

The Eternal 201

Chapter 201: Da Meng

A naked man walked out of the curtain and casually put on a coat as he looked into the distance and murmured to himself, "A few months later will be Master's death anniversary. When I break through into the Nine Heavens realm, I'll definitely go to the Tiandang Mountains to find out the truth!"

The man looked back at the bed in distaste. Through the opening between the curtains, he could see a tempting scene, but he just said faintly, "I've lost my appetite today. If any of you still wants some more, go get yourself a few cucumbers in the kitchen."

As soon as he had finished speaking, he vanished from the bedroom.

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At the bottom of the South Sea, Yunxiao was immersed in the pleasure of rapid energy growth. He had never been so extravagant before, even in his previous life. A few days later, the Primordial Qi accumulated in his body became restless again, and there was a faint sign of breaking through to the four-stars level.

"I was wondering why the Spirit Qi in the divine tree gradually became unstable. So, you are the culprits!" A figure suddenly appeared in the cavity and glanced coldly at them as he said, "Give me the diagram of this array and I'll leave each of you a whole body!"

Startled, the group flicked open their eyes. Divine senses could be blocked inside this Kunwu Divine Tree. Therefore, none of them noticed when this person came in.

"Da Meng!" The Firefish clan chief cried out in horror, "You...You have become a Martial Emperor!"

Da Meng was the chief of the Razor Clam clan. He gazed coldly at the Firefish clan chief and said, "Tie Pin, give me the diagram of this array if you are wise. For the sake that you are a Martial Emperor as

well, I can pardon the crimes your Firefish clan has committed. But, from now on, you will surrender to my Razor Calm clan and listen to our orders.”

The Firefish clan chief, Tie Pin, flew into a rage and said, “You robbers have destroyed the divine tree to such an extent! We, the Firefish clan, are at daggers drawn with you!”

“Hmph! Precious plants and minerals can only be possessed by capable people. This divine tree was with you for over ten thousand years, and yet your Firefish clan is only a D-grade clan now. What a shame! Although we have only possessed it for not too long, the strength of my whole clan has improved by leaps and bounds. When I came from the East Sea, I was just a nine-stars Martial Grandmaster, and it is because of this divine tree that I could advance to a two-stars Martial Emperor!”

“How I hate myself!”

Tie Pin gnashed his teeth. If he had been willing to fight the Razor Clam clan, he might have won! Now, the foe had advanced to a two-stars Martial Emperor and was in the prime of life. He, on the other hand, was just an old and dying one-star Martial Emperor. He had no chance of winning.

Suddenly, Yunxiao’s voice transmission rang in his ear, “Lord Clan Chief, hold him off as long as you can. Tie Fan has reached the threshold of breakthrough, and as long as he can break through, you two can join hands and there will still be hope.”

Tie Pin was astonished, and he turned to give Tie Fan a glance. Tie Fan’s forehead was beaded with sweat, and he was evidently struggling at the threshold, with an expression of anguish on his face. Meanwhile, both Tie Bi and Tie Xin had broken through to the nine-stars Martial Grandmasters realm. Although they were at the early stages, their energy levels were clearly rising. The clan chief immediately felt a huge sense of responsibility. The hope for the future of the Firefish clan rested on these people, and he must protect them even if he were crushed to pieces today!

“Da Meng! If you want the diagram, you have to step over my dead body!” Tie Pin stood up abruptly and rushed out of the cavity. “If you have the guts, come out and fight me!”

Glancing coldly at Tie Fan and the others, Da Meng sneered, “Are you trying to buy some time? Even if this lad breaks through and becomes a Martial Emperor, he still has to die. But, since you refuse to come to your senses, I’ll teach you a lesson that will never be forgotten by the Firefish clan.”

He suddenly glanced at Yunxiao and Duan Yue as he snorted and said, "I can't believe that you have colluded with human beings. The man who intruded here a few days ago should be your partner, right?" When he had finished, he swam slowly out of the cavity while staring sardonically at Tie Pin.

That stirred Yunxiao, and he exchanged a look with Duan Yue. Both of them knew that the man Da Meng mentioned should be Heng Yuan. Yunxiao did not expect him to have entered the Kunwu Divine Tree as well. That fellow was a peak nine-stars Martial Grandmaster. So, after staying in this divine tree for a few days, he was likely to have stepped into the realm of Martial Emperors!

There was a tremendous rumble outside the cavity; the two clan chiefs had begun to fight.

Although Tie Pin was old and one star lower in cultivation base, he was determined to protect the future hope of the Firefish clan. As soon as the fight began, he burned his life, giving his every attack a power beyond his limit, which had gained him an upper hand.

Tie Fei had now advanced to the level of six-stars. Sensing the energy fluctuation outside the cavity, he said excitedly, "Lord Clan Chief is so strong! I can't believe he is suppressing a two-stars Martial Emperor!"

Tie Ling, on the other hand, said with a worried look, "Is my dad gonna be all right?"

Yunxiao frowned slightly and said in a deep voice, "What are you doing? I want you to focus on improving your strength as much as possible! The Lord Clan Chief is fighting out there with his life to buy us more time!"

Yunxiao knew Tie Pin's current condition; the more power he brought his power out, the faster his lifespan was consumed. He could not hold on for too long.

Tie Fan understood this as well, and he was panicked, causing his Primordial Qi to push even fiercer in his body. He knew that if he could not breakthrough, he would be no match for Da Meng with the strength of a peak nine-stars Martial Grandmaster.

“Relax your mind and guide the Qi back to the Primordial. When the mind is blank, the demons vanish and success comes naturally.”

Yunxiao’s voice rang beside Tie Fan’s ear like a stream of spirit spring water, which made him feel suddenly enlightened. He cleared his mind at once and remained calm, and his aura began to immediately experience a series of changes. At that moment, the Spirit Qi crazily absorbed by the One Qi of Destiny array seemed to have been swallowed by him, and his body seemed to have turned into a bottomless black hole.

The scene made Duan Yue stare at Yunxiao in shock. ‘He actually guided a peak nine-stars Martial Grandmaster to break through? This is something that cannot be done even if he is several realms stronger than Tie Fan! And yet, he did it so casually as if he were teaching his student!’

Yunxiao smiled as he looked at Tie Fan. Then, he closed his eyes and began to break through for the level of four-stars realm. Throughout the Heavenly Martial Continent, there were very few people who could surpass him in the understanding of martial arts. He had extremely profound insight for the breakthrough of every realm, and this was the reason why he could break through directly as long as he had accumulated enough Primordial Qi.

RUMBLE!

A muffled explosion rang out of Tie Fan’s body, and his temperament changed dramatically in that instant. Tie Xin and Tie Bi looked at each other in horror, their eyes filled with shock and great joy while their faces flickered with a trace of fear. The aura that exploded out of Tie Fan’s body made them feel a great fear and pressure.

“Thank you!” Tie Fan said gratefully and then disappeared from the cavity.

Apart from astonishment, Tie Ling and the others were filled with great joy. But, when they saw Yunxiao remain calm and still pushing for a higher level, they quieted down instantly and worked hard to absorb the incredible Spirit Qi. They knew that this kind of opportunity might never come again in their lifetime, and every additional second they spent in absorbing it was of great benefit to them.

The fighting outside was extremely fierce, but it could not affect those inside.

Yunxiao smoothly broke through to the level of four-stars. He opened his eyes slightly, and instead of being happy, he looked extremely worried. "Get ready to go, everybody! I'm afraid Clan Chief and Tie Fan cannot last much longer, and the fighting has produced too much noise, which may have already alerted the other Razor Clams."

Tie Ling said worriedly, "Your Excellency, are my dad and Brother Tie Fan alright?"

Suddenly, a voice said faintly, "Continue your cultivation. I'll take care of the rest."

That startled everyone, and then they saw Duan Yue's eyes gleam as he gave Yunxiao a grateful look while taking a step to leave the cavity. Yunxiao's eyes flickered, and he murmured under his breath in great joy, "He is indeed a Martial Emperor!"

Outside the cavity, Tie Pin and Tie Fan were covered in blood, panting violently as they stared at Da Meng. Their eyes were full of hatred and killing intent, and although they were seriously wounded, their fighting will was stronger than ever. The branches of the divine tree around them had been destroyed, leaving an open area of more than one hundred meters diameter while the seawater was full of broken branches and tree sap.

Although Da Meng looked messy as well, he was unhurt. His eyes burned with killing intent as he said coldly, "Initially, I intended to spare your clan and make you my clan's servant. But, since you are so ignorant, you all can go die now!"

A silvery light appeared in his palms, swirling around them like a milky way while giving off a terrible aura.

"It is you who will die." Suddenly, a voice rang out behind him.

Taken aback, Da Meng turned around abruptly and saw a bare-chested man floating quietly behind him with a round seal printed on his chest like three little tadpoles joined end to end, which looked extremely bizarre.

"You and what army? A seven-stars Martial Grandmaster?" Da Meng sneered, but there was somehow a faint feeling of uneasiness in his heart.

Duan Yue slowly looked up as he held up his fingers like a sword and cried out, "Open!"

The tails of the three little tadpoles on his chest immediately retracted, leaving only three black dots behind. A powerful aura began to emerge from Duan Yue's body, climbing steadily under his ice cold glance.

"Eight-stars Martial Grandmaster."

"Nine-stars Martial Grandmaster."

Da Meng was struck dumb as he muttered. The man's aura had directly increased by two levels, and it was still rising explosively. "Peak nine-stars... This is... Martial Emperor!"

"Roar!"

Duan Yue threw his head back and roared like a wild beast. It seemed that he had been depressed for too long, and after returning to the realm of Martial Emperors, his emotions over the years suddenly burst out. Impacted by that, a line of vacuum broke across the nearby seawater.

Not only Da Meng, but even Tie Pin and Tie Fan were shocked. Duan Yue's aura did not stop after he had advanced to the realm of Martial Emperors, but continued to rise.

"One-star Martial Emperor..."

"Peak one-star Martial Emperor..."

"Impossible!" Da Meng was taken aback. The man's aura stuck at the peak of a one-star Martial Emperor, but power continued to explode out of him, and there was a vague feeling that he was about to break through.

RUMBLE!

The repressed energy finally rushed up the last threshold. After the moment of violence, the whole seabed quieted down.

Chapter 202: Tree Spirit

"I finally returned to the peak and even broke through directly." Duan Yue sensed quietly as the energy flowed inside him, and he seemed unable to believe what just happened. The seal that had suppressed him for so many years was finally opened for a short time, and his strength not only did not regress, but went up by another level.

"Heavenly Halberd!"

He cried out lightly and reached out a hand. A beam of light immediately stretched out in his palm, materializing into the ancient halberd that began to spin as soon as it appeared, twisting and distorting the calm seawater.

"Damnit!" Da Meng's nostrils flared as he roared, "Where did this human bast*rd come from! Even though you have broken through and become a two-stars Martial Emperor, your cultivation base is not yet stabilized, so you won't be my match!" The milky way in his hand burst into bloom in an instant, spreading out and pouring down from the distance like a great river.

"The Sophisticated Milky Way, the Heavenly Sea Fiend Flash!"

A silver light lit up the bottom of the sea like daylight and engulfed Duan Yue. Both Tie Pin and Tie Fan were taken aback, their eyes stinging, and they could hardly open them.

"Hmph! What an insignificant skill! The White Scorching Flame, burn the sky and destroy the devil."

A mass of white cold flame suddenly appeared in the milky way. Nourished by the powerful energy, it gradually spread out and ignited the whole milky way, turning it into a sea of white flames. Da Meng went pale with fright and hastily pushed his hands forward. The white milky way left his palms instantly

and burned into ashes. Meanwhile, Duan Yue's cold face quietly appeared amid the flames, looking mockingly at him.

"Impossible! You are just a lowly human being, and this is in the middle of the sea! Even though we are both two-stars Martial Emperors, I should be stronger than you!"

Da Meng was filled with anger and shock. The white flame gave him a very dangerous feeling, and he believed that even he could not resist it if he were to touch it. Putting two fingers into his mouth, he suddenly blew a long whistle.

"Not good! He's calling for reinforcements! Kill him now!" Tie Pin cried out.

"Haha! There are a lot of my people around here, and five to six are Martial Emperors among them! No matter how strong you are, you will surely die!" Da Meng sneered in a loud voice.

