Sprit Vessel 371

Chapter 371: Entering The Soul Realm

"The Divine King's Insignia!" The old man was frightened and became a deflated ball.

"Boom!" He directly kneeled on the ground.

"Greetings, Divine King!" The old man didn't dare to show any disrespect in front of Feiyun as if the Divine King was standing in front of him.

This insignia couldn't be faked. There was only one in present time.

Feiyun put away the insignia and said: "Vice Tower Lord, your son deserves death so I killed him to uphold justice."

"Of course, Young Noble Feng, you did the right thing." The old man has guessed Feiyun's identity. Outside of the Divine King, only the demon's son could carry the insignia.

"You have no complaints?" Feiyun asked.

"That unfilial child deserves it and people rejoice at this death, how could I have any complaints?" The old man has cultivated at the pagoda for more than two hundred years. He knew better than anyone about what kind of character the Divine King was. Offending his successor meant inviting an early death.

If the Divine King wished to kill him, he could do so in one move even if they were several thousand miles apart. If he wanted to live, he must swallow this anger.

The other instructors at the Beastmaster Tower were alarmed. Even several High Instructors came in person. They saw Luyun's body on the ground as well as the kneeling Vice Tower Lord before glancing at each other.

Even the Tower Lord was stirred by this commotion. A rain of rays condensed together to form a beautiful avatar.

She dressed in red with a peerless and dignified appearance. Though it was only a shadow, all the other cultivators kneeled in fear, including the Vice Tower Lord and High Instructors.

Feiyun stood proudly. Even her half-Giant cultivation couldn't force him down on the ground. He spoke with an appropriate tone: "I am here under the order of the Divine King to train at the soul realm."

The Beastmaster Tower Lord nonchalantly replied: "You are the brilliant son of the demon?"

Feiyun's name has spread across the cultivation world. Even top characters from the last generation and mortals knew of his name.

The Jin Dynasty had 100,000,000,000 citizens. Nearly all of them knew of his name.

"I am." Feiyun said respectfully.

The tower lord nodded: "I have received his message as well as seeing the insignia. Xinnu, take the two of them to the soul realm."

Xinnu stared at Feiyun with a strange glimpse in her eyes. He used to be a young beggar who hid in their wood storage shed was now the world-renowned demon's son.

Feng Feiyun and Wang Meng followed Xinnu towards the upper floors. It didn't take long before they reached the 66th floor with two old women guarding. There were two locks and they had one key each.

They were floating in the air, seemingly petrified. Who knows how long they have been meditating like this?

When the three came in front of the door, both old women opened their eyes as bright and vast as the galaxy with a frightening aura. Timid would be scared out of their mind right now.

Xinnu talked to them for a bit and the old women withdrew their scary gaze. They instead stared strangely at Feiyun with a tinge of realization, praise, and anticipation...

"Go in." A golden ray shot out of their eyes and wrapped around the key before levitating them to open the door.

Xinnu said: "Feiyun, you need to train for two years in the soul realm. I'll bring you your meal every fifteen days."

"Thank you, Miss Ji." Feiyun said.

"I'm still growing so I need a lot of qilin meat, the more the better. I like the legs the most." Wang Meng laughed heartily.

Feiyun has already entered the entrance. He seemed to be crossing a barrier made out of water to enter an independent domain.

The Strange Beast's Soul Realm!

He stood on a thirty-feet long boulder with only a dark expanse before him. He could see more boulders floating in the sky. Some were the size of a fist while others were as large as several mountains.

This place was cold and lonely like the boundless universe.

In fact, the layout of this place was exactly the same as the universe except countless times reduced in size.

"This is a low-level secret spatial domain while the Beastmaster Tower is the connector. Who would have thought that someone so amazing would appear in the Jin Dynasty, able of opening a path to a secret domain."

Feiyun was quite knowledgeable. Not to mention this low-level domain, he has been to intermediate and high-level domains as well as minor and major worlds several times.

There were too many domains interlacing with the original world. It was impossible to list all of them.

A secret domain was a bubble in the ocean. As long as one was strong enough or used a special vessel, they would be able to open the "bubble wall" to enter the space within.

The Strange Beast's Soul Realm was the continent inside such a bubble. Despite being a low-level entity, it was still one hundred thousand miles vast with many boulders floating inside.

The earth and sky have yet to form in this domain and remained in a chaotic state. They could shatter at any time so this place was not suitable for human habitation. It could only be used as a prison, training ground, or a black market among other things.

Only minor and major worlds would have a complete sky and earth, sun and ocean. With that, they would be able to give birth to their own unique lifeforms.

Feiyun's body flashed and he appeared again on a boulder ten miles away. It was ten thousand meters tall and fifty miles long, comparable to a small floating mountain.

"No spirit energy, law, auras are disconnected." Feiyun murmured.

"Rumble!" A river washing away the clouds and mists flooded down from the sky with a bright brilliance and howls. A majestic image of the primordial past appeared.

More than ten thousand beast souls flew through the sky like a torrent. It was quite shocking like a river connecting two galaxies.

The one in the front was a 300 meter high Prison Bull. It was countless times stronger than the qilin bulls who people called the beast of war. It emitted an aura crushing all the boulders nearby into dust.

"A thousand year beast soul!" Feiyun was startled and quickly hid his aura to hide behind a boulder.

A 600-year beast was comparable to a top grand achievement God Base.

A 700-year could fight against a first or second-level Heaven's Mandate.

An 800-year could contend against a third or fourth-level Heaven's Mandate.

A 900-year was equal to a fifth or sixth level.

A thousand year was no longer a strange beast. It was now a spirit beast with the power comparable to a Giant.

Of course, there was only a general ranking for ordinary beasts. The few with the bloodlines from ancient sacred beasts had to be calculated in a different manner.

The beasts here no longer had a physical body; only their souls were left. Thus, they were one-third weaker compared to their living brethren.

This beast torrent passed by quickly and disappeared into the dark expanse.

Feiyun finally came out from hiding while being completely shocked. No wonder why the tower forbids outsiders from entering. This realm was quite precious with so many different beast souls, including a spirit one. It would be a heavy loss if others were to steal them.

The pagoda was indeed the best sacred ground in the world with deep resources. Other powers simply couldn't compare to them.

"With my cultivation right now, I can still run against an 800-year beast soul but a 900 year one will kill me for sure. This place might be a good training ground but death is looming in every corner." Feiyun thought to himself.

'Boom!" Suddenly, the boulder below him moved. A cold energy came from the east and created a layer of frost on the boulders in its path.

"Rawr!" A beast soul around five meters long flew out from a cave. This was an Icecloud Rat with a blue aura surrounding it. It opened its mouth to reveal a row of sharp teeth.

Feiyun stomped on the boulder and shattered the frosty layer. Countless icicles as sharp as a blade flew back towards the rat.

"Boom!" This huge soul was shattered and turned into smoke.

The pagoda has been around for more than ten thousand years so there were too many beast souls in this domain. Even if they released one soul into this place each day, there would still be at least several million souls here.

The death of one was nothing.

The other clans also had storage locations for beast souls but the quantity couldn't compare to the pagoda at all. They didn't have a large enough domain to banish these beast souls. A few thousand for them was already a lot.

"Rumble!" The boulders within a ten-mile radius began to shake with waves of cold chills. More than one hundred beast souls rushed out of their cave.

They were all Icecloud Rat that were staring at Feiyun with great hostility.

The boulder he was standing on has been covered with thick crystal and has turned into a glacier.

"Shit! A rat's nest!" Feiyun quickly used his Swift Samsara to fly away from the glacier. He turned into a white ray and jumped onto another floating stone hundreds of meter away. His body then disappeared again and onto the next he went...

The rats frantically chased after him like a tsunami.

Chapter 372: Golden Leo

In the dark and cold secret realm were many floating boulders like the stars in the universe. Who knows how many there were?

Feiyun's speed wasn't something the Icecloud Rats could match. He quickly flew to another area with even larger boulders. One had a diameter of one hundred miles like a meteorite.

A dangerous aura came from this boulder. A crimson head with a shape resembling a lion rose. Just the head alone was ten meters tall. Its yellow eyes looked like two creepy lanterns in the night.

"Rawr!" Its roar echoed like the thunder and crushed all the boulders within a ten miles radius.

Feiyun had to retreat before this soundwave attack. He took a deep breath and wondered if this was an 800-year beast soul.

No, it was still a bit weaker than one.

"Rumble!" He could see half of its body now. It was radiating with a golden glow. The surrounding area turned into a yellow ocean. There were dragon scales on its neck while the rest of its body was covered with tile-like scales. It looked like a tiger and a dragon.

This was only a 700-year-old beast soul, why was it so frightening?

"This is... a Golden Leo, the descendant of an ancient sacred beast, Leo, with the bloodline of a Divine Dragon. No wonder why it's so scary." Feng Feiyun retreated for more than a hundred miles while looking at the huge soul beast.

The ancient era has passed long ago. These sacred beasts have died off already. A few surviving strange beasts and sacred beasts in present time couldn't compare to the older ones. For example, Gluttonous Dragon, Prison Bull... These were ferocious monsters that could kill the saints.

Alas, their offsprings were too weak and simply didn't inherit their bloodline. They have turned into mounts or beasts used in war.

