The Heavens 1061

Chapter 1061: Star Beasts Assault

As the Yuanchen Heavy Sword tore through the air when Huang Jinghan made his move, Kou Chongxue who had been managing matters in the Tongyou Elysium appeared beside Shang Xia.

However, Shang Xia quickly discovered the anomaly and knew that it was a mere clone.

Then again, Kou Chongxue had been in the second tier for some time now. Being able to split off a clone shouldn't be surprising.

However, from what Shang Xia knew, Kou Chongxue never really put in any effort when researching the secret art of creating clones. He has only been practicing for several months...

A clone might be important to Elysium True Immortals, but for people like Kou Chongxue and Shang Xia who could leave the world anytime they liked, creating clones wasn't as important.

However, Shang Xia understood why Kou Chongxue did something like that. He didn't wish to leave the Elysium and allow anything to happen to it.

Kou Chongxue's appearance was quickly detected by the rest. They also discovered that he merely sent over a clone.

A second tier True Immortal could split off a clone by using some Void Qi. Their foundations wouldn't be affected either. However, it wasn't exactly something easy to do. The amount of energy required to create the clone would cause them to exhaust a few years of cultivation...

However, that didn't really pose a problem for the monster that was Kou Chongxue. He was blessed by the world itself and his cultivation speed far surpassed others. What others might need several years, he only needed several months!

Actually, Shang Xia also had the capability to split off a clone. He also knew that it would be a little easier for himself to do so compared to other True Immortals.

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After the short exchange between Shang Xia and Kou Chongxue, the test between Huang Jinghan and Yin Jingxu already ended.

The Yuanchen Heavy Sword wasn't able to damage the Star Observatory, but Yin Jingxu was injured by the sword qi Huang Jinghan released!

To the current Heavenly Star Palace, the Star Observatory was what they were relying on to obtain benefits from the other great powers!

Seeing Yin Jingxu who was slowly recovering on the Star Observatory, Kou Chongxue's clone asked, "Do you want me to do it?"

Glancing at the clone from the corner of his eye, Shang Xia mumbled, "You're the one who ascended with the spirituality of the Jiao Continent. If you want to go easy on them, I have no opinions..."

"It's a shame our world needs this Star Observatory..." Kou Chongxue mumbled.

To that, Shang Xia broke out laughing, "Aren't you afraid that the Heavenly Star Palace really inherited the martial inheritance of the Heaven Observation Sect? That's an inheritance that can lead to the Seventh Order of the Primary Realm! If they are allowed to rise, in a hundred years or so, they'll probably be in control of our Spirit Luxuriant World!"

"So... Are you thinking of forcing them to hand over the martial inheritance of the Heaven Observation Sect?" Kou Chongxue raised an eyebrow curiously.

Shang Xia chuckled, "I'm fine with not getting it. Even if they aren't willing to hand it over, or if they really don't have it, it's like you said. The effects won't be important to our Spirit Luxuriant World in the short term!"

Kou Chongxue slapped Shang Xia's shoulder several times and muttered, "Even though what they have is very tempting for us to steal, our institution needs something that belongs to us. If the Heaven Observation Sect was able to walk down their path and produce a rank seven inheritance, what's stopping us from doing so?"

Thinking about Kou Chongxue's growth and his unreasonable luck, Shang Xia nodded slowly. "Patriarch Kou, looks like you're right. In the future, my hopes of breaking through to the Seventh Order will rest on you!"

"Damn kid... I'm confident you'll be able to find your own path!" Kou Chongxue sighed softly.

The smile on Shang Xia's face froze for a second.

With a smile that didn't seem like a smile, Kou Chongxue sneered, "What's the matter? You always have some sort of strange inheritance on you. Your cultivation has already caught up to mine and aren't you confident you'll be able to find a special method to enter the Seventh Order?"

"Patriarch Kou, you're thinking too highly of me..." Shang Xia laughed dryly in response.

Kou Chongxue continued to sigh, "Everyone has their destiny and it's something others won't be able to get no matter how much they covet it unless the person who produced the inheritance is willing. It's like the Heavenly Star Palace. Who would think that a mere sect from an Azure World would be able to obtain a rank seven inheritance? As for you... You've already done great in the institution!"