"Hmph! No matter how much rubbish you call over, they are just rubbish," Duan Yue sneered disdainfully. "Since you think you have more advantages in the sea, what about now?"

He opened his mouth abruptly, from which came spewing out streams of Primordial Qi, rapidly pushing away seawater and creating a vacuum area at the bottom of the sea, with Da Meng, Tie Pin, and Tie Fan inside. Soon, the four of them hovered in the waterless mid-air, which looked like a giant air bubble from afar.

"You fu*king human!" Da Meng cursed in horror and hurried toward the seawater in the distance. He was already no match for this man in the water, and with both of them exposed in the air now, he would make for an easy target to be slain.

"Whiteflame Ghost Kill, the sixth-tier halberd!" Duan Yue's eyes gleamed with killing intent as the halberd in his hand pierced through the air. Fingers of white flames swirled around the halberd like auspicious clouds, and wherever the weapon passed, the surroundings turned bright like daylight.

"Ah! Bast*rd, you can't kill me! I won't die, how can you kill me!" Targeted by the Heavenly Halberd, Da Meng felt a sense of death well up in his heart. He had even seen the reinforcements rushing over in the distance, but it was too late.

Boom!

The halberd directly smashed Da Meng into pieces while the surrounding seawater lost the supporting force and crushed down toward the center in an instant. Powerful currents washed away pieces of Da Meng. The great force impacted Tie Pin and Tie Fan as well and made them sway as both of them stared incredulously at Duan Yue, who looked like a God of War.

Before the dozens of Razor Clams in the distance could approach, they were rolled up by the currents and pushed farther away. They were all low-level Razor Clams, and the strongest one was just a Martial King.

Suddenly, Yunxiao swam out of the cavity and sped toward a direction. "Kill as many Razor Clams as you can. You don't have to worry about me!"

That gave Duan Yue a pause. He did not understand why Yunxiao would suddenly say that, because he did not seem like a murderous man, judging from his usual behavior. But, since he had said that... Duan Yue's cold eyes immediately fell on the dozens of Razor Clams, who still could not figure out the situation.

Tie Pin and Tie Fan, on the other hand, did not think so much, as Yunxiao's order was what they wanted to do. There was a wild look of revenge in their eyes.

With a serious face, Yunxiao sped through the bottom of the sea. Along the way, whenever he came across branches of the divine tree, he broke them with his palms. He seemed to be tracking something. Soon, he had swum for miles, and the branches became denser and denser. He simply took out his Tigertooth and cut through a way for himself.

At last, he came to an extremely spacious cavity. The most eye-catching thing inside was a huge piece of wood erected directly from the seabed. The huge wood's color was slightly different from that of the Kunwu Divine Tree branches, showing a light brown color.

"Haha! There it is!" Yunxiao burst into laughter as he looked at the huge piece of wood. "What a huge Soul Nourishing Wood! It's not fully formed, but after taking it down and refining it, it should be enough

for Meng Wu. I'll just wait a little longer and let Duan Yue and the others kill all the Razor Clams. The effect of this piece of divine wood will be better after it has absorbed their souls."

Just now, he had sensed the direction in which Da Meng's soul was flying, and he followed it, which eventually led him to the core of the Kunwu Divine Tree. The wood should have evolved after absorbing wandering souls for tens of thousands of years here, but due to its overly huge size, it had become a half-baked existence in front of him now.

"After waiting for tens of thousands of years, did I finally get the chance?"

Just as Yunxiao was complacent about himself, an old voice rang out in the cavity and startled him.

He spread out his divine sense in horror, but he found nothing. Knowing that it was an existence that could hide from his divine sense, he felt a chill run down his back.

"Hoho, don't be scared." The voice rang out again.

Yunxiao found the direction this time. He squinted over and saw that the voice was actually coming from the half-baked Soul Nourishing Wood. In his astonished eyes, an old figure gradually emerged over the wood and smiled at him.

"You are..." Yunxiao looked at the figure shockingly and said in horror, "You are the tree spirit of this Kunwu Divine Tree!"

The old figure's face was full of astonishment as well, and it was evident that he was a little taken aback. Staring at Yunxiao, he said amazedly, "What a strange boy! You are not strong, but your soul power is so pure that you don't look like a teenager. In fact, I feel like you are at least a hundred years old."

Yunxiao was startled, and his forehead was dripping with cold sweat. This tree spirit was the first one to discover the secrets of his soul. "No wonder the Soul Nourishing Wood has not been fully formed after tens of thousands of years. It turns out that all the wandering souls had been absorbed by you." Suddenly, he felt a chill rise from the bottom of his heart, and he said, "You...you're not trying to devour my soul, are you?"

The tree spirit froze, and he burst into laughter in the next instant. “Haha! You don’t have to worry. I can only absorb the unconscious souls of those dead creatures. I can’t take your soul unless you die. Besides, I need your help.”

“You need my help?” Yunxiao frowned. “Do you want me to not take this Soul Nourishing Wood? I’m sorry, but I can’t do that. My friend is waiting for it to save her life.”

“Hoho!” The tree spirit laughed and said, “If it were anyone else, I might say so, but not to you. Because after meeting you, I don’t even need this Soul Nourishing Wood. And look at my body, it’s been damaged beyond repair by these people, and your damnable array has drained almost all of my Spirit Qi. Even with this Soul Nourishing Wood, I won’t live for long.”

Yunxiao’s expression suddenly changed slightly. With a trace of killing intent flashing in his eyes, he clutched the Tigertooth more tightly and snapped, “Are you going to take my body from me?”

“Your body?” The tree spirit paused for a moment, and then he showed a disdainful look as he snorted, “You human beings always think how wonderful your bodies are, but in my eyes, only the body of a big tree is the most wonderful existence in the world. Although your body is somewhat amazing, it is nowhere near as good as those higher-level sea people. I want you to help me be reborn from the ashes!”

“Reborn from the ashes?” That surprised Yunxiao. “You mean...let the Phoenix True Flame in the depths of my soul help you rise from the ashes?” He sighed and said, “I’m sorry, but I don’t know how to do that. Besides, I can’t control that Phoenix True Flame, and I don’t want to accidentally burn myself to ashes.”

“Hoho! Don’t you worry, boy! It’s an opportunity for you as well. As long as you have my help, you won’t face any problem in controlling this Phoenix Flame. Don’t forget, I’ve seen a real phoenix rise from the ashes!” The tree spirit chuckled softly and said, “If you will help me, I promise to teach you how to subdue this Phoenix Flame. I think I don’t have to tell you the benefits of this, right? Also, I can pour all the remaining Spirit Qi in this body into your body before I enter nirvana. You may directly break through to the realm of Martial Lords. Hehe! These are the two benefits if you will help me. Consider them wisely.”

Yunxiao was shocked. Whether it was controlling the Phoenix Flame or breaking through to the realm of Martial Lords, it was a great temptation for him. He considered a moment and then asked, “Am I going to have any discomfort in the process of helping you rise from the ashes?”

The tree spirit laughed. "You are really a cautious boy. Rest assured, you will rise from the ashes with me, and this is only of great benefit to you. If I read you right, you should have practiced a kind of tyrannical body tempering technique. After rising from the ashes, your cultivation of the technique can reach at least a higher level."

Yunxiao was rendered speechless. This tree spirit's eyes were too keen, which could even read what kind of body tempering technique he practiced. The Tyrant Body Tempering Technique was divided into three levels. If he could reach a higher level, the strength of his fleshly body would increase by several fold, and this was no doubt another great temptation.

He smiled wryly and said, "How can I refuse when you have offered me so much?"

"Hoho!" the tree spirit laughed and said, "I knew you'd have a hard time saying no. There's one more thing I need your help with, that is, after I rise from the ashes, I will return to my original seedling state and fall into a deep sleep. I hope you can bring me with you, find an uninhabited place that is full of Spirit Qi, and plant me there. Be sure to find a safe place!"

Chapter 203: You Are Born in the Water

As if afraid of Yunxiao not keeping his word, the tree spirit said again, "As long as you do this for me, I'll give you a heaven-defying benefit when I wake up."

"What heaven-defying benefit? Don't fool me! By that time, you will have nothing valuable with you. Or, do you want to let me eat you?" Yunxiao said disdainfully, but his eyes shone with greed, as if he had just seen a piece of fat meat. If this divine tree could rise from the ashes, it would definitely be something extremely nourishing.

That frightened the tree spirit, and he hurriedly said, "Don't you think about that! If you can protect me until I am safely awake, I can transfer a wisp of Great Primal Qi to you."

"What!" Yunxiao's eyelids twitched violently as he said in shock, "Great Primal Qi! You can actually cultivate Great Primal Qi?"

The tree spirit said proudly, “The only wisp of Great Primal Qi I owned had been refined into my intrinsic Qi. If I can be reborn from the ashes, I can cultivate the second wisp, and the third wisp. I can give you a wisp as a token of my gratitude. Is this a viable deal?”

“Yes! Of course, it is viable!”

Yunxiao nodded repeatedly and agreed to the deal. Great Primal Qi was conceived in chaos when the heaven and earth were just born and the Yin and Yang was yet to split. After that, the Dao turned into the One, which split into the Yin and Yang. Later, the universe and all things, including earth, water, fire and wind, were evolved from the Great Primal Qi. If he could obtain a wisp, his odds of stepping into the Divine realm would become greater.

Moreover, he also knew that only those ancient True Spirits who had disappeared could conceive the Great Primal Qi. This Kunwu Divine Tree must have been influenced by the phoenix, and with tens of thousands of years of cultivation, he was able to produce a wisp of Great Primal Qi.

“In that case, let’s delay no more.” The tree spirit said nervously, “I’ll now teach you the technique of controlling the Phoenix True Flame.”

A strange text emerged in Yunxiao’s mind, consisting entirely of ancient golden tadpole-like writing. If he had not done some research on this kind of writing before, he would not have understood it right now.

Yunxiao was silent for a moment.

“How is it? Can you master it? Or, is there anything you don’t understand?” asked the tree spirit.

Yunxiao frowned and said, “There is nothing I don’t understand. But, if I trigger the Phoenix True Flame according to this technique, even I can’t control it at the later stage. Would I be dragged into it as well?”

“Overcautious and indecisive. Why are you so afraid of death? If you die, I will be devoured by some sea monsters after I rise from the ashes!” The tree spirit said impatiently. “Just for the sake of myself alone, I won’t harm you.”

“In that case, I’ll give it a try! But, I need to put away this Soul Nourishing Wood first.” He grabbed Tigertooth and slashed it out a few times. The huge wood fell with a crash, and was grabbed by him before being pulled into his storage ring.

At that moment, the tree spirit began to perform incantation gestures with both hands, mustering the tremendous amount of heaven and earth Spirit Qi in his true-form and crazily pouring it into Yunxiao’s body.

Yunxiao sat cross-legged down with both hands flashing with complicated incantation gestures. His aura kept climbing as the Spirit Qi poured into his body. Soon, the flaming cloud symbol appeared between his eyebrows and began to burn, as if it were about to leave his body.

At that moment, his hands slowed down, as if the incantation gestures had entered an extremely complicated stage, and he had to ponder for a while before forming each seal. A while later, an ancient, unfathomable symbol was formed in his hands, gradually floating up in seawater. Very soon, another appeared; about ten minutes later, a total of nine different tadpole-like characters surrounded Yunxiao and kept spinning.

The tree spirit watched nervously as Yunxiao performed incantation gestures, and his heart raced when those ancient characters began to appear. It was not until all nine tadpole-like characters took shape that he breathed a sigh of relief and showed a look of great joy. His hands moved faster, and the speed at which he drained Spirit Qi was even faster than Yunxiao’s One Qi of Destiny array.

After all, he would soon no longer need this body, and the Spirit Qi would be wasted if he did not drain it. Moreover, by forcibly improving Yunxiao’s strength now, the assurance of his rebirth would also be increased.

“Five-stars Great Martial Master...”

“Peak five-stars Great Martial Master...”

“Six-stars!”

Just as Yunxiao broke through to a six-stars Great Martial Master, a familiar voice suddenly rang out beside his ear, "I was wondering why there's something wrong. It turns out that you are the culprit! Give me back my realm!"

A figure burst in, and surprisingly, it was Heng Yuan! It had only been a few days, but the aura exuded from him marked him a peak one-star Martial Emperor!