A Leo was also one of the sacred beasts with an incredible bloodline. Its roar could devour the northern sea. Alas, its offspring has fallen and couldn't compare to their ancestors.

Of course, very few Leo had an awakened bloodline. Even though it was only a sliver of power, they were more than ten times stronger than their peers.

These awakened ones were called Golden Leos with their bright aura.

"Rawr!" The Golden Leo has finally come into full view. It looked like a golden mountain and sat on the big boulder. A golden ray condensed from its eyes and shot straight for Feiyun.

This destructive power of a sacred beast annihilated all the boulders in its way.

"What a beast. If I could refine it into my body, my constitution and power will take another step forward!" The phoenix soul inside his body floated out. A large shadow of a phoenix covered his body with its fiery wings spreading.

The Golden Leo wasn't a real beast, only a remnant soul. At the same time, Feiyun's phoenix soul was only a remaining strand.

A phoenix was on the same level as a Divine Dragon, one of the four divine beasts with demonic blood. It was even more powerful than these ancient sacred beasts so it had a great deterrent effect against this Golden Leo.

"You dare to posture before a phoenix? I shall use your soul as the leading catalyst to craft my Myriad Beast Physique!" Feiyun stood on a top of a boulder with an upright posture. There was an invisible majestic and awe-inspiring aura. He needed to be first-level Heaven's Mandate before cultivating certain amazing arts. However, after using the phoenix blood to redo his bones, Feiyun could finally use his past memories to cultivate certain methods beyond the imagination of human cultivators.

For example, the Myriad Beast Physique.

Some phoenixes had cultivated this physique before after devouring ten thousand beast souls to craft their own body.

Feiyun had a human body at the moment that has finished the fourth blood transformation of the Immortal Phoenix Physique on top of reinforcing his skeletal frame. Though he couldn't refine them into his physique, he could still move them inside his body.

A human body would find it difficult to refine one beast soul. To be able to do four meant that this was an excellent prodigy. However, Feiyun wanted to do ten thousands. Other cultivators would laugh and mock him as an insane person.

This was his goal before entering the soul realm. However, this number was really too much so he wasn't too confident. However, after finding the number of souls in this place, he found hope again and became ecstatic.

"Boom!" The Infinite Spirit Ring unleashed its six diagrams that blotted out the sky to block the Golden Leo's attack.

With his Swift Samsara, he took the initiative and landed on the beast's back with his palm spread to attack with the Thunderfire Jewel. This second-ranked spirit treasure unleashed its torrent of lightning.

"Rumble!" These lightning bolts looked like serpents filled the sky and attacked the beast.

It screamed and glared at the sky and spewed out an endless amount of thunder as well. They came together to form a sea of thunder to stop the remnant lightning from the jewel.

Its scream resounded like a bell causing Feiyun's ears to bleed. His body staggered and almost fell from the beast's back.

"That's a sacred bloodline for you, so strong. It must be on the same level as a third-level Heaven's Mandate." Feiyun quickly recalled his two treasures and fled.

The beast was furious. Some core disciples from the pagoda have trained in this place before but they kept their distance, not daring to offend it. This disciple was completely different, to actually attack it first. The guy was simply lawless.

It gave chase with its monstrous body. Wherever it went, everything flipped over with broken boulders. From the distance, it looked like a huge golden tsunami.

It wasn't that much slower than Feiyun and maintained its pursuit while spewing out more golden lightning to Feiyun's dismay.

"Whoosh! Whoosh!" Many blue shadows were in front of them with a cold aura and snowflakes. This was the herd of Icecloud Rats, more than a hundred of them.

After seeing Feiyun, they ran forward even faster while screeching, ready to kill him.

"Come!" Feiyun wasn't afraid at all and even happily rushed forward.

The rats began their attack after their body lit up when they saw him coming for them.

"Swish!" Feiyun used his stone saber to crush five rats and broke through the waves. The Golden Leo right behind him just happened to be struck by the rats' attack.

"Boom! Boom! "Their chilling energies struck the leo.

Though the rats were much weaker than this leo, it was a different story when one hundred of them attacked in unison.

This was an immensely destructive force.

The leo was caught unprepared. Its golden brilliance dimmed down after suffering this attack and it couldn't move forward at all.

Its fury erupted even more. A bunch of low-level rats dared to attack it? Unforgivable.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!" While it was surrounded by the rats, a huge azure ship came pushing down from above with an incomparable power. It made the golden brilliance of the beast darken by another layer.

'Rawr!" The furious beast shot out two rays from its eyes. Several dozen rats turned to nothingness instantly.

"Bang! Bang! Bang!" It rushed out of the rats' encirclement and clawed at the vessel in the distant.

Feiyun was standing on top of the ship and controlled it to dodge the attack while using the six diagrams from his ring to block the incoming attack.

"It's too strong to suppress." Feiyun ran again with the leo right behind him!

"Rumble!" Another beast flood appeared with several thousand souls in a line rushing towards the same direction. The leader this time was the soul of a 900-year Stone Elephant.

Its aura was immense and swept through the sky just like a sun god.

Feiyun became happy and thought about a new strategy. He directly flew towards that direction by using his Swift Samsara to its limit. The Golden Leo didn't let up at all.

"Damn it all!" Feiyun flew into the flood of beast souls. They noticed the intruder and all attacked him.

The powers duplicated and turned into an unimaginable torrent of several thousand souls attacking at the same time. All the debris nearby turned into smithereens.

His samsara steps allowed him to be a fish in water with a very bizarre movement. He twisted and turned, allowing him to dodge the attacks from the low-level beasts. Of course, some of them made contact but his powerful physique was able to withstand it. Just like this, he made it through the barrage.

However, the Golden Leo didn't have the same agility as him. It had to stop and ran back but several hundred blows still hit it. It was grievously wounded and lost even more light.

If it didn't run back fast enough just now, it would have been turned to ashes.

Chapter 373: Myriad Beast Physique

The wounded leo ran away and didn't dare to fight against the flood of beasts.

Of course, Feiyun wouldn't let it go and rode on his spirit vessel again then slammed it on the monster's back. With a loud blast, its body sank down as it cried out in pain.

He took out the Thunderfire Jewel and a sea of fire completely wrapped around the leo.

"I'll see how you will resist the spirit treasure's power this time." Feiyun went all out this time. The struggling leo couldn't stop the containment at all.

"Boom!" The Infinite Spirit Ring and its six diagrams flew out with great momentum. They stopped the leo from moving and its body grew increasingly smaller.

Finally, this beast soul became as small as a fist due to the two treasures and fell into Feiyun's palm. It was dazzling and still jumping fiercely.

"I'll refine you now!" Feiyun landed on a black boulder with nothing in the near vicinity. There was no sign of beast souls being here either; it was a good location for meditation.

"Boom!" He punched and made a cave inside this boulder before performing layers of formation in order to avoid being disturbed during his refining process.

He held the beast soul in both palms with his divine intents flying out of his eyes and surrounded the soul. The divine intents began the refinement process.

After ten days, Feiyun finally melted the soul completely into a part of his body.

"Boom!" He shattered the boulder and floated in space with a golden glow. A shadow of a Golden Leo appeared behind him, as tall as a mountain and incomparably ferocious.

It was completely tamed now and would follow all of his orders.

He unleashed a punch! A golden fist shadow flew out with a dragon-tiger energy condensed on top. It flew for one thousand meters before dissipating and destroyed all the boulders in its path.

This was his new power!

"This beast soul is quite strong, my strength is at least two levels higher now." Feiyun was quite surprised. He thought that at his current cultivation, it would be very difficult to raise his strength unless he were to jump in cultivation level. He didn't expect that refining a soul would result in such an increase.

The Golden Leo with an ancient sacred bloodline truly didn't let him down. He looked forward towards the Myriad Beast Physique even more.

If he could actually melt ten thousand souls into his body, just how strong will it become?

He began his training at last with the majority of his targets being 600-year beast souls. Of course, a few were 700-year old.

After three months, he has refined 274 of them into his body. 269 were 600-year while only five were 700-year.

"No, this is still too slow. If this is the going rate, I would only have refined 2,000 of them after two years, not even close to ten thousands."

Feiyun lowered his requirements and even began to catch 500-year souls.

They were weaker but the refinement process was faster. Moreover, there were plenty of them.

His body continued to grow as he refined a higher quantity. It would change after each refinement with his flesh and bones becoming a little stronger.

After he finished with one thousand souls, his body turned crazy. The demon's blood deep in his veins stirred as if it was about to be awakened from the stimulation of the souls.

Feiyun had to use his divine intents and his powerful phoenix soul before suppressing the other souls. If it was him alone, not to mention one thousand, just ten souls alone could have crush his soul and body. Only a soul as powerful as a phoenix would be able to cultivate the Myriad Beast Physique.

Time flew in the soul realm. One year has already passed.

He has finished refining 4,478 souls into his body. It was several times tougher now. One could sense his mighty vitality when he was just standing there. His aura permeated throughout the entire area.

With his activation, all the souls would fly out at once like an ocean and scared all the other beasts nearby.

A few other disciples training in the realm were frightened by his aura as well. When they saw the amazing scene in the distance, they would never forget it later on.

"Damn! What the hell am I looking at?!" One young disciple grabbed his head in shock.

"I recognize him, isn't that the demon's son? He's actually training here too. What the heck are those souls around him?"