Both of them had been communicating through voice transmission the entire time and the time taken to steep a pot of tea had passed.

Everyone turned to look at Kou Chongxue and Shang Xia, and even Yin Jingxu stopped absorbing energy from the essence crystal in his hand. He started to store his energy.

Kou Chongxue's clone wanted to take a step forward, but Shang Xia reached out to stop him.

Yin Jingxu's pupils constricted when he saw what Shang Xia did. His heart started to pound.

Compared to Huang Jinghan, Shang Xia was a true second tier True Immortal!

Even if the others earlier maintained their strength at the first tier when they unleashed their attacks earlier, there were some that were weaker and some that were stronger.

The True Immortal from the Tongyou Institution who was about to make his move was the youngest expert who rose to power right after Kou Chongxue. When he was in the first tier, he could already fight against 2 second tier True Immortals of other worlds while killing one of them...

His combat strength was also tyrannical and not too long after he entered the second tier, the True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World already accepted the fact that his combat abilities had surpassed Kou Chongxue. Even the third tier True Immortal, Yang Taihe, once said that he wasn't confident of easily suppressing Shang Xia to gain the upper hand if they fought for real.

If Shang Xia wasn't willing to see the rise of the Heavenly Star Palace, he would easily be able to crush Yin Jingxu! That wasn't even mentioning the fact that Yin Jingxu had already been injured by Huang Jinghan.

When everyone was still waiting for Shang Xia to make his move, and the Heavenly Star Palace seemed like they were awaiting judgment, Shang Xia raised his head to look above the heavenly screen before sighing, "Fellow cultivators of the Heavenly Star Palace... You're in trouble now."

Yang Taihe's clone also seemed to realize something as he raised his head to look out of the heavenly screen.

He might not have noticed what happened outside like Shang Xia, but it was because he noticed his true body already standing above the heavenly screen.

Not too long later, the other True Immortals also discovered what happened.

Huang Jinghan snorted coldly before turning to the members of the Heavenly Star Palace. "Since you obtained the inheritance of the Heaven Observation Sect, don't you know what will happen after gathering so much power of starlight?"

Before the members of the Heavenly Star Palace could say anything, Huang Jinghan's figure turned blurry and he appeared above the heavenly screen.

The moment Huang Jinghan left, everyone else also took their leave.

It was then that Yin Jingxu's expression changed and he yelled in fright, "This is bad! Everyone in the Martial Dipper Realm, follow me to the heavenly screen!"

After he spoke, he created a spatial tunnel before rushing up to the heavenly screen.

Ha Deqing, Yi Jingzi, and several other Martial Dipper Realm experts followed closely behind. They stood behind him as they arrived above the heavenly screen.

By the time they appeared, the True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World had already taken their positions. Most of them were stationed around the heavenly screen above the Jiao Continent.

No matter what, the Heavenly Star Palace was considered a strong faction behind the 6 great powers of the Spirit Luxuriant World. They have been growing rapidly in recent years. The number of Martial Dipper Realm experts they had was definitely more than those present. However, the Jiao Continent wasn't the Yi Continent where the Heavenly Star Palace was really located. They needed several experts to remain back there to deal with matters.

As the 5 Martial Dipper Realm experts of the Heavenly Star Palace arrived above the heavenly screen, Yin Jingxu was still able to maintain the combat strength of a True Immortal even though he

seemed to have already left the Star Observatory. The strength of those following him also received a great boost.

However, the moment they arrived, the True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World noticed their weakness. None of them could leave the region of starlight that they drew over. The moment they did, they would lose the additional assistance they gained and return to their original combat strength.

The restriction they faced was far greater than what Elysium True Immortals faced.

Before Ha Dengqing and the others discovered what was going on, Yin Jingxu's chuckled in explanation. "Those are Star Beasts. They were drawn over by the starlight we drew over..."

"Star Beasts?" Yi Jingzi frowned and asked, "Star Beasts was indeed described in the records... However... Are we really responsible for drawing them over?"

"I'm afraid so." Yin Jingxu sighed, "Even though the inheritance we received was incomplete, the records related to Star Beasts and their attraction to starlight might have been lost..."