"Bast*rd! Bast*rd! This is unforgivable! I was pushing for the realm of two-stars Martial Emperors when the Spirit Qi in this divine tree grew weaker and weaker, and now it is almost completely gone! It turns out that you are the one behind this! Give me back my Primordial Qi! Give me back my realm!"

As soon as he saw the almost corporeal heaven and earth Spirit Qi around Yunxiao, he froze in place and realized what had happened instantly, and he almost went crazy. "So much Spirit Qi! How dare a mere worm of the Three Powers realm like you enjoy so much Spirit Qi! Give me, give me Spirit Qi! I want to break through into two-stars Martial Emperor!"

Heng Yuan rushed up wildly. He had only sneaked into the Kunwu Divine Tree for a few days and had already obtained tremendous benefits, which he did not even dare to imagine in the past. Not only did he break through to become a Martial Emperor smoothly, but he had also pushed his cultivation base up to the peak of a one-star Martial Emperor realm without any obstacles. If he succeeded in breaking through, the Constellation Sect's branch in Qinghai would be headed by him when he returned!

However, at that critical juncture, the divine tree that kept supplying him with Spirit Qi suddenly seemed to have dried up, losing all its Spirit Qi, which instantly drove him crazy. He knew that as long as he could get half, no, perhaps just one-third or one-fourth of the Spirit Qi gathering around Yunxiao now, he would be able to break through into a two-stars Martial Emperor!

"Boy, you don't deserve to enjoy this Spirit Qi! Die now!" He rushed up while roaring, and his fists crackled with energy. In his opinion, it was like a delicious cake being gnawed at by a rat, which disgusted and pained him.

Yunxiao opened his eyes. Under the pressure of a Martial Emperor, there was not even a trace of emotion in his eyes. Instead, he unhurriedly formed the last seal in his hands. Meanwhile, the nine golden tadpole-like characters floating around him flew into his palms, merging with the last character into a complicated and difficult to understand array.

“You are born in the water, and you will return to the fire. The cleansing flame of karma will reset the universe.”

As Yunxiao recited that, he pushed his palms out, and the array immediately spread out with him in the center. The flaming cloud symbol between his eyebrows left his body at that moment, turning into a mass of flame and spreading out in all directions. Under the flickering light of the flame, the tree spirit’s shadow seemed to be shivering. “Is it finally happening?”

Heng Yuan rushed in front of Yunxiao and was about to strike when a heatwave came blowing into his face. The flame that could burn off everything made his soul tremble in an instant, and a sense of death descended into his heart, which scared him out of his wits. He forcibly stopped himself and kicked the water to speed toward the outside.

Spirit Qi was good, but his life was more important. He was not a fool after all!

With Yunxiao in the center, the phoenix flame rapidly spread out, quickly placing the whole core of the Kunwu Divine Tree in a sea of flame. Meanwhile, Yunxiao sat cross-legged and revealed his Glazed Body, allowing the flame to burn him while he kept reciting a spell.

At that moment, the Spirit Qi in the Kunwu Divine Tree was almost fully depleted. All the Razor Clams hiding in it squeezed out of their cavities, trying to find out what was happening.

“Not good, there are enemies over there, and they have killed many of our people!”

“What! Who dares to provoke the Razor Clam clan!”

“I don’t know, but the loss of Spirit Qi in the divine tree seems to be related to this group of people. Let’s go and have a look.”

“Damnit! I was at the juncture of breaking through! They will die for this!”

A large number of Razor Clams poured toward where Duan Yue and the others stood. Although the three of them were Martial Emperors, they were tired of the killing, not to mention there were a few

Martial Emperors among the foes, all of whom were killed by them as well. The three of them began to feel exhausted. Looking at the Razor Clams that kept pouring over, they all smiled wryly.

Outside a cavity in the Kunwu Divine Tree, Da Lei knelt on the floor with an anxious look and said in a loud voice, "Lord Wei Xi, a foreign clan has intruded the divine tree and killed many of my people! Even my clan chief, Da Meng, died at the hands of those people! I hope Lord Wei Xi can help us!"

"Hmph!" A disdainful cold snort rang out of the cavity. "What does it matter to me when your people are killed? Our agreement is I help you seize this Kunwu Divine Tree, and you help me cultivate and break through. Since when have I become your hatchet man?"

"No, we dare not!" Da Lei seemed terrified of the person inside, and he said in a trembling voice, "Lord Wei Xi, the divine tree is seriously damaged by those people. If we don't get rid of them and instead allow them to do as they please, my lord will not be able to continue cultivating when the divine tree dies."

"I was wondering why the Spirit Qi seems to have disappeared suddenly, damnit!" the person growled.

Da Lei was delighted. He knew the person inside was going to do something. Sure enough, just as he was thinking, a person suddenly appeared in front of him, staring coldly at him. Da Lei felt as if two sharp knives had been thrust into his body, and he was so scared that he did not dare to look up.

Wei Xi glanced in Duan Yue and the others' direction as he snorted and said, "You Razor Clams are really useless! You can't even get rid of a few Martial Emperors. Well, I'll help you kill these few worms."

Overjoyed, Da Lei hurriedly bowed and said, "Thank you, Lord Wei Xi! I'm sure the intruders will be destroyed in a flash under my lord's mighty strength! My admiration for my lord is as endless as the seawater..."

"That's enough!" Wei Xi felt sick of it and interrupted him. "But, I can't do it for nothing. I was cultivating to a critical juncture just now when the Spirit Qi was cut off, which has displeased me. How are you going to compensate me?"

"Compensate?" Da Lei paused. "This...How can this be compensated?"

“Hmph!” Wei Xi’s eyes gleamed fiercely and said, “I don’t think you can compensate me. But thankfully, you also have the strength of a Martial Emperor. Well, you will be honored to be my medicinal catalyst and let me suck all your energy essence! Hehe!”

Wei Xi suddenly grinned, revealing two sharp fangs as he walked toward Da Lei, who was shivering in fear.

Chapter 204: You Will Return to the Fire

After killing another batch of Razor Clams outside a cavity, Duan Yue, Tie Pin and Tie Fan had grown very tired and exhausted.

Tie Pin’s appearance turned old again, and he kept panting. “Tie Fan, Sir Duan, retreat with Tie Ling and the others first. I’ll wait for the Lord Holy Herald here.”

Looking at the Razor Clams pouting in at them, Tie Pin was afraid that if they stayed here for too long, they would not be able to hold out, and it would do more harm than good if all of them were killed. It would be ideal for the other two to retreat with the hopes of the Firefish clan while they still had the strength to do so.

Duan Yue’s face also looked slightly grave. “Where did that guy go? How can he be so unreliable at this critical juncture? He can’t be dead, can he?”

“Lord Holy Herald will never die!” Tie Ling suddenly appeared behind the crowd, together with Tie Bi and Tie Xin. The three of them exuded a fierce force and looked very different from before.

“Tie Ling, you have...” Tie Pin was taken aback, and he faintly sensed something from his son...

Tie Ling grinned and said, “Dad, I’ve advanced to become a third-tier sea refiner!”

Tie Pin gasped and his eyes grew wide. Overjoyed, he said, “Haha! I can’t believe this is real! Your temperament is exactly the same as that of Great Sea Refiners I’ve seen before. Haha! We, the Firefish clan, finally have our own Great Sea Refiner!”

“My lord!” Tie Fan also said with joy, “Look at Tie Bi and Tie Xin, they too have become peak nine-stars Martial Grandmasters!”

Tie Pin’s eyes fell on Tie Bi and Tie Xin. He immediately burst into tears of joy and murmured, “Heaven blesses the Firefish clan! Lord Holy Herald is indeed sent by the heaven to help us!”

But Duan Yue frowned and said unhappily, “Since you’ve reached the peak of the nine-stars, why don’t you just stay inside and make the breakthrough? Do you know that it will take you at least decades of hard cultivation to advance to the realm of Martial Emperors after missing this opportunity?”

That startled Tie Pin and woke him up. Furious, he said, “Get back inside and cultivate now! We will hold the enemies back here! Don’t come out again unless you’ve broken through to the realm of Martial Emperors!”

Tie Bi and Tie Xin exchanged a wry smile while Tie Ling said regretfully, “Dad, for some reason, there is no more Spirit Qi inside. Even the array constructed by the Lord Holy Herald cannot absorb any Spirit Qi.”

“What!”

Everyone was taken aback, and Tie Pin said shockingly, “How did that happen? Although this Kunwu Divine Tree is severely damaged, it is not yet at the stage of losing all its Spirit Qi!”

With a worried look, Duan Yue said, “Could this have something to do with that fellow?”

“Who is that fellow?” Suddenly, a voice boomed. It sounded from a great distance, but seemed to have come next to them in just a flash.

“Who goes there?!”

Everyone was shocked. Just the powerful voice alone had already filled their hearts with chills and made them shiver in fear.

In just a flash, a dark figure appeared in front of the crowd and said coldly, "The Kunwu Divine Tree suddenly lost all its Spirit Qi. Did you guys do it?"

Looking at the man, Tie Pin's pupils constricted, and he cried out in horror, "Lord Wei Xi! You are Lord Wei Xi!"

Wei Xi gave him a lazy look and said in a cold voice, "Tie Pin, if you are wise, tell me why the Spirit Qi has disappeared. Otherwise, don't blame me for being cruel to you."

In the face of his mighty aura, Tie Pin could not help but tremble. But, he eventually he mustered his courage and roared, "I understand now! No wonder you were siding the Razor Clam clan when they occupied my clan's divine tree! It turns out that you are their accomplice!"

"Hmph! Such a divine object can only be possessed by capable people. Your Firefish clan had occupied it for so many years, but all you knew was to eat its leaves. The Razor Clam clan had just taken over it for not long and the strength of their whole clan has already improved by several levels. Even I have benefited greatly from it. Don't you feel ashamed? Now, quickly bring me back the Spirit Qi, or I'll not only kill the few of you today, but also wipe out the whole Firefish clan!"

Wei Xi's face grew ferocious. During this period, the benefits he obtained in the Kunwu Divine Tree were tremendous, but now they were destroyed by the few lowly worms in front of him. How could he not be angry?

With a miserable smile, Tie Pin said, "Lord Wei Xi, I don't know why the Spirit Qi has disappeared. If you want to kill someone, just kill me and let the others go. For the past ten thousand years, the Firefish clan has been respectful to your Manta Ray clan, and we never missed the yearly tribute. I hope my lord can show mercy."

"No more nonsense! Your tens of thousands of years of tributes are not even worth a day of my meditation here. So, you refuse to tell me, do you? Well, I'll make you my first target then!"

Wei Xi did not want to listen to Tie Pin's explanation. In his ear, those were just excuses for refusing to hand over the Spirit Qi. He reached out a hand and grabbed Tie Pin up as he said coldly, "This is your last chance. Speak!"

Tie Pin hurriedly shouted to the people behind him, "Don't move! You are no match for him!"

Duan Yue looked at the seal on his chest. Long tails grew out of the three black dots again, joining end to end and forming a circle. With that, his cultivation base dropped rapidly, and he was once again just a seven-stars Martial Grandmaster.

Tie Fan looked very anxious, but he dared not to step forward rashly.

"Hmph! At least you know your limitations." Wei Xi showed his ferocious fangs and sneered, "You are a Martial Emperor, but if you still refuse to tell me, I'll make you my tonic!"

"Release him!" Suddenly, a faint voice rang out, "Release him and I'll tell you the reason why the Spirit Qi disappeared."

Everyone's expression changed slightly, but everyone showed a hint of joy.

"Who? Who goes there?"

Wei Xi's expression changed drastically. Even with his cultivation base, he could not find the person, and he did not know where the voice came from.

"It doesn't matter who I am. You said you want Spirit Qi? Fine, I'll give it to you! Let's see if you have the life to take it!" The voice sounded again. Suddenly, the void began to distort slightly, and everyone felt that the scene before their eyes became somewhat blurry.

Boom!

All of a sudden, a great sheet of flame came out of nowhere, rolling down like a landslide and enveloping everyone.

Wei Xi sucked in a cold breath as he watched a monstrous sea of flames come pouring down at him, and what was even more frightening to him was that there was a power in the flames that even he felt powerless against.

“How dare you fool me!” In a fit of rage, he threw Tie Pin away and protected himself with a layer of energy as he shot himself up like a cannonball, trying to rush out of this sea of flames.

“Ahh!”

