flying Swan Sect, which had suffered heavy losses in the sand monster riot, had not yet recovered. Now that they were facing a large-scale monster invasion, they might be able to hold out for a short time, but after a long time, their stamina was likely to be insufficient.

Before fighting the monster army, Flying Swan Sect had already summoned all of its vassal families to join the battle. Now that the battle was becoming more and more bloody and was in a protracted war, Flying Swan Sect issued another conscription order, calling on all sects and families in the Endless Sea of Sand to send their elite cultivators to join the battle. Taiyi Sect and Qiaoshou Sect were strictly speaking no longer Flying Swan Sect's vassals. But Flying Swan Sect's conscription

order still reached them. Meng Zhang naturally would not disobey Flying Swan Sect at this time. Even though Flying Swan Sect was now engaged in a bitter battle with the monsters and seemed unable to spare any attention for other things, who knew what kind of trump card Flying Swan Sect still had hidden. A Gold Core sect like Flying Swan Sect, which had been passed down for a thousand years, could probably destroy Taiyi Sect with just a little bit of effort.

Of course, obeying the conscription was one thing, but they could not ignore their own territory. Taiyi Sect now had a vast territory and a large family business, so they had to leave enough strength to defend their foundation. Fortunately, Flying Swan Sects attitude towards Taiyi Sect and Qiaoshou Sect was clearly different from that of other forces. The conscription order they issued left a lot of room for maneuver. Meng Zhangs public statement was that he needed time to mobilize his forces and prepare various war materials. With Taiyi Sects current supply of materials, they could only send reinforcements in batches.

[Heartfelt thank you to you guys for supporting this translation on my patron!]

Chapter 360: Sends out the reinforcements

Meng Zhang discussed with the elders in the sect and sent out the first batch of reinforcements.

The reinforcements were led by Shocking Thunder Spirit General, Wen Qiansun and Yang Xueyi, three Foundation Building cultivators, who led over a hundred Qi Refining stage disciples into battle.

In addition to the disciples of Taiyi Sect, there were also disciples from the Shi Family.

Meng Zhang had previously established an organization called the Cooperative Society to house loose cultivators who were willing to join Taiyi Sect.

Now, the time has come for these loose cultivators to be tested.

If they fight alongside Taiyi Sect's team and perform well on the battlefield, they may have a chance to become Taiyi Sect's official disciples.

As the regional hegemon, Taiyi Sect's disciples have also gained a lot of prestige. Becoming a Taiyi Sect disciple is very attractive to many loose cultivators.

After the news that Taiyi Sect was recruiting cultivators to go on an expedition spread, the loose cultivators in the Cooperative Society flocked to sign up and volunteered to go to war.

After careful selection, Meng Zhang selected a group of cultivators with good strength.

In addition, the three small families that had just become Taiyi Sect's vassals also sent a few disciples to fight, which was a way of showing their attitude.

After the war between Flying Swan Sect and the demon beasts began, news from the front lines gradually came back.

Although these messages were difficult to verify, they all proved the bloody nature of the war.

Meng Zhang selected a group of Qi Refining stage disciples who were at least in the middle stage of Qi Refining, and there were even some Qi Refining late stage cultivators.

Qi Refining early stage cultivators had too low a survival rate on such a battlefield, and there was no need to send them to die.

On the Qiaoshou Sect side, Jin Qigu and Jin Wengbo led a group of Qi Refining stage disciples out of the sect to meet up with Taiyi Sect.

In addition to recruiting the various cultivation sects to participate in the war, Flying Swan Sect also mobilized a large amount of war supplies.

From various mineral raw materials to finished talismans, pills, and other large amounts of supplies, they were continuously transported from all over the Endless Sea of Sand to the front lines.

Of course, the cultivators who went on the expedition could not be too stingy, and at least they had to ensure that they had sufficient logistical supplies.

Taiyi Sect and Qiaoshou Sect both mobilized a large portion of war supplies for the expeditionary forces.

Flying Swan Sect was urging Meng Zhang to hurry up, and he could not delay too long.

After all the preparations were made, the joint team of Taiyi Sect and Qiaoshou Sect boarded a flying boat and left the sect to head for the front lines.

Flying Swan Sect has the supreme authority in the Endless Sea of Sand, and no sect dares to ignore Flying Swan Sect's conscription order.