Ha Dengqing seemed to have thought of something and he gasped, "That might also be because an Elysium would be able to greatly reduce the effects of the starlight drawn over, preventing Star Beasts from discovering anything... They might not have needed to indicate that in the inheritance..."

The next second, Shang Xia's voice rang in the ears of those present. "You can take this upcoming battle as my trial for you guys. How about it?"

The Heavenly Star Palace were the ones who drew over the Star Beasts. No one before this knew that Star Beasts would be drawn over because of the intense starlight they drew over and Yin Jingxu was the cause of the entire problem. Of course they had to be the ones to deal with it.

Taking it as his trial for them was actually letting them off easy.

Yin Jingxu forced a chuckle in response. "Many thanks, True Immortal Shang!"

At that moment, Yin Jingxu could feel that it wasn't just a Star Beast or two that had been drawn over. There was an entire pack of them!

Ha Dengqing released an emergency transmission as the Martial Dipper Realm experts in the Heavenly Star Palace no longer cared about their territory. They rushed over to the heavenly screen to back the others up. Even so, the pressure the Heavenly Star Palace faced was immense.

That was because those Star Beasts that seemed to be chasing the starlight they drew over had already appeared a mere 300,000 miles away from the Spirit Luxuriant World!

From how they arrived, it was clear that either they had some sort of innate ability to travel through space quickly, or they had a True Immortal level Star Beast behind them!

Above the heavenly screen, Yang Taihe and the others stood close to those from the Heavenly Star Palace. Eventually, Yang Taihe muttered, "Looks like we need to expand the distance of patrols around the heavenly screen..."

"Should we send Star Ships even further out in space like what the Star Origin City is doing?" Huang Jinghan asked.

Shang Xia chuckled in response. "That's what the Spirit Abundance World is doing too..."

Chapter 1062: Skins and Bones

"In the past, we placed a lot of attention on building the defense system and didn't really focus on inspecting the region." Yang Taihe muttered thoughtfully.

Shang Xia laughed in response, "It wasn't because we didn't focus on it. It's because we didn't have the capabilities to do so… It hasn't been long since we became a Spirit World and our foundations were too weak. Just the development of the defense system involved almost all the power we had. Where do we find the extra manpower to patrol the sea of stars?"

Huang Jinghan nodded in agreement. "If we want to send experts out to patrol the sea of stars, not only do we need even sturdier Star Ships, we also need many Martial Dipper Realm experts on board each ship. Star Origin City and the other Spirit Worlds might have the capabilities to send out many Star Ships while even stationing Martial Void Realm True Immortals on some of them, but we can't do that! Even if we wanted to, how many Star Ships can we gather? As for cultivators in the Martial Dipper Realm... The various factions managed to produce some of them but they are still considered rare existences. It's difficult for us to send experts out to patrol the sea of stars."

Zhang Xuansheng spoke suddenly, "No matter what, we have to do it. Sudden attacks like this won't be too rare in the future and today, we were able to react quickly because all of us were gathered to deal with the matter of the Heavenly Star Palace. In the future, we might not be gathered together like this. If a few of us head out in the future and fail to return in time, the results might be catastrophic!"

Everyone agreed with Zhang Xuansheng's point of view. This time, even though the invasion of Star Beasts caught them off guard, they wouldn't be able to succeed. However, sudden attacks like that might cause great damage to the heavenly screen if the True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World couldn't react quickly.

One had to know that along with the overall upgrade of the martial inheritance of the Spirit Luxuriant World and their increased interaction with other worlds, they were no longer the same as before. They were a lot more prosperous with many giant land masses floating outside the heavenly screen with Star Ships docked around them.

All sorts of resources, goods, and deals took place in those land masses. There were even massive black markets that formed. The land masses outside the heavenly screen were getting busier as they gathered considerable wealth.

If those markets were attacked and destroyed, they would have a huge negative impact on the Spirit Luxuriant World.

Li Jidao muttered in a low voice, "That's not all. They would be able to discover tracks of other worlds we sent our experts to patrol the sea of stars. Even though the possibility of that is small, it's not impossible. Moreover, there are a lot of opportunities in the vast sea of stars and high level treasures. All we need is a chance to discover them."

When the True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World discussed among themselves, close to 10 Martial Dipper Realm experts of the Heavenly Star Palace arrived above the heavenly screen. They started to draw on the power of the starlight they drew over to launch a massive offensive against the Star Beasts.