Just as he rushed into the flames, however, he let out a miserable cry. To his horror, his layer of protective energy was burned off in an instant, and the flames penetrated through his skin into his body, burning at all his internal organs and bones and flesh.

“Ah! Impossible! How could this happen! Ridiculous, this is ridiculous!” Unwilling to accept the fact, Wei Xi roared in fury, “I’m a Martial Supreme! I’ve ruled over this sea area for over four hundred years! I’m invincible! How could I die here? AH! NOOOOOO!”

Within seconds, Wei Xi’s body was completely burned to the ground and vanished in the sea.

Duan Yue gasped. Looking at the flames that came pouring down, he hastily cried out in terror, “Hey! Hey! Be careful and don’t burn us! These flames kill everyone they touch!”

He was also an expert at controlling fire, but he felt a suffocating fear under this divine flame. It was a sense of submission that came from the depths of his soul. He immediately realized that this was the Phoenix True Flame!

Boom!

The sea of flames came straight down but spread out over the few of them, forming a large dome with them inside. After that, it began to spread out in all directions, turning everything along the way into nothingness.

“Divine flame...Is this the divine flame that had once given our ancestor the tremendous opportunity?” Tie Fan watched the mighty flame quietly. Meanwhile, the surrounding seawater receded, and the whole Kunwu Divine Tree was exposed in a vacuum as it began to go through the baptism of flame.

Tie Ling was greatly shocked as well, but after pausing for a moment, he quickly attended to Tie Pin’s injury. The clan chief was at the end of his life to begin with, and after overly exhausting his energy and being tortured by Wei Xi, he was at his last breath.

“Run for your life! The place is on fire!”

“Fu*k! Where did the fire come from? Who’s so careless?”

“Run my ass! Quickly put out the fire!”

“Put out my ass! All the people are dead! It’ll be too late if you don’t run now! Ahhh! NOOOO!”

“How can this be? I’m a Martial King! I’ve barely touched the flame...Ahhh! AHHHHH!”

The miserable shrieks and wails of the Razor Clams rose around them. People could be seen running desperately everywhere, but the speed of this Phoenix Divine Flame could almost directly break through space, and soon it had engulfed the whole Kunwu Divine Tree. All the members of the Razor Clam clan were burned to death inside.

The blazing fire continued to burn at the bottom of the sea. From afar, it looked like there was True Spirited Fire Phoenix coiling in a vacuum, with its body shrouded in bright red flames.

Tens of thousands of miles away, inside a crystal palace in the depths of the South Sea, an old man could be seen sitting cross-legged with a rainbow light swirled restlessly around him. His hands flashed in incantation gestures and kept producing various golden tadpole-like characters, as if he were cultivating some kind of very powerful divine ability.

Suddenly, he clasped his hands together and completely stopped cultivating. His eyes flicked open, from which came shooting out a beam of light as he stared in shock at the depths of the South Sea, as if he were looking through the void.

“What’s going on? What exactly is this feeling? Could there be some almighty expert descending into my South Sea?” The old man murmured to himself and rose to his feet. His face was serious and there was a deeply puzzled look in his eyes. “Marine Patrol Yaksha, where are you?” he cried out.

The seawater at the center of the crystal palace began to bubble, and a dark-skin sea man gradually appeared inside. Slowly, he walked out of the bubbles and dropped to one knee in front of the old man, “At your service, my lord!”

The old man said lightly, “Quickly go to the north to find out who exactly is displaying his divine power in my waters. Once you find that out, report back at once. And remember, don’t ever offend that person.”

“Understood!”

The Yaksha answered, and then his figure gradually became blurry, eventually disappearing from the crystal palace.

Chapter 205: Marine Patrol Yaksha

A huge phoenix in the form of flame lay dormant at the seafloor where the Kunwu Divine Tree once stood, burning slowly and steadily. The nearby seawater receded crazily, creating a vacuum of at least several kilometers deep in the sea. And the seawater surrounding the vacuum was boiling rapidly, producing a large amount of white steams and bubbles, obscuring all eyes.

Although Duan Yue and the others were untouched by the flames that surrounded them, the immense heat had almost cooked them through. Each of them desperately produced energy barriers to fend off the heatwave, but their bodies still gradually turned red.

The fire had alerted not only the sovereign of the South Sea, but also terrified all the creatures within ten thousand miles. A force that made their hearts palpitate was rippling across the seawater, forcing them to swim further away.

No one knew how long the flames had been burning for. Duan Yue and the others were almost toasted; their lips cracked with blood, and their skins parched. Each one of them was expressionless while holding on an energy barrier to fend off the heatwave. However, their barriers seemed to grow smaller, and they seemed to be at the end of their tether.

“If this continues, we will surely die. How long has the fire been burning for? A few days? What the hell is that lad doing? He didn’t burn himself to death, did he?”

Looking at the seal on his chest closed up once again, Duan Yue breathed a deep sigh and stepped back while Tie Fan shouted and stepped up as he took his place to support the barrier.

Tie Pin was panting, and he looked extremely weak. “Holy...The Lord Holy Herald will be fine.”

Tie Ling chimed in, “Yes. Sir Duan, if anything did happen to the Lord Holy Herald, these flames would have burned through the barriers.”

Duan Yue found that makes sense. However, if the fire kept burning like this, they would still die sooner or later. After Yunxiao killed Wei Xi, he had not made a sound and could not be contacted.

“The fire has abated!” Suddenly, Tie Ling cried out in great joy, “Look, the fire has abated!”

The flames outside the barrier began to recede at a rate visible to the naked eyes, and its range shrunk rapidly, as if the burning was completed.

Tie Fan breathed a long sigh of relief, but he did not dare to release the barrier. After all, the heatwave out there was still extremely strong, and he feared that once he released the barrier, the few of them would be cooked through instantly.

The flames that blotted out the world shrunk rapidly like the retreating waves, revealing a blackened land. The Kunwu Divine Tree was long gone, leaving behind not even a trace, as if it had never been there before.

After the fire retreated, Yunxiao's figure gradually emerged, and when those phoenix flames retreated to his side, they transformed into a beautiful fire phoenix and danced around him while crying incessantly. Then, he performed a hand seal and produced an ancient-looking, tadpole-like golden character in his palm. Attracted by it, the fire phoenix flew into his forehead.

"Who are you? How dare you spy on me in the void! Show yourself!" Yunxiao opened his eyes abruptly, in which two flames danced as he looked at a spot in the void. Meanwhile, the pressure of a True Spirited Fire Phoenix spread out, as if to lock down this part of the world.

"Please calm down, my lord!"

Over the vacuum, a rift suddenly appeared, and from inside came walking out a dark-skinned sea man. His eyes were filled with shock and dubious look as he glanced at Yunxiao down below and said loudly, "May I know who is the almighty expert showing his divine power in the South Sea?"

Yunxiao was startled when he saw the man, but he put on a disdainful look and sneered, "So it is you, the Marine Patrol Yaksha! Get out of here!"

He was a peak Martial Sovereign in his previous life, so he naturally had an awe-inspiring manner. Moreover, the phoenix flame was still twitching in his body, emanating a pressure of the Divine realm that struck fear into the heart of anyone who sensed it.

The Yaksha swallowed hard. In his eyes, Yunxiao was only a Martial Lord, but the manner and the pressure unintentionally revealed from him were enough to make his soul shiver. 'His strength of a Martial Lord is definitely an illusion. Just this pressure and the destructive divine flame just now are enough to prove that he is far stronger than me. And he even knows I'm the Marine Patrol Yaksha. His Lordship also told me to never offend this man...'

He breathed a sigh of relief and said, "Please tell me your name, my lord, so I can answer my Master when I return."

When he said that, he found that his palms were full of cold sweat.

Yunxiao narrowed his eyes, and his glance gradually turned cold. "If you want to know who I am, let Qin Ming come here and ask himself. If you don't scam within three breaths, I'll make you stay here forever!" The flames in his eyes suddenly transformed into two phoenixes and looked as if they were about to fly out.

There was a sudden shiver in the Marine Patrol Yaksha's soul. He hurriedly waved a hand and ripped a rift in the void, stepping into it. These almighty experts were all figures with eccentric characters, and it was very common for them to kill someone upon the slightest displeasure. If he offended this man and was killed, Lord Sea King might not avenge him either.

At the thought of that, he immediately fled into the rift and said, "Please calm down, my lord! I'll report back to the Lord Sea King right now."

The Qin Ming mentioned by Yunxiao just now was none other than the King of the South Sea!

As soon as the Yaksha was gone, the rift in the void closed up and vanished, as if it had never appeared before.

Yunxiao felt a sudden relief, and he was already covered in a cold sweat. He did not expect that helping the Kunwu Divine Tree to be reborn would cause such a stir, which alerted even that person in the Crystal Palace of the South Sea. Luckily, the Phoenix True Flame had not returned to his soul and was still twitching in his body, and the aura he emanated was actually that of the Ten Worlds realm contained in the divine flame. Otherwise, he was not sure if he could scare the Yaksha away.

He quickly calmed himself down and made the divine flame return to the depths of his soul, which gradually quieted down.

Meanwhile, cracks began to appear across his glazed body and his skin began to break apart. But, Yunxiao's face was strangely calm, not showing a trace of fear but slightly smiling.

BANG!

Eventually, all his skin broke and shattered, turning into streams of light and vanishing in the void. After that, a layer of harsh, sparkling white light appeared over his skin, flashing like diamonds and making him seem to be standing in a light source that could not be looked straight at!

“Tyrant Body! I’ve reached the second level of the Tyrant Body Tempering Technique, Tyrant Body!”

The Tyrant Body Tempering Technique was divided into three levels: the Glazed Body, the Tyrant Body, and the Indestructible Body!

Looking at the light emitting from his body and sensing the surging power in his flesh, Yunxiao was overjoyed. With this fleshly body alone and without even using energy, he could fight head-on against a Martial Lord now! Moreover, after absorbing a large amount of the Kunwu Divine Tree’s Spirit Qi and being baked by the divine fire, he had already reached the realm of one-star Martial Lords!

“Haha! A Martial Lord of the Four Quadrants realm, I finally came back little by little!” Yunxiao said to himself in great joy. Suddenly, he arched an eyebrow as he found several people flying toward him in the distance.

“Hah! What happened to you? How did you make yourselves look like you’ve been roasted?”

Yunxiao was taken aback when he saw the few people. All of them were red and black from top to bottom. Apart from their eyeballs, which were still white, they did not look like who they were.

Everyone was staring at him with bitter eyes while Duan Yue said angrily, “It’s all your fault! But we, need to leave as soon as possible after all the stir you’ve created! Look around the vacuum! When the seawater pours over later, an extremely huge whirlpool will definitely be formed, and there’s no way we can escape it with our strength!”

Yunxiao looked up at those gloomy waters. Although the Phoenix True Flame was gone, they did not fall but still floated overhead, and were giving off an increasingly strong sense of oppression like the sign that heaven was about to fall and earth collapse.

“You’re right, let’s run now! If the seawater pours in, not only Sir Duan and me, even you who live in the water may not survive.”

“Holy...Lord Holy Herald,” Tie Pin, who was almost completely dried up, suddenly asked, “was it Lord Marine Patrol Yaksha from the Crystal Palace who appeared just now?” His voice was extremely hoarse.

“Oh, why? Yes, that fellow is the Marine Patrol Yaksha.” Yunxiao asked in surprise, “We are at a critical juncture, so why do you still have the mood to ask this?”

There had been speculation in their hearts, but upon hearing Yunxiao’s confirmation, the few Firefish people trembled with fear and their eyes filled with terror.

In a trembling voice, Tie Pin said, “Yo-your Excellency, rumor has it that Lord Marine Patrol Yaksha is an expert of the Nine Heavens realm! Moreover, the Yaksha clan is an existence just second to the imperial clan in the Four Seas, and they are an S-grade existence! But...but...he was scared away by you?”

“What! A Martial Sovereign!” Duan Yue was terrified as well, and he cried out, “No wonder he can rip the void and travel in it! Lad, I can’t believe you are so bold, scaring off a Martial Sovereign with the Phoenix True Flame! If I had not seen it with my own eyes, I wouldn’t have believed it!”

Although he was taken aback, he quickly figured out the reason behind it. ‘It must be the divine fire’s power that scared the Martial Sovereign off. Otherwise, with his current cultivation base of a Martial Lord, he could never withstand even a finger from that expert.’