No one believed that he could refine several thousand souls into his body. They assumed that he has used an incredible technique to tame the souls.

"That's the demon's son for you, such terrifying means, able to tame the souls here too."

"He's worthy of his fame as the number one genius of the Jin Dynasty. This beast-taming ability is definitely on the same level as the High Instructors."

The soul refinement capability wasn't determined by one's constitution but rather by the strength of their soul. The stronger the soul, the more beast souls it could suppress.

One's physique and power would become stronger after each soul refinement. However, there was diminishing return and a limit.

Ten thousand souls might have an unbelievable power but it wasn't a straight additive calculation because some of the souls repelled each other. Thus, the actual strength had some constraint.

Feiyun has finished with more than 9,000 now but he hasn't inherited their strength fully just yet. He was only around three times stronger than before.

Once he could absorb and utilize their strength fully, just one fist could end a Giant. Of course, this was only in theory and impossible to achieve.

Powers resonated and repelled each other. There was no escaping this.

"9,876 now!" Feiyun finally refined another group. His body has reached its limit and he couldn't refine another soul.

In order to do so again to obtain the real Myriad Beast Physique, he needed to be a first-level Heaven's Mandate.

His low cultivation has stopped him from training the physique further.

"Fine, after reaching Heaven's Mandate, I'll come back to find some powerful souls to suppress the rest. Just one Golden Leo is far from enough so I can't actually use the full potential of the physique."

Feiyun thought to himself. Before he knew it, two years have already passed. It was time for him to come out.

He recalled all the souls back into his body. His aura became even stronger and virtually unconcealable.

As he was leaving the realm, he saw Wang Meng training here as well.

After two years, this big fella got even larger. His body was nearly three meters high with a long beard. The hair on his chest and legs has grown even longer so he looked just like a living caveman.

"Uncle, did you eat some incredible plant here? How come your aura is so strong now?" Wang Meng carried his bloody sky piercer and felt frightened by Feiyun's aura. It was too strong and fierce just like a divine beast.

"Did you have a fruitful two years?" He smiled without answering.

"Haha, not bad, eight soul beasts in my body. I feel like I can kill an old geezer with just one blow." Wang Meng laughed heartily.

Feiyun was slightly surprised and carefully looked at the fella. Sure enough, he had eight souls in his body. All of them were quite fierce and belonged to the power type.

The Ancient Jiang Race had some strong constitution indeed. Wang Meng was born with supernatural power and now, he was even more mighty. His future achievement won't be a joke at all.

This was another freak among men.

"Let's go. There are more fights waiting for us after leaving." Feiyun said with an oppressive aura.

The pagoda shall tremble today. After leaving the soul realm, Feiyun will certainly bring about an Earth Tribulation!

He had no way of suppressing his cultivation any longer and there was no need for it. After two years of training, it was about time for him to reach Heaven's Mandate.

Who knows how many waves of lava he will bring?

Chapter 374: Earth Tribulation and Murderous Intents

The illuminating sun rose at noon. It was as hot as a stove causing the air to feel distorted. The beasts around the tower were lying on the ground while white smoke puffed out of their nose as they sneezed.

A few disciples of both sexes from the Beastmaster Tower were riding their silver birds in the sky. They were all beastmasters as well.

"Two and a half years have passed. The competition for the pagoda's list became even fiercer. I heard it's not just hunting corpses anymore. Some disciples are ambushing the way path to rob others' corpse palaces."

"Yan Ziyu became number one for a second time with ten thousand points higher than the others."

"The Jin Dynasty has changed too much in these two years. A few more grand historical geniuses have arrived to shock the world."

"I heard Scholar Heaven Calculating is about to compile an Upper Historical and Lower Historical List with ten places each. The eight older geniuses are all on the upper list. As for the last two spots, our Princess Luofu and Yan Ziyu are prime candidates."

"I heard this leaked info before. The number-one ranker on the upper list is a mysterious person. Even the scholar doesn't know who he is and could only faintly sense his aura. He is around now, just not showing his face yet to the cultivation world though."

"The lower list has the new geniuses in this generation. If Princess Luofu can't get into the upper list, she'll probably be number one on the lower list."

"All of you are forgetting the two devils from the Feng Clan. The demon's son's current aptitude is matchless right now. Once he reaches Heaven's Mandate, he'll rise like a dragon surging in the ocean. And Little Demoness is only fourteen right now yet her cultivation is virtually the same as Yan Ziyu. These two are top candidates too for the upper list."

"I know that the scholar is also writing the Hegemon List. He stands on top of the Bell Tower every day to read the stars and momentum of the heaven and earth. I'm sure this list is about to come out."

"I heard the same thing. Rumor has it that the Jin Dynasty isn't the number one power. Some ancient lineages are above it..."

"It's better if you don't talk about this. People of our level shouldn't..." Ji Xinnu reminded.

These disciples didn't dare to speak any longer. The chaotic signs have emerged. Those who dare to run their mouth carelessly would encounter some unpleasantries on the second day.

While looking at the harsh sun, one of them was shocked and broke the silence: "Look over there, why is that group of black cloud coming over here? Is there a heretical intruder to our pagoda?"

Xinnu focused her gaze. Sure enough, billowing large clouds were coming over like a mighty army. Half of the sky was being filled.

A terrifying aura made their birds quiver and lost control. All of them were plunging towards the ground.

The earth wasn't calm either. Its crust was moving to the dismay of the crowd.

"Rumble!" The thick dark clouds filled the sky and blotted out the sun. The world turned black and one couldn't see their hand raised in front of them.

The instructors and High Instructors were the first to fly out on their strange beasts with a faint glow around them like Buddhas hovering in the sky.

One High Instructor took action and helped the Xinnu's group by lifting them back to the tower. They were afraid of the young ones being hurt by the Earth Tribulation.

"Such powerful energy from this Earth Tribulation, who the hell is it?" Even the four Vice Tower Lords were alarmed. They watched the scene on the higher floor.

All the beasts nearby felt unease. Some howled at the sky while others trembled in fear on the ground.

"Boom!" A flood of beasts rushed out from the 66th floor of the tower. Several thousand souls crossed through the sky like a galaxy with a majestic force.

A youth in white was leading the pack like a meteor in the night sky. All the souls behind him seemed to be part of his own soul and followed him with great speed.

The clouds and lava below gushed towards his direction.

One person alone has stirred the world itself.

"That's Feng Feiyun, the demon's son. After two years of training, look at the commotion now with his Earth Tribulation."

"That's the number one genius in the dynasty for you. No one can compare to this particular atmosphere from his tribulation."

"I should have known it was him."

"What is going on with all the beast souls behind him?"

The instructors and vice lords along with the older experts gave chase. They wanted to see the tribulation scene of the best genius in the dynasty.

Xinnu's misty eyes glared at the beasts in the horizon. 'Feiyun is getting even stronger, maybe he can really help us revenge. I didn't misjudge him.'

"Rumble!" The older cultivators at the many towers were stirred by Feiyun's momentum.

On one particular tower was an old man with fully white hair. He also gave chase with shock in his eyes.

Feiyun finally made it to a remote location at the boundary of the pagoda. He suddenly stopped and said: "We'll do it here."

The seniors didn't come closer. They understood that he has chosen the place.

The Divine King and the Martial Tower Lord personally came as well in order to protect him.

The aura of the tribulation grew even stronger. The earth quaked and split in many places. Hot waves rose from below.

With a determined gaze, Feiyun channeled and all of the souls flew back into his body and became one with his flesh. He plunged right into the soil.

"What the hell, am I seeing things?" Zhang Badao became slack-jawed and couldn't believe what he was seeing.

Everyone gasped in the vicinity and thought they were seeing things. Several thousand beast souls condensed into one body? This has exceeded the scope of their imagination.

Even the Divine King became serious.

This was simply too unbelievable!

"Boom!" The first lava wave came from the far north. Though it was still underground, its temperature made the ancient trees nearby dry up instantly.

The second wave came from the mountain like a fire dragon with an oppressive momentum. This was even stronger than other Earth Tribulations. It looked like the entire world was revolving around this process.

Feiyun were several hundred meters underground with the lava. Light shot out of his body like a thick mist and fought against the hot liquid.

The first wave was only one meter thick. The second was two and the third was three...

This was even scarier than regular fire. A red energy instantly melted the soil into a liquid even hotter than molten iron.

The sixth wave was six meters thick and came like a river. The seventh was naturally seven meters thick and has turned into a serpent. Feiyun shattered its head but the broken liquids came together instantly, wishing to devour him.

"Boom!" Feiyun destroyed the serpent's body and rushed out from the lava. The mist surrounding his body has been weakened by the lava.

"No wonder why it's so hard to surpass this Earth Tribulation and more than half of cultivators die here. The waves are increasingly stronger by several levels."

The eighth wave has appeared like an ocean of fire and wished to engulf him.

The ninth was next in line with an incomparable sharpness. The front was just like the tip of a sword with the length of several dozen miles.

"Geezer, you think how many waves Junior Brother can bring?" Despite being the Divine King's disciple, Zhang Badao never gave a damn and dared to call the Divine King a geezer. The Divine King stared at the black clouds in the sky without answering.

"I think there will be twelve. From the ancient records, Nalan Hongtao brought about twelve waves during his Earth Tribulation. Who knows what it will look like? Since Senior Brother could defeat Hongtao, he should be able to call for twelve too." Badao elaborated.