Star Beasts were able to roam the vast sea of stars, and other than their innate talent, they had abilities comparable to the Martial Extermination Realm at the very least.

Because they had to travel through the vast sea of stars, they had much sturdier physical bodies and larger energy reserves. Fighting a rank four Star Beast was taxing even for a Martial Dipper Realm expert.

It didn't take long for the ten or so pack of Star Beasts to start pushing out of the encirclement.

Even if Yin Jingxu had the support of the powerful starlight from the vast sea of stars and possessed combat strength in the Martial Void Realm, facing the largest rank five Star beast, he was able to maintain the upper hand and constantly injure the creature, but it was difficult to obtain victory in one proper strike. All he received was the screams and yells of the Star Beast.

The True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World weren't the only ones above the heavenly screen. Other high-level experts had already discovered what was happening and had arrived above the heavenly screen.

One had to say that ever since the ascension of the Spirit Luxuriant World, they had been attacked too many times. They were already ready to resist any sort of invasion.

However, the situation was clearly different at the moment and seemed pretty strange.

The Heavenly Star Palace seemed to be in a pretty bad spot, but the True Immortals around weren't just standing at the side to watch. They concealed their aura well and didn't disturb the Star Beasts in the slightest. In fact, all of them seemed entertained by what they were seeing.

Did the Heavenly Star Palace offend every single True Immortal of the Spirit Luxuriant World?!

That was the thought that ran through the minds of those present. Many cultivators couldn't help but suck in a cold breath and praised the Heavenly Star Palace in their minds for that amazing feat if they managed to achieve it.

Even so, there were several experts who had some friendship with the Heavenly Star Palace who moved to help. They worked up their courage and rushed over to resist the invasion of the Star Beasts.

Those who were still watching saw that the True Immortals didn't seem to care that people were helping and another batch of experts who were friendly with the Heavenly Star Palace joined.

It was also then that Yin Jingxu burst forth with extraordinary power and 9 star disks crashed into the massive body of the rank five Star beast. It quickly destroyed the insides of the beasts.

In the void, Shang Xia nodded slightly to indicate his approval of Yin Jingxu's method of killing the beast.

If he didn't receive the assistance from the Star Observatory, his strength at the grand completion stage of the Martial Dipper Realm would be comparable to Huang Jinghan, Yifeng, Jiu Du, of the past!

"Looks like the Heavenly Star Palace managed to pass through this test. It won't be long when the 6 great powers of the Spirit Luxuriant World will become the 7 great powers..." Shang Xia muttered softly to Kou Chongxue beside him.

"So what if we become the 10 great powers? The key to our Spirit Luxuriant World growing stronger is the number of Elysiums! Even if a faction possesses a Martial Void Realm True Immortal, they wouldn't be able to maintain their inheritances without an Elysium and everything will return to dust eventually..." Kou Chongxue's clone spoke softly. "The Spirit Abundance World has 9 great Elysiums and the Spirit Mammoth World also has 9... I don't think that's a coincidence! I'm afraid the maximum number of Elysiums a world can produce is 9 and that should also be one of the requirements for a Spirit World to ascend."

Shang Xia nodded slightly in response. Just as he was about to say something, he discovered something in the range of his divine soul. He saw Ren Huan waving anxiously at him while standing among other high-level experts of the Tongyou Institution in the distance.

"What's the matter?" Shang Xia's voice rang clearly in his ears after passing through the chaotic battlefield.

"Beast skin! The skin of Star Beasts is an extremely suitable material to craft highlevel talisman paper!" Ren Huan gasped anxiously.

After Yin Jingxu killed a rank five Star Beast, the other members of the Heavenly Star Palace also managed to deal with some of them. Ren Huan quickly set his sights on one of the smaller beasts and managed to detect how useful the corpse of the beast would be.

Afraid that Shang Xia wouldn't take too much notice of it, Ren Huan couldn't help but remind again, "The skin of a Star Beast can be used to make talisman paper directly!"

What did that mean?!

That meant that the skin of a rank four Star Best would be able to be used as talisman paper without much processing! Wouldn't that mean that... The skin of rank five Star Beasts would become rank five talisman paper? That would also mean that the skin of rank six Star Beasts...