“Ugh? Martial...Martial Lord???” At the thought of that, Duan Yue’s pupils constricted and his eyes burst with a light as he stared at Yunxiao. “You, you, you...” He swallowed hard and squeaked like a duck with its neck held by someone, “Martial... Martial Lord! I can’t believe you’ve stepped over a major realm and advanced into a Martial Lord?! Fu*k, fu*k, fu*k, am I dreaming now? Hit me now, I want to see if I’m dreaming!”

Chapter 206: The Death of Tie Pin

BANG!

Yunxiao mercilessly threw out a punch. The air at the bottom of the sea was thin, but the fist still produced a sharp whistle, smashing Duan Yue in the face and knocking him flying away.

“Hehe! The Tyrant Body is indeed amazing!” Yunxiao looked at his fist with satisfaction as he smiled and said to himself. He did not use any energy in the punch but pure physical strength, and yet it had knocked a Martial Emperor away.

“It hurts!”

Duan Yue held his face as he came running back, almost in tears. “I didn’t ask you to hit my face! Hey, what exactly is going on with you? This doesn’t make sense at all. The rate of your progress has put those so-called geniuses on the continent to shame! Have you ever considered the feelings of common people like us? Heaven is fu*king unfair!”

Yunxiao snorted coldly. “Let’s go now! The seawater is going to pour down at any time, and after the Yaksha gets back and reports his finding here, Qin Ming may rip apart the void and come here with him. If you keep nagging, all of us will die.”

Upon hearing the names Yaksha and Qin Ming, Tie Pin and the other Firefish people shivered all over as they turned and hurried away. The crashing of seawater was terrible, but they believed they could still withstand it. However, just thinking about the Yaksha and Qin Ming was enough to take the strength out of their legs. It was the deterrence at the soul level caused by countless years of hierarchical repression of the sea people.

Duan Yue dared not to cause trouble again. The eight of them propped up a huge bubble together, and with them inside, it flew toward the boundless seawater like a chariot. After all, Yunxiao, Tie Ling, and Tie Fei could not fly in the air yet. With the joint efforts of all the people, the bubble soon burst into the water.

However, that seemed to have triggered the seawater already at the edge, as the surrounding water instantly poured into it after they rushed out of the vacuum, forming a colossal whirlpool in a flash. The expressions of the eight people changed drastically. Meanwhile, Yunxiao took out various medicinal pills he had and gave them to the others, so that they could recover their strength and support the huge bubble, lest it burst under the tremendous force of the whirlpool.

Boom!

The whirlpool gradually expanded, spreading out for miles and dragging all the nearby sea people over. It seemed to spread endlessly across the seafloor. After an unknown time, it finally subsided, but everything within hundreds of miles was destroyed, with only huge traces streaked across the sandy seafloor.

A figure emerged from the sand and spat out a few mouthfuls of sand. The mud that covered him peeled off by itself, soon revealing a body as clean as jade. It was Yunxiao. Although the impact of the whirlpool was so great that even their bubble burst, it did not cause any damage to his body. It seemed that this Tyrant Body was more powerful than he had expected.

He glanced at the boundless seafloor, sending out his divine sense to search for the others. Although the whirlpool was powerful, Tie Fan and the others were sea people after all, so they would be fine. The only one he needed to worry about was their clan chief, Tie Pin. He was afraid that the old man could not withstand such an impact.

“Oh? This is...” He looked up slightly at a man struggling to get up in the mud a few hundred meters away. After the man struggled up, he floated quietly in the sea, gasping for breath while recalling what had just happened. His eyes were full of fear.

Suddenly, a sword beam flashed, and the faint roar of a tiger could be heard in the bottom of the sea. Then, he saw a blood-red tiger come rushing at him.

“Fu*k!” The man cursed as his whole body shot away and dodged the sword. Instead of giving up, the enemy chased over, materializing thousands of blue lotus flowers that engulfed him.

“Don’t be so ignorant, boy! I’m a two-stars Martial Emperor, and I can kill you like a dog! Get out of here if you’re smart!”

The man was Heng Yuan. He had survived the whirlpool, but his energy was almost depleted, and his body was severely wounded. He was frightened by Yunxiao’s Phoenix True Flame, so he only thought of fleeing now. “Don’t think I’m afraid of you because I’m hurt. There is a gap of three major realms between us!”

He kept making threats, only to find that Yunxiao simply ignored them but continued to attack him, and the moves got fiercer and fiercer.

Heng Yuan was completely speechless. As he dodged, he growled, "Are you an idiot? I'm three major realms stronger than you, so why do you keep attacking me? Do you know the difference between a Martial Emperor and a Martial Lord? Are you stupid?"

What made him even angrier was that he, as a Martial Emperor, was severely wounded in the whirlpool, but this Martial Lord did not look like he was injured at all.

"Wait, what!" His eyes grew wide suddenly as he cried out in horror, "You...you are a Martial Lord now?! I remember you were just a Great Martial Master a few days ago!"

He was so shocked that his reaction was half a beat slow, and that caused him to be stabbed by Yunxiao's Tigertooth in the thigh. The sharp pain made him come to his senses, and although he was fuming, there was nothing else he could do but turn and flee.

Heng Yuan knew that with his current condition, he was no match for even a Great Martial Master, not to mention a Martial Lord. He could kill Yunxiao at the cost of damaging his cultivation base though, but he would not be able to return to the surface through this brutal sea after that.

"Trying to run away from me? Are you an idiot? You are three major realms stronger than me!" Yunxiao returned the jape as he chased up while swinging and slashing with his sword.

Heng Yuan was so angry that he almost vomited blood, and a sense of shame and anger filled his heart. But, he could only gnash his teeth and run away with a gloomy face. His life was extremely precious, and as he had just advanced to the Martial Emperor realm not long ago. He had not even enjoyed the lofty status yet. He could not get himself killed just to slay a mere worm to vent his anger.

"Lord Holy Herald, come and have a look at my dad! He's dying!" Tie Ling's voice came over. In the distance, he was holding Tie Pin in a puddle of mud, covered with mud. The latter's aura was extremely weak.

Yunxiao looked back, and the distance between him and Heng Yuan was immediately widened.

Heng Yuan was overjoyed, and he seized the opportunity to muster his energy and sped hundreds of meters away. Then, he turned around as he laughed and said with a sense of relief, “Boy, I’ve memorized how you look! When you get back to Qinghai, I’ll definitely teach you a lesson and let you know what is the gap between you and someone who is three major realms stronger. Haha!”

Laughing triumphantly, he swam toward the surface.

Yunxiao sighed as he watched him flee. He was not trying to kill Heng Yuan, but the man held something he attached great importance—the Purple Nine Neonate Flood Dragon! If Heng Yuan were to return to Qinghai, he would have no hope of getting the flood dragon back.

He immediately swam toward Tie Ling. The young sea man’s face was already covered with tears while the wizened Tie Ling lay feebly in his arms and looked decades older than before. The clan chief was at the end of his tether.

“Lord Holy Herald, you are sent by heaven, so you must have a way to save my dad, right?” While sobbing, Tie Ling pulled at Yunxiao’s sleeve and asked hopefully.

Yunxiao sighed. “Heavenly Dao operates on consistent principles. Your father’s time has really come. If you can find another Kunwu Divine Tree, maybe I can save his life.”

There was always sorrow and death in life. He did not want to lie to Tie Ling, so he told him the truth.

Tie Ling immediately fell into despair and his heart turned cold. Even the entire South Sea was unlikely to have a second Kunwu Divine Tree, let alone the nearby waters. Biting his lips, he held Tie Pin tightly in his arms.

“Silly child, all men must die, and I’ve lived long enough.” Tie Pin smiled faintly and said in a weak voice, “I have been unworthy of my people for hundreds of years as a clan chief. Not only have I done nothing great for the Firefish clan, but I had almost brought it to its knees. If heaven hadn’t sent Lord Holy Herald, even death could hardly absolve me from the blame!”

“My lord...”

“My lord, you are our best clan chief!”

“My lord, you can’t die! The Firefish clan depends on you for guidance!”

At some point in time, the others had also emerged from the seafloor and come around them, all sobbing and crying. Duan Yue, on the other hand, was silent as he stood beside Yunxiao with an indifferent face.

“Kof! Kof!” Tie Pin coughed violently, and then he smiled and said, “I’m really happy to see that you have grown to this point. I now officially appoint Tie Fan as the next chief of the Firefish clan. Support him with all your heart and all your might.”

“No, I can’t!” Tie Fan flatly rejected that. “My lord, your position should be taken over by Tie Ling. He is a third-tier sea refiner, and his prestige is far above mine!”

Tie Ling cried, “Brother Tie Fan, this is my father’s last wish, so don’t refuse it. Do you want him to die with an everlasting regret?”

“That’s right. Brother Tie Fan, this is the clan chief’s order, so you can refuse it!” Tie Xin chimed in.

Looking at Tie Fan, who seemed to have a hard time making up his mind, Tie Pin chuckled and said, “Tie Ling, Tie Xin, Tie Bi, the three of you will be the elders of the Firefish clan. I want you to support Tie Fan with all your heart and might.”

“Understood, my lord! We will do our best to help brother Tie Fan!” Tie Xin and Tie Bi answered with tears coursing down their cheeks.

Tie Pin held out his hand with difficulty, grabbing toward Yunxiao. “Your...Your Excellency, thank you. After I die, please help me take care of the Firefish clan.”

Yunxiao frowned, and he said with a troubled look, "I fear I have to return to the Heavenly Martial Continent at once when this is over, and I don't know when I will meet you again. But, if we have the chance to meet again, I'll take good care of the Firefish clan."

Tie Fan smiled wryly and said, "I had hoped Your Excellency could stay for some time. Tie Fan and the others are still young after all, and if Your Excellency can guide them, they will definitely make fewer mistakes."

Yunxiao sighed and said, "I'm sorry, my lord, I can't do that."

Meanwhile, Duan Yue frowned slightly, as he could clearly sense that Tie Fan and the others had begun to get angry.

Tie Pin said hurriedly, "In that case, if you have the chance to meet again, I hope Your Excellency can take good care of them."

Yunxiao nodded and said, "I will."

"I'm glad to hear that." Tie Pin breathed a sigh of relief, and then he turned to Tie Fan and the others, "Remember, no matter when or what happens, Lord Holy Herald will always be a friend to the Firefish clan. You must treat him with the highest courtesy!"

He also felt the few people's dissatisfactions with Yunxiao, and he was worried that they might have a conflict later.

"Understood, my lord! Lord Holy Herald will always be a friend to the Firefish clan!" While sobbing, the few of them answered.

A faint smile appeared on Tie Pin's face, and his pupils began to dilate at last. A sea man who had lived for hundreds of years, a Martial Emperor and the chief of a clan, finally completed his life and died peacefully.

Chapter 207: Parting

“My lord, my lord!”

“Dad!”

Tie Fan, Tie Ling, and the others knelt in front of Tie Pin and began to cry in loud voices. Meanwhile, Yunxiao and Duan Yue stood by in silent tribute, bowing slightly with solemn expressions.

Gradually, Tie Pin’s body turned soft and light, and then it was ablaze by itself and began burning. Tie Fan and the others were crying and did not look surprised, as if they knew it would happen. ‘It should also be because their bloodline was baptized by the phoenix’s nirvana fire.’ Yunxiao sighed with mixed emotions in his heart. He did not expect the Phoenix True Flame to be so powerful that it had changed the bloodline of an entire clan for over ten thousand years.

Soon, Tie Pin’s body turned into nothingness in the flames and completely disappeared into the sea. At that moment, Tie Fan and the others slowly stopped crying and stood up.

Yunxiao broke the silence by saying, “Everyone, my business here is done. I’ll take my leave now.”

There was a trace of resentment in Tie Fan’s eyes as he said crossly, “Don’t think that just because you’re the Holy Herald, you’re above the Firefish clan. Why didn’t you agree to our clan chief when he begged you to stay? You could just lie to him and make him leave us in peace!”

Yunxiao squinted at him and said, “The future of the Firefish clan is in your own hands. Do you wish to entrust your future to an outsider?”

That gave Tie Fan a pause. While frowning, he said, “You are the Holy Herald, so we naturally believe you.”

Yunxiao gave a cold snort and said, “Since you believe me, I naturally cannot lie to you, including your old clan chief.”

“This...” Tie Fan fell silent.