A royal draconic aura suddenly erupted from the Divine King. He didn't seem like a feeble old man at all with his aura turning sharp. He glared at the sky and shouted: "They're finally here!"

A huge palm shattered the clouds and descended like a mountain towards the ground.

"Quite bold, daring to attack the pagoda's territory?!" Badao swung his black rod. It also grew larger to the size of a mountain and shattered that palm attack.

Some people didn't wish to see Feiyun surpassing his Earth Tribulation and mature. That's why they tried to eliminate him from several thousand miles away.

It was a half-step Giant attacking earlier. Of course, this was only a preliminary test. They didn't go all out just yet.

A watery expanse materialized in the sky with the aura of a Giant. A cauldron of the spirit treasure level flew out with its edge aiming for Feng Feiyun underground.

He was too much of a threat and made many feel uneasy. The Divine King could sense at least five Giants hiding nearby. They blocked out the heaven's eyes so there was no way of finding their exact location.

Chapter 375: Giant Slaying

The cauldron towered at a hundred meter high with seven legs and sixteen handles. It was created by smelting a million pound of bronze with beast runes imprinted on top. Flames channeled through this spirit treasure with the name of "Moon Mountain Cauldron". It had appeared in the cultivation world before.

This was a third-ranked treasure with terrifying power and had killed two Giants before.

A weapon that had been missing for one hundred years showed up again today. The significance behind this was incredible. The Grand Southern Prefecture couldn't produce a third-ranked weapon. It must be a great power from another region.

The Divine King swept his sleeve and a golden dragon flew out to attack the cauldron. It coiled around the treasure and pushed it away into the horizon.

"Even a monstrous weapon like that is here... I'm afraid the enemies have Giants at eighth-level Heaven's Mandate."

Giants had this title because they were at the top of the Jin Dynasty like pillars upholding the world. This was usually the ancestor level as well.

There were disparities among Giants. However, lower-ranked cultivators weren't privy to this knowledge and thought all Giants were insuperable.

The aura on some ancestors that have lived for centuries was boundless. A few disciples would never be able to see one in their lifetime and felt that they were immortals. Thus, how could they dare to gauge the ancestors' power?

The truth was that the most common Giants were at the seventh level of Heaven's Mandate. Ninety percent of all Giants were at this level.

At the eighth level, they would be considered a "Super Giant". This type of being meditated towards the supreme grand dao and rarely participated in power contention. They were few in numbers and much stronger than ordinary Giants.

At the ninth level, they were called "Paramount Giant". There were even less of them and the majority all lived in seclusion in preparation for the Heaven Tribulation. They would only show themselves in times of true perils in the world.

Of course, there was also the "Supreme Giant", or the "Historical Giant". These were the historical geniuses at the ninth level with peerless battle potential. One would be hard-pressed to find them in the current generation.

After all, before the changes to the world's momentum, only one historical genius would come out in each generation. Moreover, not all of them could reach the ninth level since half of these geniuses died young while cultivating.

"After two years, the entire dynasty is under turbulence. Places might seem calm but the undercurrents are running strong. It's not strange for Super Giants to come out." The Divine King stated.

The time of chaos has begun. The number one sacred ground in the world will become an empty shell. Not only would the young generation leave but many tower lords would do so as well. [1]

"Who attacked earlier?" Zhang Badao was no longer careless and asked in a serious manner.

The king shook his head with a solemn appearance as well: "This level of character has transcended the mortal boundary and hid quite well. However, not too many people could take out a weapon as powerful as the Moon Mountain Cauldron. I have a pretty good guess."

These people came prepared so it won't be that easy to scare them off.

"Rumble!" Countless holes formed in the ground. The tenth lava wave has shown itself and led the other nine waves to form a net trapping Feiyun inside.

The entrapped space became smaller and hotter as the lava waves thickened.

This lava from the Earth Tribulation could melt the skin easily off a cultivator. Feiyun's dragon-tiger energy was instantly corroded by the lava. He had to take out the ring and used its diagrams to protect himself.

This was only the tenth wave yet it had already forced him to use a spirit treasure. This was the danger of the Earth Tribulation. The stronger the participate, the stronger the tribulation.

The next challenge was even more terrifying, the eleventh wave!

The majority of the eight older historical geniuses only brought about eleven waves. All of them were excellent but many nearly died from the onslaught.

Feiyun didn't relax at all. His body tensed up with all forty divine intents in action. The moment the eleventh wave showed itself, he would take the initiative.

"Rumble!" The eleventh wave appeared just a while later.

The soil around Feiyun melted completely with the next assault.

The six diagrams protecting him were continuously pushed back!

"Yellow Earth Art!"

"Crimson Fire Art!"

Feiyun unleashed two elemental attacks in order to stop the lava.

Lava consisted of earth and fire so the two arts were meant to control the lava and turn it into his own.

The true body of the eleventh wave emerged. It looked like a massive claw spanning rushing out of the earth and tried to grab him.

Its temperature was even more frightening with an incomparable strength.

Feiyun had his ring positioned above his head with the six diagrams in six directions. The Eight Trigrams floated above his head. The Ten Thousand Lights was below him. In front was the Netherworld Spirit Pagoda with the Four Yang Ancient Cauldron behind him. To the left was the Heavenly Flying King and to the right was the Hundred Ghosts Banquet.

The six diagrams acted like six different worlds.

"Minor Change Art! Heaven Battle Altar!" Forty white altars protected forty different locations on his body. He didn't believe that the lava could get through these two defensive layers.

"Boom!" The claw finally came and grasped the six diagrams till they started to shrink. It made contact with the battle altar next.

"Break!" He pushed up with both hands. The altars and the six diagrams erupted and blew up the lava as he flew straight out.

At this time, the twelfth lava showed itself!

"The demon's son has exceeded the eleventh lava. His aptitude is really higher than the other historical geniuses."

"The legendary twelfth one has finally appeared. Only wise sages on the sacred tablet could bring about this type of tribulation."

The cultivators here were witnessing history. Such an event might not happen once in several thousand years.

This wave didn't come from the earth but descended from the sky instead. Someone saw an indescribable crimson waterfall pouring down.

"This wave is unreal. It's not only the power of the earth but contains a strand of the heavenly tribulation too. The two are fused together."

"It looks like an Earth Tribulation with a heavenly interference but even more devastating." [2]

"This shows his outrageous talents. It's understandable that a heavenly power is coming to get rid of him."

"Wait... someone else is attacking while hiding behind the lava!" Someone shouted in horror.

Behind the lava wave were three spirit treasures with the Moon Mountain Cauldron leading the way. The other two were second-ranked spirit treasures with impressive offensive power. All were used by Giants.

Many older cultivators were wounded by this pressure and spat out blood even though they were a hundred miles away.

A Giant could utilize a spirit treasure to its fullest potential, even if it is only a first-ranked weapon. They could easily annihilate a city; this was the true power of these treasures.

Moreover, there was a third-ranked and two second-ranked treasures at this moment. The power was even more calamitous.

The Divine King started by using his best spirit treasure, a third-ranked with the shape of a jade seal. It met the three spirit treasures at the same time so they wouldn't interfere with Feiyun's tribulation.

"You dare to attack again?! You think I'm too old to kill now?!" The king snorted and directly rushed out with his jade seal with a draconic energy surrounding his body.

"Boom! Boom!" His jade seal alone repelled all three treasures. It wasn't because they weren't powerful enough; the king was simply too mighty.

"Whoosh!" He became the hunter. With a flash, he appeared several thousand miles away and fought against the three Giants.

Two miserable screams resounded. Two of them couldn't stop his offense and ran towards the horizon with grievous injuries.

"Bang!" He fiercely smashed down with his seal and murdered the last one!

A Giant has fallen. His blood began to scorch the earth with a crimson fire for a long time. This was the last bit of energy from a big shot. It could burn for three months straight before depleting completely and extinguishing.

It was very difficult to kill a Giant but the king had just killed one to the horror of the crowd.

"Long Chuanfeng, your vitality is still fine after living for 800 years. Could it be that you have reached the Paramount Giant level?" Someone loudly asked.

This person used the Moon Mountain cauldron to stop the king from killing another wounded Giant.

He looked around the age of sixty with an ancient crest. A chilling fog loomed around his body on top of a noble and oppressive aura. He began to fight the king with his cauldron.

Chapter 376: Thirteenth Lava Wave

"I knew it was you, Beiming Zhishang." The Divine King spoke.

He was the uncle of the current Grand Chancellor, Beiming Moshou and a top expert from this clan who was in the same generation as the Divine King. They fought three times and he lost all three.

"Feiyun is a deadman. Long Chuanfeng, you won't be able to protect him." Zhishang sneered.

"You're courting death if you want to kill my successor!" Two golden rays shot out from the king's eyes like thunder flashing in the sky. Zhishang quickly retreated into the clouds and summoned his Moon Mountain Cauldron to stop the two rays.

"Rumble!"

The king channeled a yellow spirit energy and condensed it into a saber before slashing forward.

This was the fifth slash of the Dragon King's Saber Art. The yellow dragon energy materialized into physical form and split the sky. This was countless times stronger than Feiyun's art.