Even though rank four talisman paper was nothing to Shang Xia at the moment, the same couldn't be said for rank five talisman paper! If that was a rank six beast... Shang Xia would be tempted to make his move!

"The bones, the bones too!" Ren Huan's panicky voice rang in Shang Xia's mind again. "The White Bone Brush... The bone seems really similar to the material used to make the White Bone Brush!"

"What?!" Shang Xia turned his head to look at the rank five Star Beast. A flash of greed could be seen in his eyes.

At that very instant, Shang Xia, whose aura was concealed the best among all of them, failed to restrain it because of what Ren Huan said.

The moment the aura of a True Immortal emerged, the remaining Star Beasts felt their bodies trembling in fright.

The other True Immortals also turned to look at him.

9 remaining Star Beasts turned around in unison as they forcefully resisted the attacks of those around before attempting to escape.

Anggg...

A strange cry that was loud, but not too loud, rang from the depths of space as it was rebuking the beasts for turning to run. It also seemed to be challenging Shang Xia after discovering his aura.

That definitely came from a rank six Star Beast...

The True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World instantly knew what was going on. The pack of Star Beasts who came to attack was only a part of a larger group. The rank six Star Beast was the leader of the entire pack!

As for how the smaller group appeared... They probably weren't drawn over by the starlight gathered by the Heavenly Star Palace! The rank six Star Beast most likely discovered traces of starlight before bringing its entire pack over to the Spirit Luxuriant World by traveling through space!

"Hehe... It's good that it came! Fellow cultivators, that Star Beast belongs to me! I hope you won't fight over it with a junior like me!" The light in Shang Xia's eyes grew brighter and he seemed to be able to see the giant beast hundreds of thousands of miles away.

Actually, what Shang Xia was looking at wasn't really the rank six Star Beast. He seemed to be looking at sheets of rank six talisman paper and high-grade, or even divine grade talisman brushes!

Liu Jingsheng clapped and laughed, "All of us are looking forward to seeing True Immortal Little Shang show your moves!"

"I'm afraid it's not going to be easy to cross the distance between us..." Li Jidao muttered.

Chuckling softly, Shang Xia's figure disappeared from his spot above the heavenly screen. All that was left was his voice that rang in their minds. "Fellow cultivators, please wait for a moment. I'll be right back."

Chapter 1063: Skinning and Boning

Shang Xia's actual combat strength was a mystery among the True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World. They knew he was strong, but they didn't know exactly how strong he was!

He had shown absurd combat power in the past, but his cultivation increased yet again. His combat abilities would increase along his cultivation and none of them were sure how strong Shang Xia actually was.

Since Shang Xia took the initiative to attack the rank six Star Beast, it was clear he had given the Heavenly Star Palace a pass. It also gave everyone else a chance to understand the extent of his strength.

Naturally, even though they didn't know that Shang Xia's true motive for fighting the rank six Star Beast was to obtain rank six talisman paper, they knew that he wouldn't take part in the battle for fun. He definitely had a goal now that he made a move.

As soon as Shang Xia left, the True Immortals of the great powers ordered their disciples to join in the battle and start killing Star Beasts.

Since Shang Xia had chosen his target, their test for the Heavenly Star Palace came to an end.

However, from the looks of it, now that they had the Star Observatory, it seemed as though attacks from Star Beasts would be frequent going forward. Since that was the case, why not get their disciples accustomed to fighting them?

On the institution's side, Kou Chongxue gave the indication the moment Shang Xia left. The Martial Extermination Realm and Martial Dipper Realm experts of the institution joined in the battle. With Ren Huan directing the battle, they quickly took over the fight to kill a rank five Star Beast. They also tried their hardest not to damage the skin of the creature.

All of a sudden, spatial ripples appeared in the space slightly more than 100,000 miles away. A warm, but not blazing ray of starlight filled the depths of space and a destructive aura that turned everything around it into chaotic streams could be felt.

What happened next... Oh, there was nothing that could happen after that.

Every True Immortal above the heavenly screen stared at each other in shock. They couldn't feel the rank six Star Beast any longer, but Shang Xia's aura also disappeared along with it.