“Lord Holy Herald!”

Tie Ling walked up as he looked at Yunxiao expectantly and said shyly, “I wish to learn the art of sea refining from my lord.”

Yunxiao smiled. “You do have a gift.” He pondered for a moment and said, “Your father has just passed away, and you are the new elder of the Firefish clan. There are a lot of things for you to deal with. Well, when the Firefish clan settles down, you can come to the city of Yanwu to find me at any time. I will teach you my art of alchemy.”

“The city of Yanwu?” Tie Ling’s eyes grew wide, and he felt a little nervous. Although sea people could live on land, he had never been to the human continent.

“Yes. I’m the City Lord of Yanwu, and my name is Li Yunxiao!” Yunxiao patted him on the forehead as he smiled and said, “Yanwu is located in the state of Tianshui near the Firecrow Empire, which lies in the south of the Heavenly Martial Continent. Whenever you come, you can see me there.”

Tie Ling clenched his fists tightly and said firmly, “When things settle down in the Firefish clan, I’ll definitely go to Yanwu to find Lord Holy Herald! I want to learn all Lord Holy Herald’s art of alchemy and become a guru of sea refining!”

“I will wait for you to come to me, and I will wait for you to become the best sea refiner in the Four Seas, surpassing Ha Si, Xue Lai, and An Sen.”

Tie Ling was stunned, and he asked with a shocking expression, “My lord, do you know these three legendary gurus of sea refining?”

Tie Fan and the others were shocked as well. The three names Yunxiao mentioned were the best sea refiners in the Four Seas. They were revered by thousands like the gods over the cloud, and their status was not inferior to that of the Kings of the Four Seas.

Yunxiao laughed and said, "They are nothing but three old men. You are as talented as any of them."

Tie Ling froze completely. He had never dreamed of comparing himself to the three legendary men. Yunxiao's words were like a seed of dreams, deeply buried in his heart and waiting for the day of germination.

"Since my lord has decided to leave, I'll let Tie Fei lead the way for you," said Tie Fan with a sigh. "After all, the sea is too large, and I'm afraid you'll get lost."

Yunxiao nodded slightly. After that, Tie Fei quickly and respectfully led the way ahead, bringing both men up to the surface.

When they came, he had used ropes to bring them, but when they left, he was respectful.

Tie Fei was grateful. The fated chance of bringing Yunxiao to his clan had greatly benefited him. He had advanced three realms in the Kunwu Divine Tree, and he was now an eight-stars Martial Grandmaster. In the Firefish clan, he was just weaker than Tie Fan and the other two. If he were to cultivate himself, it would take him at least seventy to eighty years to achieve the same result.

The three of them sped through the sea, and they were soon back on the surface, finally able to see the bright blue sky again.

Tie Fei knew Yunxiao was not a Martial Grandmaster yet and could not hover in mid-air, so he produced a bubble with an incantation gesture and made it float under Yunxiao's feet, allowing him to stand firmly in the sky.

"My lord, this is where we first met. May I know how my lord is going to get back?"

Yunxiao glanced around at the boundless sea, and then he rested his eyes on a small island in the distance and said, "We'll rest on that island first. We don't know when the rainbow fog will appear again, so we can only wait for it now."

It was a small uninhabited island, about dozens of miles long and wide. After landing on it, Yunxiao asked Tie Fei to go back.

Tie Fei raised his hands over his head as he bowed deeply three times and said gratefully, "Please take care, my lord! I hope we will meet again soon." After saying that, he closed his eyes, for fear that he might burst into tears. Then, he turned and dove back into the water, disappearing into the vast sea.

Yunxiao sighed. He had come into contact with many sea people, but he had no good impression of them, and his hands were stained with the blood of countless sea people. It was the first time he had become so close to a sea clan.

Duan Yue suddenly laughed and said, "Are you reluctant to part with them? Well, now that I look at you again, I find that you do look like those fish-heads. Why don't you just stay and marry them? I can assure you that they will let you choose the most beautiful fish-heads in their clan, and perhaps you will evolve into exactly the same as them in a few hundred years. Haha!"

Yunxiao stared at him scornfully and said in a cold voice, "What else do you know besides seeking pleasure through mental masturbation?"

"YOU!" The sharp retort choked Duan Yue. 'I'm making a fool out of myself again by provoking this lad!' he scolded himself in his heart. Since he met Yunxiao, he never succeeded in mocking the latter. But, not only did he not learn his lesson, he also kept doing it repeatedly.

Frustrated, he turned and sat cross-legged down to meditate.

In the past, no matter what method he used or what cultivation technique he practiced, he could never increase his energy. However, after using the technique Yunxiao taught him, although his body was still sealed most of the time, he could clearly sense that his energy was growing steadily. Once the seal was completely removed, his cultivation base would definitely be improved by leaps and bounds.

Looking at his back, Yunxiao was amused. "There seem to be many low-level demon beasts and sea beasts on this island. Oh, the strongest one is actually a fourth-tier demon beast. Hey, if you are upset, you can find them and vent your air."

Duan Yue turned and glared at Yunxiao, before vanishing from where he was in the next instant.

Yunxiao smiled and held up his hands. A light emerged between them, and a tiny sapling could be seen floating there, surrounded by streams of colorful light and looking full of energy.

“Hehe! I really have the impulse to swallow it now. Such a magical Spirit Qi...If I eat it, my cultivation base can be increased by at least three tiers.” Yunxiao swallowed his saliva as he put the sapling back into his storage ring with a flip of his hand. “I must resist the impulse! No amount of Spirit Qi can compare with the wisp of Great Primal Qi!”

The sapling was the Kunwu Divine Tree. Normally, no living things could survive in a storage mystic artifact. But, the tree spirit told him that it could be put in any storage mystic artifact, only that it could not grow when inside. Yunxiao carefully tested that and found it to be true, and he could not help but marvel at its magical ability. Among all precious plants and minerals, this Kunwu Divine Tree should be one of the very top existences.

Suddenly, the seawater in front of him exploded, from which came floating up a group of Firefish people. Stepping on bubbles, they flew up and landed on the island. Their leader was Tie Fei. While smiling, he said, “Greetings, my lord. We almost forget to return my lord’s treasure.”

Meanwhile, the seawater gradually parted as numerous Firefish people pulled the Tigerking chariot out of the water. Before long, a huge Tigerking chariot hovered in front of Yunxiao.

Yunxiao laughed. “I’m glad you remembered.”

“Hehe!” Tie Fei smiled embarrassingly before diving back into the water with his people and disappearing.

As soon as Yunxiao swept the chariot with his divine sense, his expression changed. And when he leaped onto the chariot, his mouth grew wide enough to fit a whole watermelon.

Numerous purple Primordial Crystals and various undersea treasures filled the entire chariot. Although the Spirit Qi exuding from them was not as astonishing as that of the Kunwu Divine Tree, it was also

almost corporeal, nourishing every pore on his body. He felt extremely comfortable and pleasant just by standing there and breathing.

“These fellows...” Yunxiao was moved as he said, “I really regret sacrificing the other two chariots now. Otherwise, it would be nice to let them confiscate them together.”

He simply sorted out the treasures and put them all into his ring before throwing out a few incantation seals and putting away the chariot as well. After that, he went back to the beach.

From time to time, the roar of demon beasts could be heard on the island, but they quickly quieted down. As the whole island was under Yunxiao’s divine sense, he knew that the strongest demon beast was just a fourth-tier one, who was no match for Duan Yue.

Suddenly, he had a strange feeling. He looked up toward the vast expanse of sea and saw the air over the water begin to twist slightly, becoming somewhat blurry. “Rainbow fog!” he shouted in great joy.

Meanwhile, Duan Yue appeared beside Yunxiao, looking excitedly into the distance as well. He smelled of blood, and it seemed that he had a good catch. However, he missed the moment when Tie Fei brought treasures. Otherwise, he would definitely ask Yunxiao to share them with him, and he would get at least some of the treasures.

“We can finally go back!” Duan Yue’s face beamed. Although the voyage was extremely dangerous, the gains were unusually great. He not only broke through and became a two-stars Martial Emperor, but also found the way to remove the seal on him. Now, he could not wait to get back.

Chapter 208: Pink Crystal Dust

Specks of pink began to slowly emerge in the distorting air over the sea in the distance. From afar, it looked as if thousands of peach blossoms dotted the sky and the sea as both men waited quietly. As time went by, those pink specks grew more in number and their color grew darker. Soon, the whole region was foggy and blurry like a dream.

“It’s so strong!” Duan Yue was taken aback. Even though they were far apart, the pink crystal dust could still affect his mind. It was much stronger than the one they met before.

Yunxiao looked calm. His current soul power was already at the level of a fourth-tier alchemist, so he would have no problem in safely traveling through the pink crystal dust.

“Shall we go now?” Duan Yue urged.

“No, we’ll wait a bit more,” Yunxiao said flatly.

“Wait?” Duan Yue did not understand. The more pink crystal dust there was, the more stable the space tunnel would be. And if the dust grew less, the tunnel would become unstable. Now was the best time to enter indeed.

“Yes, we’ll wait!” Yunxiao nodded. His eyes were fixed on the rainbow fog and did not relax for a moment.

It was true that when the pink crystal dust was most abundant, the space tunnel was the most stable, but it was also the time when the soul power was consumed the most. Creating and maintaining a space tunnel in the rainbow fog consumed a significant amount of soul power, and it was extremely dangerous even for alchemists. Had it not been because there was lesser crystal dust when they came, they might not have been able to arrive here safely.

At that moment, a beam of light suddenly shot toward the pink crystal dust and quickly pierced into it.

Duan Yue’s pupils constricted as he said while fuming, “It is that fellow from the Constellation Sect! He’s been hiding nearby!”

Yunxiao shouted as well, “This is the time! After him!”

In addition to waiting for the pink crystal dust to grow less, his other important purpose was to wait for Heng Yuan to show up.

Duan Yue grabbed Yunxiao's arm as he took a step and rushed into the rainbow fog in the next instant. Although he was only a seven-stars Martial Grandmaster now, he could unlock the seal at any time and restore his strength of a two-stars Martial Emperor for an hour, which was more than enough for him to fight Heng Yuan.

"What a strong power of crystal dust!" As soon as they stepped into the fog, Duan Yue felt a pink aura come blowing into his face, causing his head to reel. That frightened him, and he hurriedly covered himself from head to bottom with soul power, isolating himself from the pink crystal dust. But, he felt extremely laborious just by doing that.

Although Heng Yuan entered the rainbow fog earlier than them, they could still see him struggling to move forward as a vague figure ahead, not too far ahead of them. With a dark face, he was walking one step at a time with great difficulty. Clearly, he felt a tremendous pressure as well.

"Hey, my friend from the Constellation Sect, wait for us!" Yunxiao shouted coldly.

Startled, Heng Yuan turned and saw a blood-colored tiger come swooping at him, roaring, trying to devour him.

Horror-stricken, he threw out a palm, shattering the tiger instantly. A terrified look came over his face as he bellowed, "You're crazy! Do you not know what this place is? Do you want to die together?"

Yunxiao showed an enlightened look and said, "Oh, right, we are inside a rainbow fog."

Heng Yuan breathed a heavy sigh of relief and said, "Thankfully, you are not too stupid. If we were to fight here, although I'm also under great pressure, I'll have no problem killing you two first before passing the fog safely. I just want to give you a fair opportunity to settle our scores when we get back to Qinghai...HEY! Are you out of your mind? Do you understand what I said?"

As he was only halfway through, he saw Yunxiao's mocking expression, and then a large amount of pink crystal dust was attracted by his soul power.

“Hmph! You’re exactly like that Old Freak Constellation. Will you die if you don’t brag?” said Yunxiao in a cold voice. His hands seemed to have produced a powerful suction, attracting nearby pink crystal dust into a mass, which was then compressed into two pink balls that looked as beautiful as snowballs.

“What are you trying to do? Stop it right now!”

Heng Yuan was scared out of his wits. He could not believe that Yunxiao could grab pink crystal dust in the palms. Although he could do that also by mustering all his soul power, he would not be able to pass through the rainbow fog after that. In the distance, Duan Yue was staring at him with a sneer, as if he were about to strike at any time.

Yunxiao ignored his shout. When the two pink balls grew to the size of footballs, he pushed his hand forward, throwing both out with his soul power. While spinning, the two balls pierced through the fog toward Heng Yuan.