"Boom!" The cauldron almost broke from the impact. Zhishang's shoulder had a large wound after being struck by the saber art with blood gushing out.

"Long Chuanfeng, you... you have actually reached ninth-level Heaven's Mandate, a Paramount Giant now..." Fear appeared on Zhishang's face.

"Just using the power of the eighth-level alone is enough to take you down in three moves." The Divine King replied.

The two exchanged their best moves again. Some amazing techniques actually had comparable might to a spirit treasure.

After just three moves, Beiming Zhishang vomited blood and lost for the second time. He didn't dare to linger around this time and screamed: "Long Chuanfeng, you win this time but it's not just my clan today. There are experts even stronger than me coming. You're going to pay a great price to protect the boy."

Zhishang disappeared from sight instantly using a heaven-defying art.

"You think you can leave that easily?" The Divine King was truly enraged today and wanted to kill him in order to make a point.

He has been quiet for too long so people have forgotten about his bloodthirst. They actually dared to come and try to kill his successor? That's simply not putting him in their eyes.

Must kill to intimidate others!

"Whoosh!" He swung his palm and a saber wave in the shape of a dragon flew out towards the horizon, aiming straight for Zhishang.

This was the sixth slash of the saber art!

A second miserable scream resounded for a thousand miles. A beautiful rain of blood fell down from the sky; another Giant has fallen.

"Long Chuanfeng... you win this time..." Zhishang used the other wounded Giant to stop the saber wave and seized the chance to escape.

"He's good at running." The Divine King wanted to attack again. However, a powerful shockwave came from behind him. Another person has attacked Feiyun while he was away.

He slightly shifted his body and rushed back with a jade seal in his hand. The power of the spirit treasure caused thunders to strike everywhere in the sky.

Two more half-step Giant and an actual Giant have been killed. Their body exploded into a mist of blood up above.

The Divine King was simply unstoppable with flowers of blood staining his clothes and circulating white draconic energy. He loomed above and declared: "Try if you wish to die!"

His majestic voice caused the clouds to tremble.

The scene became eerily quiet. None of the hiding masters dared to retort.

The blood of the Giants was still burning and painting the mountains red. Everyone felt that this was the scene of hell.

He was too powerful and had eliminated three Giants and two half-steps. Who could actually oppose his murderous prestige right now?

Feiyun was fighting against the tribulation underground but he could still feel the amazing battle raging above. It was definitely of the Giant level.

The twelfth lava wave was much more powerful than his imagination. It shattered both the six diagrams and the Heaven Battle Altar. The aura surrounding his body was being melted away. His flesh was finally invaded by this earthly energy. Luckily, the nine thousand beast souls were stopping this refining process.

Half of his hair has been burnt with wounds everywhere but he still managed to rush out of this lava wave.

"Feiyun has surpassed the twelfth wave now, is he first-level Heaven's Mandate..." This speaker immediately shuts up before finishing.

"Wait, he's not coming out completely but drilling even deeper. What the heck is going on?" Many experts used their divine intents to find him and found him sinking even more below.

At first, he was several hundred meters deep. Now, one thousand... two thousands... and even more. He almost disappeared from their sensing range.

These divine intents were stopped by the thick soil. Even first-level Heaven's Mandate had a range limit of one thousand meters underground.

The Divine King had a tinge of joy and austerity in his expression: "This is the legendary thirteenth wave."

Everyone was shocked including Zhang Badao. This was the first time they heard about it since they assumed the twelfth was the limit.

The king explained: "In the 'Marvelous Record', one supreme genius had been born in this region with an outrageous innate talent. He brought about the thirteenth wave during his Earth Tribulation. This wave is deep underground so one must get down in that ocean of lava to surpass this tribulation."

"How come I've never heard of this before?" Zhang Badao was astounded. There were too many strange things in the cultivation world. One must be strong enough before finding out about them.

This was the reason why there were so many frogs under the well.

The Divine King gave him the side-eye in response: "This supreme talent was born tens of thousand years ago. The Jin Dynasty didn't exist back then."

"What height did he reach in the end?" Badao became excited.

Even prodigies with twelve waves had incredible achievements in the future and became invincible. Now, his Junior Brother has brought about the next wave. It meant that his talents were even greater than the others. Thus, Badao's excitement became palpable.

The king shook his head: "The sea of lava down there isn't a place a grand achievement God Base could go. That supreme genius turned to ashes down there with a failed Earth Tribulation.

The smile on Badao's face disappeared instantly.

Incineration was the fate of a failed Earth Tribulation.

A power was pulling Feiyun in the center of the earth. His body had no choice but to approach closer. The soil and gravel actually made way for him.

The more downward he went, the hotter it became. Eventually, he fell into a sea of lava.

Feiyun was already prepared and summoned his spirit vessel. He stood on top with the Dragon-horse Diagram floating above to stop the liquid completely.

The lava here only had an ordinary temperature unlike the waves from the Earth Tribulation. They didn't have the same destructive power either.

"So this is the inner earth?" Feiyun was sweating profusely while exerting all of his spirit energy outward to the vessel.

Who knows how deep this place was below. A cultivator like him couldn't be here. Just the squeezing pressure of the earth alone could crush his body.

Luckily, the vessel barely protected him. This place was as deep as hell. The earth's core just needed to quake a bit and he would die without a grave even with the vessel in his possession.

Luck played a great factor in this place. Even without the next lava wave, he would die under the natural force of the earth.

This was not the time to linger around!

"Why isn't the thirteenth wave here yet?" The moment he had this thought, a monstrous flame swept through the sea of lava.

The thirteenth wave appeared and actually turned into a large humanoid form. It unleashed a palm towards Feiyun.

It was made from lava and the energy of the earth. This palm was very similar to the claw from the eleventh wave. However, this new one was a full humanoid.

While standing on the vessel, Feiyun had to withstand the force of the earth on top of fighting against this gigantic monster. This was more than ten times harder than dealing with the eleventh wave. He felt suffocated and unable to resist.

'Can't give up right now! Absolutely not! Giving up is death!'

Feiyun bit his teeth and his battle intent surged again.

'I shall fight!'

"Rumble!"

Feiyun unleashed all of his techniques in order to risk it all just once. The Infinite Spirit Ring, Thunderfire Jewel, stone saber, and the Heaven Punishing Hammer created from his divine intents.

All 9,876 beast souls rushed out from his body as well and turned into a brutish torrent that flooded the area.

His true body controlled the spirit vessel to fly towards the monstrous humanoid.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

More than one thousand beast souls were melted into smoke. Feiyun spat out blood with this grievous injury. Even his forty divine intents were beaten into submission, on the verge of dissipating. They had to fly back into his mind.

Nevertheless, he was still able to barely shatter the thirteenth wave as the reward.

"Damn. Almost got erased by that earthly energy. My luck is really something, to attract such a terrible Earth Tribulation. At least I got through it..."

His heart suddenly skipped a beat and felt that another power deeper into the earth was pulling him down. His body sank towards the sea of lava for the second time.

Chapter 377: Black Sacred Monument

The earth's core with the sea of lava existed at the very bottom. It could dissolve rocks and melt metals with its exceedingly high temperature. No humans could exist there so it was very mysterious with many unbelievable things.

Just like the space above, there were probably some strange and unknown creatures.

The Earth Tribulation originated from this sea of lava with a mysterious power. Some cultivators believed it came from the mythical hell. Others surmised that the earth's core was actually a ruler, the same existence as the heavenly dao.

A human's body had unchangeable physical limitation. For example, a mortal couldn't run one hundred miles in one minute or live longer than two hundred years.

The goal of cultivation was to break this limit!

One the body reached a certain level, it would bring about a tribulation. Only by surpassing this test would one be able to break through the limit and undergo an essential transformation.

Cultivators called this process "transcending from the mortal boundaries".

After the Earth Tribulation, the body would be able to accept the earthly energy and utilize earthly images. This was a physical metamorphosis allowing them to live for five hundred years, much longer than an ordinary person.

Cultivation alone wasn't enough; surpassing the tribulation was required.

In the eyes of mortals, a cultivator who could live for five hundred years was already an immortal.

Feng Feiyun stood on top of the vessel with the Dragon-Horse Diagram floating above. All of his energy flown into the vessel and created a domain to stop the power of the lava.

His body continued to sink towards the bottom.

The destructive power of the thirteenth wave was astonishing. It has destroyed 1,345 beast souls and grievously wounded another 3,482. Just how frightening would the fourteenth wave be then?

Feiyun held two True Mysterious Spirit Stones with his eyes closed while absorbing their energy in order to replenish his own at a rapid pace.

The fourteenth wave was certainly the last one. No way a fifteenth would come out. Only mythical geniuses would be able to call for the fifteenth.

Feiyun had a clear understanding of his own constitution. The fourteenth wave was possible but he still had a while to go before reaching the mythical level.

His body wasn't suitable for cultivation at the start. The Immortal Phoenix Physique strengthened his bloodline then the blood of the phoenix refined his skeleton.

Moreover, the souls of more than nine thousand beasts increased its power. This allowed him to reach his current innate talents.

For example, Su Yun and Dongfang Jingshui were natural geniuses. Feiyun used his own effort to change his talents so he had a much harder time in comparison.

He wasn't sure of surpassing this fourteenth wave but he must fight fearlessly.

"Boom!" The spirit vessel finally stopped and floated on top of the thick lava with a glow surrounding it like a pulsing lamp in an ocean of fire.