Before the reinforcements from Taiyi Sect and Qiaoshou Sect left, there were already quite a few cultivation sects that had sent reinforcements to the front lines.

This is the first time that Meng Zhang, the Sect Master, has not personally led his disciples on an expedition.

However, as the sect's strength increases, this will only happen more and more often.

Meng Zhang suppressed his worries about the disciples who had gone on the expedition and turned his attention back to the sect's affairs.

Taiyi Sect had mobilized such a large force to go on an expedition, and all the affairs within the sect would be greatly affected.

The sect was short-handed, and even Meng Zhang, the Sect Master, was very busy.

Taiyi Sect and Qiaoshou Sect both needed to continue preparing more war supplies for the expeditionary forces. Moreover, the two sects now had to begin organizing the second batch of reinforcements.

Meng Zhang was very worried. If he continued to mobilize people, Taiyi Sect would not be able to maintain normal operations, and even its own territory might not be able to be defended.

However, there was no other way. If the war continued to be intense, Flying Swan Sect would definitely increase the intensity of its conscription. At that time, even Meng Zhang, the Sect Master, would have to go to the battlefield. Meng Zhang was busy with the sect's affairs that day when an old acquaintance came to the Taiyi Sect's gate and asked to meet with him.

Meng Zhang was stunned when he heard the disciple's message, and then he let the disciple bring the man to him.

Not long after, Shangguan Wen, an old friend whom Meng Zhang had not seen in a long time, appeared in front of him.

Shangguan Wen was still a Qi Refining Stage cultivator after so many years, but Meng Zhang was already a Foundation Establishment Late Stage cultivator.

Meng Zhang did not have a good impression of Shangguan Wen.

At first, Meng Zhang thought that Shangguan Wen was a good person and could be dealt with. However, after some things happened, the two of them did not openly break up, but they drifted apart and gradually lost contact.

Come to think of it, Meng Zhang had not heard from Shangguan Wen in a long time.

Why did he come to see him so urgently?

Shangguan Wen did not bother with pleasantries when he saw Meng Zhang. He quickly got to the point and told Meng Zhang something that made him change color.

It turned out that Shangguan Wen was able to become the Steward of Earthfire Sect's external affairs, with more power than some Foundation Establishment Stage elders, because he was a member of the Shangguan family, the previous Sect Master of Earthfire Sect.

The Shangguan family had few members, and even fewer who could cultivate. Shangguan Longyan valued every member of the family.

Shangguan Wen was a cultivator who was both talented and level-headed. He was a rare breed in Earthfire Sect, but he was highly regarded by Shangguan Longyan.

Shangguan Longyan regarded Shangguan Wen as his second self and even planned to groom him as his successor.

Shangguan Longyan ignored the private discussions of other people in the sect and promoted Shangguan Wen, giving him a lot of power.

Shangguan Wen did not disappoint Shangguan Longyan's trust. He completed all the tasks that Shangguan Longyan gave him perfectly.

In particular, after he became the Steward of Earthfire Sect's external affairs, he handled all the affairs in an orderly manner and brought a lot of benefits to Earthfire Sect.

Shangguan Wen's performance made the people in the sect who criticized Shangguan Longyan for appointing his own people and nepotism shut up, and he secured his position.

However, all of this changed when Liang Feng became the new Sect Master of Earthfire Sect.

Liang Feng had long had a grudge against Shangguan Longyan, and he was even more unkind to Shangguan Longyan's family members.

Earthfire Sect cultivators were always straightforward and did not have many twists and turns.

Not long after Liang Feng became the Sect Master, he removed Shangguan Wen from his position and sent him far away to the edge of Earthfire Sect's territory.

Without Sect Master Shangguan Longyan's protection, Shangguan Wen was just a Qi Refining Stage cultivator. How could he fight against Liang Feng?

Shangguan Wen was powerless to fight back and was expelled from Earthfire Sect's core, far away from Earthfire Sect's gate.

Although he was far away from Earthfire Sect's gate, Shangguan Wen kept an eye on the situation in Earthfire Sect.

Especially after holding power for many years, he still had some hidden forces in Earthfire Sect.

Two days ago, Shangguan Wen's hidden forces in the sect secretly passed on a shocking piece of news to him.