“Madman, you are a complete madman! FU*K YOU!”

Heng Yuan gasped as if he had seen the scariest thing in the world. He hastily dodged aside, but then realized that the balls were too fast for him to avoid. So, he quickly mustered soul power in his palms and pushed them forward to knock the balls away.

A hideous grin came over Yunxiao’s face as he put his palms together and clenched them into fists while pulling them apart like he was pulling dough. An invisible light exploded out in his hands, and in the meantime, the two balls rushing toward Heng Yuan suddenly blew apart, breaking into countless tiny crystals and shooting out in all directions like two flowers blooming.

Heng Yuan had just pushed his palms forward when he saw the crystal balls explode and pink crystal dust shooting over at him. He was so terrified that he broke out in a cold sweat instantly. He had some reserves originally, but he hurriedly poured all his soul power into his palms now, forming an invisible barrier in front of him.

But to his horror, he soon found that the pink crystal dust, which was granular just now, had transformed into needles by Yunxiao, and thousands of them managed to directly pierce his soul power barrier and were shooting toward his body.

“BAST*RD!”

Heng Yuan roared, feeling extremely angry and upset. He quickly performed an incantation gesture with both hands, and a diamond-shaped white stone emerged between his palms in the next instant. Under the pressure of his Primordial Qi, the stone broke out in beams of white light and then exploded.

The explosion of the stone released a mass of pale yellow light, which blocked all the pink crystal needles and forced them to halt in mid-air. Seeing that, Heng Yuan breathed a sigh of relief, his face turning pale and bloodless with fear while his eyes were filled with a look of pain. Clearly, the white stone was something extraordinary.

“A Three Lives Stone!”

Yunxiao was taken aback. With his eyes widened, he said furiously, “You should have told me that you have a Three Lives Stone, and I would have spared your life! Damn it! How could you destroy such a precious treasure! A thousand deaths would not be enough to atone for your sin!”

Three Lives Stones were a kind of very strange stone that contained endless soul power. Rumors had it that a mortal had once found a Three Lives Stone and placed it beside his pillow when he got back. He dreamed of his previous life, present life, and future life, a total of three lives, when he slept that same night, which gave the stone its name. Its value was even greater than a Purple Nine Neonate Flood Dragon!

Heng Yuan clearly did not know about the origin of the stone. He had purchased it from some trading company, and because he sensed there was a great soul power in it, he brought it with him all the time to study it. He had released its soul power just now to save his life.

After the stone exploded, a large amount of soul power spread out, blowing away the pink crystal dust around Heng Yuan and forming a safe zone.

Just as he was relieved, he heard a sharp whirring sound. He looked up and gasped as he broke out in a cold sweat instantly. He saw Yunxiao wear a dark face and a fierce expression, with a basketball-sized pink crystal ball spinning on the tip of his right index finger, which grew larger and larger and produced an ear-splitting noise. His heart sank at the sight.

“Young man, we can talk this over! A gentleman reasons things out and does not resort to force! We are destined to meet each other, and to cut others some slack is to give yourself the leeway in time of need!”

Heng Yuan was completely scared out of his wits. He knew he could never withstand this pink crystal ball, so he hastily resorted to reasoning. When he saw that he did not move Yunxiao, he drew a long face and begged, “Hero, please spare me! I was wrong, I will kowtow to you and give you everything you want! Please just spare me my pathetic life!”

That stunned Duan Yue, and he scolded, “You are such a coward and a fuc*king disgrace to all Martial Emperors!”

“Yes, yes, yes! I’m a coward, and I’m a disgrace to all Martial Emperors!” Heng Yuan said hastily, “You’re absolutely right about me, Lord Duan! Please intercede with this young gentleman for me and ask him to spare my life! When we get back, I’ll follow you and serve you like a servant!”

Duan Yue, “...”

Yunxiao felt sick on hearing that. He had seen many warriors who were scared out of their wits and feared death, but this was the first time he saw such a cheap one. “This is fu*king disgusting! You’re truly from the Constellation Sect, comparable to your sect leader! Now taste my attack!”

The pink crystal ball gradually floated up into the sky. Suddenly, a stream of mighty soul power shot out of Yunxiao’s forehead and hit the crystal ball like a hammer, knocking it away like a baseball and filling the air with a sharp whistle. Seeing that, Heng Yuan’s heart sunk into an abyss instantly.

“Damnit! Little bast*rd, I’ll not let you get away with it easily, even if I am dead!” Heng Yuan gritted his teeth in despair, his eyes filled with a venomous look. “You want the Purple Nine Neonate Flood Dragon, don’t you? Keep dreaming then!” He took out a jade bottle and poured his Primordial Qi into it, which produced a cracking sound instantly.

A huge purple figure emerged in the purple fog, struggling violently with its head grabbed by Heng Yuan.

“Die!”

Reluctantly, Heng Yuan crushed the flood dragon's head. The beast's huge body twitched in pain as it was thrown into the distance. "Since you want to kill me, I'll not let you get anything from me!" Meanwhile, he took out his storage ring and crushed it as well.

BOOM!

Yunxiao's crystal ball smashed into Heng Yuan's arm and blew apart. Countless crystal needles shot out of it, piercing his body and turning him into a porcupine. These crystals were not powerful, but they melted into his body as soon as they touched his skin. In just a flash, Heng Yuan turned pink all over and his pupils gradually dilated, showing a look of intense fear.

With a blank look, he floated in mid-air and seemed to have calmed down. Apart from turning pink all over, there seemed to be nothing unusual about him.

Yunxiao and Duan Yue exchanged a glance and began to observe with high vigilance. They had never seen anyone absorb so much pink crystal dust, so they had no idea what would happen to him.

Chapter 209: Back to Qinghai

Heng Yuan's expression became strangely blank, and then it gradually changed. Suddenly, a smile brushed his lips, seeming bizarre and cold, startling Yunxiao and Duan Yue.

"Ha, haha!" All of a sudden, he threw his head back and laughed. "Haha, hahaha!"

After laughing for a few minutes, he quieted down. With a bizarre look in his eyes, he glanced at Yunxiao and Duan Yue as he gave a cold snort and said in a hoarse voice, "A sealed Martial Emperor? A fourth-tier alchemist? Har, two ants!"

Yunxiao and Duan Yue's expressions changed drastically, and both of them raised their vigilance to the highest level. But, a look of contempt appeared in Heng Yuan's eyes, and then he turned into a beam of red light and pierced through the rainbow fog into the distance. Wherever he passed, the pink crystal dust retreated and made way for him.

“What...What’s going on?” Duan Yue was dumbfounded, and his heart raced. Heng Yuan gave him too much pressure just now, and the glance alone nearly made him collapse.

Looking in the direction where Heng Yuan had disappeared, Yunxiao’s face turned unusually serious as he said, “He was possessed by someone!”

“What? Possession!” Duan Yue was taken aback as he cried out in horror, “Is there really such an evil method in the world? I always thought it was a fabrication!”

Yunxiao was silent for a moment, and then he said, “The person who possessed Heng Yuan’s body clearly has a very strong soul power. Look at how the pink crystal dust is pushed a dozen meters from him wherever he goes. Even I can’t do that.”

Duan Yue was shocked. Yunxiao’s soul power had definitely reached the level of a fourth-tier alchemist, and that meant the person’s soul power was at least at the level of a fifth-tier alchemist. He swallowed and said with great difficulty, “Could... could that person be an alchemist?”

Yunxiao nodded and said, “It’s highly likely. In general, only alchemists will practice this technique, because their souls are strong enough to leave their bodies and exist independently.” Then, he remembered that he, too, had reincarnated in Tianshui after his death in the Tiandang Mountains. But, that should be due to the Great Expansion Divine Technique.

The Heavenly Martial Realm was vast, and no one could guarantee that there were no other cultivation techniques more magical than the Great Expansion Divine Technique. That person gave Yunxiao a very strong sense of threat. Luckily, he was too disdainful to attack both of them. Otherwise, they would not be able to return to Qinghai.

Yunxiao sighed and said, “That person should have been living in this pink crystal dust in the form of a soul until he entered Heng Yuan’s body and took possession of it. The world is so large that everything strange is possible. We are too ignorant!”

The more Duan Yue listened, the more shocked he became. “Will...Will there be other souls living in the pink dust?”

'Fu*k if I know!' Yunxiao cursed in his heart as he sped forward and said, "Never mind that, just don't touch the dust. Let's quickly find that flood dragon's body. That's a great treasure!"

Duan Yue got a fright when he saw Yunxiao move away, and he hurriedly flew after him. All the way, he was in a state of terror, for he felt as if wandering souls were staring at him everywhere.

Not far away, Yunxiao found the flood dragon. Its head was completely blown off, leaving only its body, which was already turning pink. He dared not touch it with his hand, so he threw out a few incantation seals and put it into his storage ring.

Carefully, they made their way through the rainbow fog. Nothing happened after that, and they soon emerged from the fog to see a great blue sea.

Duan Yue took a deep breath and roared with joy, "Haha! I'm back! I'm finally back!"

His voice spread with force and shook the sea, setting off huge waves that rolled into the distance.

"Who is making so much noise here? You have disturbed the Infinity Sect's hunting!"

A sonorous voice rang out, and then seven or eight Bluewolf chariots gradually emerged over the sea, on top of which stood many warriors with angry faces.

"The Infinity Sect? Haha! This is indeed Qinghai! I'm finally back!" Duan Yue was even happier, and he laughed wildly.

"I can't believe you're still laughing!" A man said angrily. "Do you have any idea how much time we spent preparing to kill this Golden Ox? Just the preparations alone had taken us three months, not to mention the countless materials and secret techniques involved! But, your roar has ruined everything! How do you want to compensate us?"

"Compensate?" Duan Yue's eyes grew cold, and a hint of a smile appeared on the corner of his mouth.

Another man was taken aback. He could not sense Duan Yue's cultivation base, which only meant that this stranger's strength was far greater than his. A cold sweat broke out on his forehead instantly. He went up and pulled the first man back as he gave him a wink and said warily, "Senior, a magnanimous man like you will not be bothered by what he said. We had indeed spent great effort in preparation to hunt this Golden Ox, and we do feel pain seeing all the hard work get ruined. However, it has nothing to do with Senior. We're just unlucky."

"Hmph!" The first man seemed unconvinced as he said angrily, "We bought tens of thousands of invisible talismans just to hide these ten chariots!"

Duan Yue's expression changed. A powerful aura rushed out of him, covering the whole sea surface and enveloping all these people of the Infinity Sect.

That startled and panicked everyone. Duan Yue's aura was stronger than they had expected. The man who spoke was so scared that he stepped back repeatedly while drawing his sword and unsealing it in a flash.

The rest of the people did not stand by idly. They fled at full speed toward the chariots, intending to join their forces to increase their chances of winning. To hunt the Golden Ox, they had practiced a concerted technique countless times. As long as they could return to their chariots, they would be able to keep their lives.

Suddenly, a beam of white light pierced through the air and overtook all of them in an instant before landing gently on a chariot. With his back facing the crowd, Duan Yue lifted a hand. A mass of white flame gradually emerged in his palm and slowly stretched longer into his Heavenly Halberd while exuding a scary aura.

One of the men gasped and said in horror, "Not good! He's going to destroy our chariots!"

With a dark face, another man said furiously, "Senior, we don't know you, so why do you want to kill us?"

Duan Yue turned a deaf ear to them and pushed his right hand down. Immediately, the Heavenly Halberd turned into a beam of golden light and shot straight down, exploding on the surface of the sea

and then blooming like a golden lotus flower in the seawater, opening up a vacuum tunnel that went straight to the bottom of the sea.

The Infinity Sect's disciples widened their eyes in horror and stared at Duan Yue with fear. No one knew what he was doing.

"Moo!"

The sound of a sea beast rang out from the bottom of the sea, accompanied by a large amount of demonic energy and painful cries.

"Hmph! This is a tough one. White Scorching Ghost Flame, explode!"

Duan Yue's eyes flashed with a hint of killing intent as he performed an incantation gesture with one hand. Suddenly, a loud explosion echoed out from the bottom of the sea. The seawater seemed to have boiled at this moment, as plumes of white smoke rose from it.

The disciples of Infinity Sect were in a panic. They could not believe that Duan Yue's strength was so horrifying. They had been foolishly trying to join forces against him, but they had fortunately not been able to do so, or they would have gone up in smoke now.