He put away the stones that haven't been fully absorbed just yet and got ready for the next challenge.

"My God Base is evolving into a crystal clear color just like an immortal jade. The spirit in the dantian has recovered by seventy percent; the beast souls are in top form too. It's up to this one final blow then."

He stood straight like a pillar with a sharp aura like a divine stone that has been buried underground. He was about to break through the shackles and illuminate the heaven and earth.

The last lava wave finally came unexpectedly inside Feiyun's dantian. It was ignited by an unknown force and began to erupt. Energy like the tide churned inside his body and a new power has emerged.

It was a crimson fire inside his dantian.

"Shit, the fourteenth wave doesn't come from the outside, it attacks from within!" Feiyun was startled.

The dantian was the most important yet weakest spot of a cultivator. Once damaged, they would become a cripple, no longer able to cultivate in the future. Because of this, most people prepared many plans to protect the dantian.

However, this power came from the dantian itself in a bizarre manner and caught him off guard. His spirit treasures and beast souls couldn't enter there so they were completely useless.

He had to rely on his own power.

Though this was outside of his expectation, he calmed his mind to face it.

The God Base in his dantian was the first cornerstone on the path towards immortality. It was fortified now and directly attacked the newly born wisp of flame in order to destroy it before the lava comes out.

"Boom!" This impact not only failed to destroy the flame but made it grow ten times bigger. It took liquid form now like a small lava serpent.

It grew stronger and stronger in spite of Feiyun's different types of attack.

"Can't let it continue on like this or my dantian will explode to this lava. I'll become nothing but ashes here underground."

The spirit vessel could enter the dantian. Its mysterious power might be able to suppress this lava but once he called it inside, he would have to face the sea of lava outside. That was a dead end as well.

"Boom!" The fourteenth wave has matured and began to slam into his dantian. Even the God Base couldn't stop its surging power. Feiyun's body started to tremble as blood oozed out of his mouth.

"Boom!"

Cracks appeared in his dantian with the second impact. Energy began to scatter outward.

He couldn't sit and wait since his dantian would be destroyed in another three slams at best. His cultivation would then be gone with the wind.

But what could he do? The fourteenth wave was completely immune to any offense and only grew stronger.

Not resisting will be death; resisting will result in a swifter death.

No wonder why so many supreme geniuses have died under the Earth Tribulation. The greater the talents, the more insane these tribulations would be.

This fourteenth wave was simply insuperable.

With a more severe impact, the cracks became more numerous. Feiyun's spirit energy was leaving his body. Even the light on the spirit vessel turned dimmer and could falter to the lava at any moment.

"It's not impossible. Others people have done it before so why can't I?!"

"I can't give up now. If the heaven wants to destroy me, I shall break the heaven. If the earth wishes to end me, I will crush the earth!" His body was breaking down as well with long drips of blood oozing down.

Everything flew out from his spatial stone including other spirit stones, spirit treasures, and bones...

He wanted to try everything in this perilous situation in order to see if something would work.

"Oh? This is..." Feiyun probed around and grabbed a black item. This was the divine plaque from the coffin of the first generation Feng Clan Master.

It was quite cold and has changed massively after being stimulated by the power of the sacred monument. There was a black glow on it now with indecipherable words carved on top as well as humanoid figures.

They were the saints on the tablet: Fo Canzi, Zi Wu, Long Jiangling, Princess Luofu... Their souls seemed to be jumping on this plaque.

"Whatever, let's do it!" Feiyun gripped it and forcefully assimilate it into his body towards his dantian.

A spirit treasure could change in size. A gigantic weapon could be hidden in one's ears, shirt sleeves, or even the pores in the skin. For example, the Thunderfire Jewel was inside his palm's pore but it couldn't enter his body.

Only a saint artifact would be able to do it, such as the Azure Spirit Vessel.

This black plaque was naturally not a saint vessel. After entering the host's body, its overwhelming power resulted in an explosion but Feiyun had no other option. He felt the bone-piercing chill on this tablet and wanted to use it to stop the lava wave.

He didn't have time to think. Just a blink late and the lava wave would break his dantian.

"Maybe I'll just take it directly..." Feiyun knew that this course of action was rash but it wasn't without logic. After all, this was at the very end of the Earth Tribulation and Heaven's Mandate was next.

He would be able to refine a soulbound artifact at first level.

If he was fast and precise enough, after the plaque came into his dantian and destroy the lava, he could refine it into his soulbound artifact before it broke his body.

Swift was the keyword!

The divine plaque turned into a black ray and fell into the sea in the dantian. It suddenly became huge and majestic like a monument floating in the air.

The three words only it became demonic with blood dripping down. The wise sages became animated with devotion in their eyes. They were humble like servants looking at a master.

This change took him by surprise as well.

"Boom!" The cold energy rushed out and filled his dantian before suppressing the lava wave. The wave didn't let up and became ferocious like a serpent slamming into the monument.

Chapter 378: Violet Central Palace

The black monument displayed a terrifying aura with clouds and humanoids chanting heavenly spells.

The fourteenth lava wave was being heavily suppressed but still continued to assault the dantian's wall and pried it open.

The dantian had three levels: Upper, middle, and lower.

Cultivators below Heaven's Mandate worked on their upper.

The ones above worked on their middle which is also known as the Violet Central Palace.

The middle dantian was countless times larger than the upper. It hid many mysteries and cultivators could dedicate their whole lives without learning everything.

The body was a great treasury that could gestate a power comparable to the universe. This dantian made up seventy percent of this treasury.

Its opening was the first step to Heaven's Mandate.

The God Base created by Feiyun jumped into the middle dantian and was dissolved by the energy within. It turned into divine rays before condensing together to form a domain with the shape of a basket. It occupied its own space in this area.

This space wasn't small at all but just the tip of the iceberg when compared to the vast middle dantian.

"Whoosh!" The monument turned into a black speck as well and rushed into this area. It spun around the domain created by the God Base and began to absorb the magical energy in this Violet Palace.

This was the prelude to creating a soulbound artifact. The monument was mysterious with an unfathomable power. There were eighteen heroes on the surface; each the strongest of their respective cultivation.

He could actually survive this if he could refine it into his soulbound artifact. He sat on his vessel and began the process. This was the most crucial moment. A powerful soulbound artifact was the final move for a cultivator and could reverse the tide.

The wound on his dantian automatically healed and spirit energy poured down towards the middle dantian. It was a bottomless hole, virtually impossible to fill.

Feiyun opened all 360 of his meridians. They spun like vortexes and absorbed the energy in the outside world. This energy made it to the upper first before reaching the middle dantian. It was an endless process.

After the spirit energy reached the middle dantian, it became assimilated with the magical energy inside the violet palace. The purity and power became several times higher than previous.

The black monument absorbed this violet energy. Its aura became more and more similar to Feiyun, seemingly wanting to fuse together with him and becoming a part of his body.

More and more energy from the outside came like a flood and was turned into the violet energy.

His current domain made from the God Base within the middle dantian was only as large as the upper dantian.

As he grew stronger, the God Base's domain would also become larger and able to contain more violet energy with greater purity.

This was the reason why the God Base was viewed with high importance by cultivators. This was the only thing that could create a boundless domain within the middle dantian.

If the God Base wasn't strong enough, it couldn't continue to grow for the second time. This meant it couldn't store even more energy and the user's cultivation would stop here.

Many cultivators would stop at first-level Heaven's Mandate due to their lacking God Base despite cultivating for several hundred years. Finally, the disaster at the end of the five hundred years came and they met their death.

Of course, some people had a weak constitution and not enough violet energy in their middle dantian. They would also stop at the first level because of this.

Nevertheless, this type of masters was already exceptional and considered big shots at the Jin Dynasty. After all, able to live for several hundred years was much better than mortals who couldn't cultivate.

Feiyun naturally wouldn't stop here. The heavenly dao was boundless in his eyes.

"Boom!"

The monument has finally been refined completely inside the violet palace and turned into part of his body. He could feel its existence. A strand of information poured out from the monument and entered his head.

"Ascension Platform!" He read the words. Could this be the meaning of the ancient words on the monument before?

The real name of this black tablet was "Ascension Platform"!

This information strand was both ancient and mighty in terms of aura. Due to the large gap in cultures, Feiyun could only understand some key things from the message. For example: "Teleportation Platforms... Ascension Heavenly Palace... Fate Stone... Incoming Calamity..."

These words were disorderly so he didn't know what it was implying. He only knew about the teleportation platforms which were the altar on Mount Banda and the large stone monolith on the sacred lake.

He didn't have the slightest clue about the other words.

Another strange thing was that the eighteen figures on the platform all fell off and turned into illusory figures. They floated in eighteen different directions on the platform.

"Their souls have been refined on this item. So leaving their name on that tablet was akin to offering their soul to this Ascension Platform." Feiyun could feel the faint power of their souls.

"Geezer, why is there no sign, can it be..." Badao swallowed with his eyes staring straight at the ground. It was still as innocent as when the Divine King tricked him into the cultivation path by saying: "If you want to eat steamed buns, cultivate! If you want good meat soup, cultivate!" [1]

He still hasn't seen the good stuff yet. He continued to look around and hoped for Feiyun to come out of the ground but was met with disappointment. There was not the slightest sound and his divine intents couldn't reach the molten core, no chance of knowing what was going on.