"This..." Kou Chongxue stared at Yang Taihe, who had the highest cultivation realm among those present.

Yang Taihe hesitated for a moment before he muttered, "True Immortal Little Shang... He left!"

"Left?! Where did he go?" Liu Jingsheng asked curiously.

Grunting once, Yang Taihe didn't seem too sure of his answer as he responded, "The Star Beast ate True Immortal Little Shang's strike before emitting that ray of starlight. They disappeared the next moment. Not even I could feel where they went."

Li Jidao gasped in shock, "Could the rank six Star Beast possess some strange innate talent?"

Zhang Xuansheng muttered, "For them to be able to roam the sea of stars without relying on any world, they definitely have a way to maintain their presence. At the end of the day, our understanding of Star Beasts is too little, and True Immortal Little Shang seems to have taken a huge risk without considering the consequences."

Li Jidao frowned. "In that case, where did the rank six Star Beast bring True Immortal Little Shang? Could it have brought them both to its nest?"

Kou Chongxue's eyes narrowed as a frosty sword light swirled in his eyes.

Yang Taihe could vaguely feel the killing intent Kou Chongxue was hiding and he quickly spoke, "From the exchange earlier, the Star Beast took a direct strike from True Immortal Little Shang. It's clear that the Star Beast is no match for him. No matter where it brought him, it won't be his match! He might just come back before we know it..."

Zhang Jianzi spoke suddenly, "I'm afraid there isn't just a single rank six Star Beast in their nest..."

Shooting Zhang Jianzi a gaze, Huang Jinghan muttered in a low voice, "The likelihood of that is small. If there really is more than 1 of them, why would only 1 come earlier?"

The battle above the heavenly screen came to an end as they were discussing with each other. The experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World were victorious, and the only thing those Star Beasts could do was struggle at death's door with their tyrannical physique and strong vitality.

Kou Chongxue turned in a certain direction and growled, "Looks like the Heavenly Star Palace is still hiding a lot of things from us!"

After he spoke, his body trembled slightly and he rushed to where Shang Xia disappeared.

Due to the powerful spatial fluctuations from Shang Xia's strike earlier, space was too unstable for any of them to rush over. In fact, the spatial fluctuations hadn't completely quelled but Kou Chongxue couldn't wait any longer.

The other True Immortals glanced at each other before deciding to head over to take a look.

They also understood that from what Kou Chongxue said earlier, even if the Heavenly Star Palace managed to pass Shang Xia's test, they were about to face another sect-ending crisis once the mess was over.

If Shang Xia was alright, they might be able to talk things through and the crisis might be averted. However, if Shang Xia ran into an accident... The Heavenly Star Palace was definitely going to take the blame and Kou Chongxue would unleash his wrath on them without mercy.

The other True Immortals were already thinking of how they should split the inheritance in the case where the Heavenly Star Palace was destroyed. They also wondered how they would obtain the Stargazer inheritance...

Of course, all of them remained expressionless as they arrived where Shang Xia disappeared. Actually, some of them even looked a little helpless.

They could feel the chaotic streams that destroyed everything. Not a single trace of Shang Xia was left, and even their divine souls were affected and nearly devoured by the chaotic streams.

Lu Wuzi couldn't help but grumble, "True Immortal Little Shang is extremely powerful. However, the Star Beasts' skill is truly a little difficult for us to fathom. Nothing is left behind! We can't even try to look for his tracks..."

Kou Chongxue glanced at him once but didn't speak.

After Shang Xia reached the level of Inner Fusion, he infused a part of the martial intents he comprehended in the past into his Rod Technique. Kou Chongxue knew that his strike possessed considerable power and knew it would cause serious damage.

Yang Taihe and the others looked around to not find any traces of Shang Xia before sighing helplessly, "Let's call Yin Jingxu over. Let's see if he has the ability of a Stargazer to be able to find where True Immortal Little Shang went."

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When Yin Jingxu heard that Shang Xia disappeared along with the rank six Star Beast, he felt a wave of discomfort.

"Can you find his general position in the sea of stars?" Huang Jinghan glanced disdainfully at Yin Jingxu and his tone was frosty. Yin Jingxu felt a chill running down his spine.