The plumes of white smoke were mixed with wisps of blood. Even Meanwhile, a gust of sea breeze scattered the smoke, revealing a huge Golden Ox floating in the sea. There was a large gash in its chest, from where blood kept flowing out. The sea beast was dead.

"He killed the Golden Ox hiding at the bottom of the sea with only one strike!"

"What exactly is this senior's cultivation base? In his capacity as a senior expert, he should not make things difficult for us, should he?"

"It's hard to say. Some experts are psychopaths and like to torture people."

“Shut your fu*king mouth! If you provoke him, I’ll be the first to kill you!”

The people of Infinity Sect became nervous as they waited to be judged by Duan Yue.

“Take this Golden Ox. Is this enough to compensate you?” Duan Yue grinned as he pointed at the sea beast and said.

“What!” A disciple froze, and then he hurriedly waved his hand and said, “You must be joking, Senior! You’ve killed the Golden Ox all by yourself. We can’t take it. You just have to let us go.”

Duan Yue frowned and said angrily, “I, Duan Yue, am not a bully. Take it when I say so. Now, put away all your things and get the hell out of here!”

“Duan...You are Senior Duan Yue!” Taken aback, the disciples said dubiously, “Didn’t you die at sea?”

“What! What nonsense are you talking about?” Duan Yue growled.

“No-nothing...” The disciple hastily covered his mouth. In his heart, he scolded himself for shooting his mouth off, and thought he deserved it if he were killed here today.

In the distance, Yunxiao’s eyebrows twitched slightly. Stepping on waves, he drifted over and asked in a soft voice, “Be clear with what you say. What’s going on?”

The disciple gave Duan Yue a nervous look. “Speak!” Duan Yue said in a deep voice.

That frightened him, and he said bitterly, “A few days ago, a piece of news was circulating in Qinghai about Senior Duan Yue and a few other Senior Martial Grandmasters, saying that you were all killed while hunting a Purple Nine Neonate Flood Dragon together. This caused quite a stir in Qinghai. The Flying Sword Sect, the Tiger Slayer Sect, and the Foursquare Library even sent experts to search for Senior Ma Wendi, Senior Yan Feiyue, and Senior Shi Hongcai, but they found nothing.”

“Damnit, it must be...” Duan Yue cursed, but Yunxiao raised a hand and interrupted him.

“What is the source of the news?” Yunxiao stared at the disciple and asked calmly.

The disciple was extremely shocked. Duan Yue was a well-known Martial Grandmaster while this teenager was just a one-star Martial Lord and even younger than him. However, Duan Yue seemed to follow his lead. Could he be a disciple of some superpower?

The disciple believed what was on his mind, so he said quickly and respectfully, “It was an expert from the Constellation Sect. It is said that the person watched the whole battle from a distance, and he was fortunately far away from it, so he survived.”

Chapter 210: A Plot

Yunxiao said, “I see, thank you for telling us! Take this ox back.” When he saw that the disciple was about to reject again, he immediately said in a cold voice, “If you refuse again, we may change our mind and kill you all.”

The few disciples of Infinity Sect looked at each other. In the end, they took the Golden Ox with great joy and thanked Yunxiao and Duan Yue before leaving at top speed.

“What do you think of this, lad? Should we spread the story of the Constellation Sect’s killing of the other hunters?” Duan Yue turned and asked Yunxiao. Vaguely, he had taken the latter as his backbone. Although he still argued with the other, after spending some time together, his heart was already filled with admiration for this young man.

Yunxiao glanced at him and said, “Lad? Call me Young Master Yun.”

“Fu*k you!” Duan Yue cursed. “Can you at least show a little bit of respect for a senior in martial arts? I’m a two-stars Martial Emperor after all, and I’m considered a well-known supreme figure in Skyfragrance! How could you be so impolite to me?”

“Do you want to know what we should do next?”

“I do.”

“Then call me Young Master Yun.”

“...”

While fuming, Duan Yue gnashed his teeth and said, “Young Master...Yun!”

Yunxiao smiled and said, “That’s more like it. Although the Flying Sword Sect, Tiger Slayer Sect, and Foursquare Library are weaker than the Constellation Sect, they are considered giants in a small place like Skyfragrance Empire. It is a good thing to stir up conflicts between them, and we can take the opportunity to steal the Blueluan warship.”

“That’s true.” Duan Yue nodded slightly, but when he listened to the last part of Yunxiao’s plan, his eyes got big and he cried out shockingly, “What...what did you say? You want to steal the Blueluan warship? Are you insane! That is a sixth-tier warship! It’s like a palace and unstoppable! Even if you manage to steal it, the Constellation Sect will hunt us down to the end of the world, not to mention there is no way you can take it away!”

“You underestimate the Constellation Sect. A Blueluan warship is nothing to them. Even if they do send someone to hunt us, it will be at most for the sake of faces.” Yunxiao’s face grew dark and said, “To save you, I’ve lost three Tigerking chariots, but you never expressed your gratitude. And now, you’re making such a fuss when I’ve only asked you to slightly compensate me.”

“I’ll think of a way to find you three Tigerking chariots.” Duan Yue’s face was pale. To him, the Constellation Sect was a colossal existence.

Yunxiao said disdainfully, “According to Heng Yuan, the strongest warrior of the Constellation Sect in Qinghai is just a one-star Martial Emperor named Xu Feng. You can unlock your seal for an hour, which is more than enough to kill him. As for the Blueluan warship, I’ll think of a way to control it.”

Duan Yue’s face flickered as he said, “If we really kill Xu Feng and steal the warship, we will completely be at odds with the Constellation Sect, a monster. I’m afraid there won’t be much room for us on the whole Heavenly Martial Continent after that. There’s no joking about it. You’d better think twice.”

Yunxiao said, "Don't forget that you were the one who the Constellation Sect wanted to kill in the beginning! Now that Heng Yuan is missing but you are still alive, they will definitely come to you even if you don't provoke them. It is you who needs to think twice, not me!"

That tempted Duan Yue instantly. The Constellation Sect had never hesitated to send people to kill them, so why couldn't he fight back? And, since he was still alive, they would not let him go so easily. But, he was still worried. "It is said that a Blueluan warship can borrow the power of the heaven and earth, and a full-power attack unleashed from it can instantly kill even a Martial Emperor."

With a confident smile, Yunxiao said, "Don't worry, you just have to focus on dealing with that Xu Feng. A peak Blueluan warship does have such power, but it requires six third-tier alchemists to host the arrays in it to achieve that. It's a pity that the one owned by the Constellation Sect in Qinghai is just a defective warship. It can be used to scare people, yes, but only in dreams can its full power be brought into play."

Duan Yue's eyes flickered as he listened. Finally, he took a deep breath and said, "Alright! I'll throw caution to the wind and do this together with you! It's the Constellation Sect who betrayed me first, so they can't blame me for this!"

After that, Yunxiao took out a Bluewolf chariot. Both of them stood inside, and then the chariot turned into a beam of blue light as it sped over the sea.

Half a day later, the story of the Constellation Sect sending people to kill Ma Wendi and others and seizing the Purple Nine Neonate Flood Dragon spread like wildfire throughout Qinghai.

"I can't believe Lord Ma Wendi and the others were killed by people sent by Constellation Sect. Tsk, tsk, this is really a piece of shocking news!"

"They were seven Martial Grandmasters, and each was a person of exceptional ability. And yet, all of them are dead. A hole has been poked through the sky this time!"

"I'm a little skeptical. The Constellation Sect is extremely strong, but its foundation is not in the South after all. So, why would it offend three local tyrants like this? This is too unwise."

“What unwise? No gentleman has a petty mind and no true man is without venom! I call this wise!”

“This is not wise, this is perverse!”

“It is said that the leader of the Constellation Sect is a pervert. He is already hundreds of years old, but he’s still looking for twelve to thirteen years old girls to play with.”

“Shh! Lower your voice! How dare you say that! Are you insane? Are you tired of living?”

“I...What did I say? I didn’t say anything...Come, let’s drink!”

It was the greatest taboo in Qinghai to murder someone and seize their treasure. Almost all warriors here were hunters, and what they feared the most was someone sneak attacking them when they were hunting. If anyone did that and it was learned by others, he would be despised by the whole Qinghai. After the news spread, the Flying Sword Sect, Tiger Slayer Sect, and Foursquare Library had begun sending a large number of experts into Qinghai in just half a day. It was said that there were even Martial Emperors among them.

Although the three sects could not be compared with the Constellation Sect, who was ranked among the top sects of the continent, they were at least local giants who could not bear being bullied. Besides, the experts they lost were Martial Grandmasters, who were pillars of their sects.

The situation in Qinghai suddenly became tense. Sects shrunk their range of activities, and independent hunters rarely went out to sea. An atmosphere of uncertainty hung over Qinghai, and for a moment, even the streets began to empty.

Two days later, inside Constellation Sect’s sixth-tier Blueluan warship...

Several alchemists were fixing a few arrays while various precious materials were being constantly brought over.

The Blueluan warship was like a mini moving castle. It was many times larger than a Tigerking chariot, blotting out the sky as it hovered over Qinghai. Since the story of the Constellation Sect sneak attacking

fellow hunters spread, the warship had begun to get very busy. Various resources were brought up in large quantities while the number of alchemists also spiked suddenly, all of whom were busied fixing all kinds of damage throughout the warship.

But, the other Blueluan warship it faced was the opposite. It became very quiet, hovering there lifelessly without moving and showing no sign of activities.

Due to its overly large size, problems that occurred in a Blueluan warship could hardly be fixed on time. And since the one owned by Constellation Sect was a defective warship, which was mainly used as a facade, the condition of its interior was even worse. But now, Constellation Sect suddenly began to fix it with a huge amount of resources, and that had instantly attracted wild guesses and intensified the atmosphere.

These alchemists were responsible for repairing several offensive arrays. The Constellation Sect was a supreme existence in Qinghai, so the warship's offensive arrays had been neglected for a long time. Now that they were required to be repaired urgently, these alchemists were already extremely tired from all the work. There were also a large number of alchemists scattered in other places to carry out restoration work. The whole warship looked busy.

"This Blueluan warship is too insane. With the four of us working together and so many materials, we've only managed to restore one array."

"It's hard to imagine how strong the alchemist who refined this warship is!"

"Nonsense! It takes at least several or even dozens of sixth-tier alchemists to refine such a large warship. Had it not been because we have the array diagrams, do you think the few of us can restore its arrays?"

"Tsk, tsk, refining a Blueluan warship...must be a grand and exciting scene to behold. I wish I had a chance to witness it."

"Hehe! You all have good potential. You'll get a chance someday."

The alchemists were taken aback, and they all turned around. The last remark was not said by one of them, but a smiling young man who stood not far away.

An alchemist's expression changed drastically, and he shouted, "Who are you? How did you enter here?"

The faces of four warriors in the room changed as well, and they had surrounded the young man in a flash, each taking out his weapon and looking alert. The four of them were all eight-stars Martial Lords, but none of them discovered the young man's trace. So, even though his aura was just of a one-star Martial Lord, they dared not underestimate him.

This place was the central control area of the Blueluan warship, with not only the main hover array, but also more than three hundred auxiliary arrays, each connected with the other. It was the most important area on the ship. The Constellation Sect's main purpose of stationing four Martial Lords here was to direct the transportation of resources, and they never thought someone would trespass here. After all, numerous experts had been stationed throughout the warship, and not even a fly could come inside.

"I remember you! You are the boy from Manduo Trading Company who brought Primordial Crystals!" An alchemist cried out suddenly. That was how Yunxiao snaked into the warship.

"Hehe! You do have a good memory. That's why I said you all have good potential. Work hard and fight for a chance to go to the Sea of Soul Formation in the future. Now please move aside, I want to study your main array."

While smiling, Yunxiao walked toward the main array.

In the center of the room, a huge array was carved on a kind of beautiful stone material. Surrounding the array were complicated tadpole-like characters, which were connected with countless nearby various arrays. This was the core of the whole warship, the place that supplied energy to everything.

"Stop it right there!"

A Martial Lord shouted. Light flashed in his hand as a sharp sword slashed through the air, sweeping toward Yunxiao's neck. He did not dare to be careless, so he had attacked with his full force.

The other three Martial Lords produced their weapons as well—a spear, a war hammer, and a chain. They targeted him from three directions, making sure that he could not run away.