The Divine King could maintain his composure but after six hours, he couldn't help but scratch his head. After all, no one has ever made it through the thirteenth wave before. Even that incredible genius died to it in the past.

"Looks like Feiyun is dead to the thirteenth wave." A Giant spoke from the darkness. He seems to be speaking to someone.

A response came about: "Hmph, no signs at all. That's a failed tribulation then, completely annihilated down there."

"Nevertheless, he still shocks the world with this. That's a thirteen waves tribulation, only two of this level have ever appeared in the Jin Dynasty."

"That's a glorious death. His name will be written in the historical annals. People shall continue to see it for thousands of year to come."

Not far from there among some tower mountains were five old men wearing a blue dove gown.

The one in front had a gloomy expression on his white skin tone. Another old man with an aquiline nose stood in front with a golden scroll embroidered with a dragon on the cover.

Though this scroll has yet to be open, one could feel the terrible power emanating from it. Weaker cultivators would be forced down on their knees.

"Western Director, looks like Feng Feiyun has fallen so there's no need to open the imperial decree now. We can go back to the capital." The old man's pitch was high and soft like a woman but there was still a certain ruggedness to it.

They were eunuchs from the capital coming here with an imperial decree. The leader was one of the five great eunuchs in the royal palace, Western Director.

"Before leaving, Imperial Consort Hua told us to wait for Feiyun to surpass the tribulation before revealing the decree just in case of his failure." The Western Director's eyes were gloomy but it contained a powerful yin energy that marveled the four behind him.

"The consort truly predicted everything. Maybe she knew Feiyun wouldn't be able to surpass this trial." Imperial Consort Hua was one of the four great consorts and also Princess Luofu's birth mother.

Western Director said with a tinge of regrets: "Feiyun is indeed the number one genius since the start of our dynasty, able to actually bring about thirteen waves. It's a shame that he couldn't break through it. Sigh! Damn it! Let's go. We've left for two years now, it's time to return."

"Boom!"

A shimmering ray rushed out of the ground like a sun. It rose to the nine heavens and illuminated half of the sky.

Feiyun flew out of the ground earlier with several thousand beast souls behind him like a river. They eventually entered his body again.

"Finally made it through all the waves, I can see the sunlight again!" Feiyun roared with violet spirit energy spewing from his mouth. It directly scattered the tribulation clouds and the world became bright again.

All of the cultivators who were leaving with dejection immediately turned around and stared at the violet energy in disbelief. Their jaws were about to drop to the ground.

Feiyun has actually surpassed the Earth Tribulation. What...

Many couldn't bear this incredible shock. Their mind trembled after seeing the great amount of violet energy spewing from his body. This guy has just surpassed the Earth Tribulation recently so it can't be that strong. Did he actually make it through a fourteenth wave as well...

Bao's Note:

Here's an amusing note from the author. This word gave me so much trouble, no wonder why. That's why I kept it as Ju Qing from the start.

Chapter 379: Disaster

Feiyun soared to the nine firmaments after surviving his tribulation and became the first to survive the earth's core in the Jin Dynasty.

The best in all of history!

Violet clouds filled the sky as if an immortal was descending. The older cultivators were shocked while watching this youth dressed in white floating in the sky. He was gallant and resembled the rising star in the horizon.

"Congratulation, Divine King, congratulation. Your disciple has surpassed the Earth Tribulation to reach Heaven's Mandate. He will rise and silence the world henceforth."

"Wow! Such power after reaching Heaven's Mandate already. He'll surely be invincible in just ten years."

The instructors from the pagoda came to congratulate the Divine King who was feeling quite happy and proud. 'I really didn't misjudge the brat, it'll depend on his effort to see how high he can reach in the future.'

"Pluff!" A disaster suddenly happened.

A spear pierced through the sky like a dragon and penetrated Feiyun's chest. He fell from the sky with blood gushing out of the gaping wound.

This took everyone by surprise. A master took this chance to heavily wound him.

Feiyun covered his chest with blood all over his hand and clothes while falling down. He unleashed a palm at the sky in order to stabilize and landed on both feet. Nevertheless, he was still half kneeling with dust blowing everywhere.

"You still dare?!" The Divine King was furious. Someone actually attacked again despite his presence. This was not putting him in their eyes.

He flashed and disappeared instantly. More devastating sounds came about without pausing.

Zhang Badao landed before Feiyun and helped him up, "Junior Brother, how is it?"

"Won't die from this!" Feiyun coughed and stood up. Violet energy filled his palm and the wound on his chest began to recover with a visible pace.

It was a Giant who attacked earlier. If it wasn't for his tough body with the phoenix blood refinement, that spear would have torn him to pieces.

Badao furiously shouted: "They waited for you to surpass the tribulation to catch everyone off guard!"

"Pluff!" Feiyun's chest exploded again for a second time with a strange vortex. It simply wouldn't heal.

Badao was shocked at this sight. Feiyun turned pale and nearly fell over.

This wound wasn't ordinary! Badao quickly channeled his own energy to help Feiyun recover.

"Boom!" The fog dissipated. The Divine King was stomping on a Giant dressed in a purple robe. The two of them slammed into the ground, creating many pits.

Too domineering. This guy just crushed a Giant without giving him a chance to fight back.

"Cough! Divine King, it's useless even if you kill me. The boy is struck with the ultimate poison from our Violet Sea Cave, Yama's Blood Decay. No one can save him now. In just three days, his body will rot into pus." The Giant guffawed.

"Yama's Blood Decay." Anyone who heard this name felt a chill and got as far away from Feiyun as possible.

This poison has frightened everyone back in the ancient era. It was truly the call from Yama; any cultivator regardless of how strong they were would die after being touched by one drop of this poison.

Moreover, the ones close to the inflicted would eventually die too. They would turn into corpse evils with body hair everywhere.

This ultimate poison was exceedingly precious. The cave itself only had a few drops and treated them like spirit treasure. It was only used for top characters in the cultivation world. Who would have thought that they brought one drop here just to kill Feiyun.

The enraged king erupted; his white hair destroyed his own crest before he stomped the Giant to death. The victim's blood oozed out and incinerated the air into a sea of flame.

"Damn, the Divine King is still as murderous as ever, killing four Giants in one day. I'm sure the world got his message, no one will provoke him anymore."

"Sigh! He was forced to do so. After all, it's not easy to recruit a brilliant disciple like this. Now the boy is wounded with that decay blood. I think he's done for now."

"Yama's Decay Blood ... Sigh!"

The Divine King returned and came to Feiyun's location. He grabbed the boy's wrist and a golden light poured into his body.

Feiyun's chest wound closed for a second time with this golden energy. Alas, when it was inches away from healing completely, more cracks appeared with blood and vitality seeping out.

With a gaze like lightning, the king channeled the energy in his violet palace and used his own draconic energy to forcefully close the cracks.

"Boom!" A hideous ghost formed from the decaying blood and engraved itself into his chest. A corrosive and evil force pushed the Divine King back.

This was Yama's image from the poison. It began to spread across the entire body for the devouring process.

Feiyun became even paler and said: "It's useless, master, no need to risk or the poison will invade you too."

"A master is for life. Come, I'll take you to the Pill Tower." The king swept his sleeve and took Feiyun towards the sky. They turned into a rainbow to head towards the tower.

Zhang Badao stomped on the ground and gritted his teeth with annoyance. He followed the two as well.

The rest of the cultivators glanced at each other. This development took them by surprise. It wasn't easy for this paramount genius to come out at the pagoda but now, a disaster has struck.

"The Pill Tower is Feiyun's only hope of surviving. I heard there is a Grand Pill Master there. Even the current Grand Chancellor calls him Martial Uncle. His rank is two levels higher than the Pill Tower Lord."

"There are only two Grand Pill Masters at the Jin Dynasty. The chancellor is one and this reclusive senior. The senior is probably the number one pill master in the dynasty but some said that he hasn't come out for several hundred years. There's a chance that he is dead from old age now."

"He owed a large debt to the Divine King so since the king is going there, he's surely not dead."

"He's definitely the only one who can deal with the Yama's Decay Blood."

People wanted to see if Feiyun could survive so they flew towards the Pill Tower as well.

The five eunuchs exchanged glances since they didn't expect this either.

The Western Director carefully held the imperial decree and said: "We'll go take a look too. If the poison is incurable, we won't open this decree."

"A cripple isn't qualified to listen to the decree nor marry the princess."

The five old men turned into rays and soared into the sky.

In a room free of a single speck of dust at the top of Pill Tower. A skinny old man with hair more than ten meters long stood there. His pupils sank into the sockets too deeply to be seen. He had a finger on Feiyun's wrist.

Only Grand Pill Master Bai Guo, the Divine King, Zhang Badao, and Feiyun were here. The rest didn't dare to come in.

After a while, the pill master pulled his finger back and frowned while shaking his head with sighs.

Feiyun knew his situation very well. This poison was impossible to stop. Even he hasn't seen such a poison before.

"No need to bother, senior. Life and death are up to fate." Feiyun was still calm but speaking made him cough out blood. He quickly wiped it away with his sleeve.

The pill master nodded approvingly: "It's commendable for a youth to see through life like this. However, life is the most precious thing, do not give up so easily."

Feiyun smiled in response: "Given the choice, who would actually pick death?"

"That's good to hear." The old man stood up and rubbed his wrinkly forehead.

The king came over and asked: "Is there a way to cure it?"

The pill master shook his head: "This poison is created from an unknown creature. I need to research at least two hundred years in order to find an antidote but it'll be... sigh!"

The king became disappointed and stared at Feiyun. This was his best disciple, how could he watch him die like this? He murmured again unwillingly: "Is there really no other way?"

The pill master added: "Anyone else will be dead for sure, but his body is much tougher than ordinary people. Plus, there are strong soul beasts there, if we send this in time..."

"There's an antidote?" Badao became excited.

The pill master sighed again: "I have a fifth-ranked spirit pill that has grown for five hundred years. It can save his life for now. If he doesn't fight and just meditate peacefully, he can live for another two years."

From beginning to end, Feiyun was especially calm. He has died once already so nothing could scare him. He said: "There aren't that many fifth-ranked spirit pill in the Jin Dynasty. No need to waste it on a dead man like me."

The king was full of regrets. He thought that he had found a descendant at his old age to take up his mantle and title but this disaster decided to come.

"Pill Master Bai Guo, let him have that pill! Then we'll be even." The king said with a tinge of sadness. His eyes became somewhat moist.

The powerful aura disappeared from the king as if he has just aged by several hundred years. The worlddeterring prestige was nowhere to be found.

The greater the hope, the greater the disappointment. He had pinned all of his hope on Feiyun but now, it has scattered completely like the clouds.

Chapter 380: The Fleeting Hero

Feng Feiyun still ate the fifth-ranked spirit pill so the Yama's Decay Blood was temporarily suppressed. The Yama seal on his chest was still there. His expression was sickly without any glow. He often would even cough out blood.

It looked like an ongoing case of tuberculosis.

"Young friend, rest peacefully at the pagoda for the next two years. Don't worry about the pagoda's list. Remember, be tolerant and let go of anger. That's the only way to live for another two years, otherwise... sigh." Grand Pill Master Bai Guo chattered away but couldn't finish the rest. Feiyun remained calm. He began to channel spirit energy without wanting to stop. Death was better than to lose his fighting spirit.

"Why is my cultivation receding constantly?" Feiyun asked.

The pill master replied: "The decay blood will not only corrode your body but also your cultivation. You will become weaker and weaker over the next two years. When all of your cultivation is gone, so will your life."

"Zhang Badao, take your Junior Brother back to the Martial Tower." The Divine King heaved a sigh and stared at Feiyun one last time before leaving with a gloomy look.

Feiyun was quite moved. This Divine King was a good master. It wasn't a bad deal to call him a master at all.

Even the greatest genius would turn into a cripple because of this poison and lose all value. Nevertheless, the Divine King still treated him as a disciple and tried to cure him as well as wasting a favor in order to let him live two years longer.

Someone else would have run away and let Feiyun fence for himself. This was when he could see who was truly cared for him versus the pretenders.

People come and go; their mind and ties were quick to change.

"He must be so disappointed!" Feiyun stared emotionally at the dejected king's back.

Zhang Badao said: "Junior Brother, come back with me! The Martial Tower has me and master there, no one will dare to do anything to you."

Feiyun has offended many people. Now, he was injured with no recovery in sight. The others were no longer scared of him. He would be humiliated or even killed without the protection of the Divine King.

Feiyun shook his head in response: "Thank you for your kind wish, Brother but I have many things to do and can't be a coward hiding in the Martial Tower. That will be an indignant death."

Zhang Badao was a strange character. He valued friendship and family so after hearing this, he didn't become sad at all but slammed his thigh approvingly: "That's my Junior Brother. Even if you die, you must go in a blaze of glory like a real man."

Feiyun smiled back. This caused blood to ooze out of his mouth so he had to wipe them clean: "Brother, are you not afraid of the poison? If you stay too close to me, you'll be infected too."

Badao became a bit sad and said: "I'm your only Senior Brother so of course, I don't give a damn. If it comes, I'll punch it running! But... many of your friends, they might... Junior Brother, you need to see through relationships after this and care a bit less. Otherwise, you'll find that living in this world isn't that fun at all."

Feiyun nodded. One could only find out those who truly care for them during their lowest moment.

Feiyun took out the insignia and gave it back to Badao so he could return it to the king. This insignia has lost its value, no need to keep it around.

This news spread quickly across the pagoda, the southern prefecture, then all of the Jin Dynasty. Everyone knew that Feiyun has become a cripple after being inflicted by the poison.

"I thought that the number one genius of the dynasty would soar like a hawk instead of falling down like this."

"Even Grand Pill Master can only let him live two years longer. Looks like the demon's son is really done for."

"That's only living a borrowed life. I heard his cultivation will scatter and become weaker until death."

"A cripple... what a waste of the fifth-ranked pill. If I had it, I could reach half-step Giant."

Everyone debated about Feiyun. Some felt sorry while other gloatingly clapped.

"The demon's son committed too many sins, this is karma!" The demonesses from the Senluo Temple shouted at the same time. Just the words "demon's son" once made them lose sleep and unable to eat.

The five eunuchs didn't open the imperial decree and simply returned to the capital. Feiyun has lost his value, no longer worthy of even seeing the decree.

People began to laugh at him. The guy was truly unlucky; this disaster made it impossible for him to rise again.

On the next day, the Divine King sent out a message to the rest of the world: "Though Feng Feiyun has been poisoned, he is still the next Divine King. Those who dare to oppose him shall be killed!"

After this message, everyone became more convinced that Feiyun didn't have much left to live. He was a cripple that couldn't cultivate anymore.

In just one day, the Divine King murdered four Giants to show his prestige and deter the world. On the other hand, Feiyun was dead for sure and no longer a threat. The older cultivators naturally wouldn't attack him again. It wasn't worth offending the Divine King by killing a piece of trash.

Of course, this was a different story for the young generation. After all, the Divine King couldn't interfere with the youthful competition. Feiyun has offended many people so his future would be quite rough in this regard.

Before leaving the pagoda, he met Ji Ninnu. She didn't mention the Eight Arts Volume at all and only told him to stay but Feiyun tactfully refused.

Scholar Heaven Calculating went to say goodbye and checked on his injury as well. Alas, this prodigy who knew everything in the world didn't have a method of curing Yama's Decay Blood.

"Brother Feng, do not give up. This world is boundless with many hidden masters everywhere. I'm sure one of them can cure your poison." He consoled.

Feiyun still smiled leisurely despite his cracked lips and pale complexion: "I haven't given up just yet. Even if I only have two years left, I'll make it a good one." The scholar said: "According to my original calculation, you and Ziyu would have been the top competitors for the list but the heaven's will is impossible to predict. This development caught me by surprise too. Do you have any plan after leaving the pagoda?"

Feiyun smiled and said: "I'm thinking about taking back some stuff that belongs to me."

Feiyun drove a sallow carriage with his whip hitting the bull in front. It moved across a trail of leaves and away it went.

Yellow leaves were falling with the evening mist in this bleak autumn.

The scholar stood outside of the pagoda with his fluttering white robe resembling the falling snow. He stared at the carriage disappearing in the distance and murmured: "His fate is still impossible to seer. What is his future path?"

Feiyun was heading southward with a simple robe. He wore a straw hat to block the cold win as well as avoiding showing others his sickly face.

He was feeble and would occasionally cough out blood. This didn't stop him from humming some tunes, however.

"Time to go back to the Feng Clan now. Gotta take some stuff back and kill a few people before death."

The carriage made it through a pine thicket and it became an open field with an old city.

He has arrived at Brilliant. This old city was the entrance to the pagoda. He entered the city and saw many cultivators inside. Among them were many disciples in white from the pagoda. They quickly rushed through to bring back the corpse palaces.

They were still fighting for the ranking while Feiyun has left the competition completely and could even leave the stage of life as well.

Feiyun heard many discussions and sighs about him. Everyone felt that his time was over. There was no way for him to return to the top.

The demon's son was completely crippled.

Suddenly, two soldiers with the uniform of the martial army stopped the carriage. They rode bulls with the saber as their weapon of choice and a beast soul coiling around their body. Their tiger eyes flashed as they looked down at Feiyun.

One of them coldly said: "Feiyun, come with us!"

There was no need to be respectful now that Feiyun was a piece of trash.

Feiyun slightly tilted rain hat and smirked: "Didn't think I would be spotted like this."

"General Ling has waited for you for two years." The other bluntly said.

"General Ling? Ling Donglai?" Feiyun looked up towards a pavilion made from ice. He saw Ling Donglai standing proudly above with a saber on his waist. He looked like a timeless god.

This person was stubborn enough. In order to capture him, the guy has actually waited for two years outside of the pagoda. It looked like he has made a military pact to capture Feiyun at all cost.

This was a man of principle.

Donglai looked down at Feiyun with a murderous glint. Earlier, he has received an order from the capital to kill Feiyun instead of bringing him back.

He must follow a direct order.

Feiyun naturally sensed this bloodlust emanating from his body. Suddenly, his spiritual sense tingled. There was a second bloodlust from a different direction. He turned and saw a beautiful woman sitting inside a teahouse. She was sipping tea with her back turned on him.

The autumn wind brought about another cold chill. The second bloodlust came from this woman.