What was even more scary for him was that he was currently a distance away from the heavenly screen after being summoned by the True Immortals. He wouldn't be able to draw on much power from the Star Observatory to protect himself in case anything happened, not like it would matter with 8 of them surrounding him at the moment.

"Fellow... Fellow True Immortals, please understand. I... I am merely a rank three Astronomer at the moment. I can't... I can't find True Immortal Little Shang at all! No... I can't even discover the spatial fluctuations he left behind!"

The Heavenly Star Palace Master was reduced to a stuttering mess. Even after he was done speaking, he felt his clothes drenched in cold sweat.

"Rank three? Astronomer?" Lu Wuzi gasped. "How can you draw on the power of the stars to possess strength at the Martial Void Realm when you're only a rank three Astronomer?"

The other True Immortals also turned to stare at him as they awaited an explanation.

Could the increase in strength be related to their ranks?

In other words... Yin Jingxu was a rank three Astronomer and could already draw enough energy to push himself to possess abilities in the Martial Void Realm. If he became a rank four, five... No, even a rank six Stargazer, would he be able to obtain an unreasonable amount of power?!

A light flashed in Kou Chongxue's eyes the next moment. He seemed to have confirmed Yan Ming's suspicion that the Heavenly Star Palace already obtained the full inheritance.

Perhaps because of the situation he was in, Yin Jingxu no longer cared too much. Even though he looked to be in a sorry state, he muttered placidly, "I didn't draw over all the power of the stars alone. There are countless rank two and rank three Astrology Scholars and Astronomers my sect nurtured in the Star Observatory maintaining the stream of starlight..."

Zhang Xuansheng continued, "So... The increase in your combat strength has nothing to do with your rank and it's related to the amount of power you can draw from the stars?"

Yin Jingxu nodded casually. "Yes. It's something I discovered by accident.

"Does your Heavenly Star Palace possess any Stargazers at the moment?" Kou Chongxue asked suddenly. Li Jidao interjected, "Palace Master Yin is merely at the third rank..."

He realized his mistake and stopped before he could finish his sentence.

Yin Jingxu was a rank three Astronomer, and he had the highest cultivation realm in the Heavenly Star Palace. However, what does one's cultivation realm have to do with their rank as a Stargazer?!

Who could be sure that Yin Jingxu was the most talented out of the many members of the Heavenly Star Palace?

Realizing that he wouldn't be able to hide the truth, and he didn't have the guts to anyway, he had no choice but to admit, "We have 2 rank four Stargazers at the moment."

However, he quickly added, "However, even rank four Stargazers wouldn't be able to find much in an exchange between True Immortals."

Kou Chongxue couldn't care less and he stared intently at Yin Jingxu while speaking again, "Who are they? What are their cultivation realms and are they able to come over?"

Yin Jingxu replied honestly, "These disciples just stepped into the Martial Extermination Realm. They are able to leave the confines of the heavenly screen, but the space here is extremely unstable. The remnant Void Qi also contains destructive properties. It's not suitable for them to head over at the moment. Patriarch Kou, I implore you, please show mercy!"

Kou Chongxue's gaze was frosty and his expression was somber. No one knew what he was thinking about.

The other True Immortals didn't say anything either as they were clearly waiting for Kou Chongxue to make a decision.

A moment later, the relatively more stable space a thousand or so miles away from them started to ripple. Everyone turned to look at what happened.

The next moment, Shang Xia leaped out from the strange space as he held a bone in his hand. The bone had the luster of jade and it looked to be in pristine condition.

Shang Xia looked completely fine, but the same couldn't be said for his clothes. As soon as he appeared, a mighty aura of death spread through the area and so did the stench of blood. Even though they were a thousand or so miles away, they were able to clearly feel the shocking aura that emerged.

What did he do in the short time he disappeared?!

"Oh... Are you guys... Are you guys looking for me?" Shang Xia wondered out loud as he turned into a streak of light and flew towards them. The distance of a thousand or so miles was nothing for a True Immortal.

He swept his gaze across those present before looking at Yin Jingxu for a moment longer. He seemed to have already understood what had happened.

"Is the rank six Star Beast dead?" Kou Chongxue asked suddenly.

Waving the bone in his hand that was nearly 3 feet long, Shang Xia laughed, "I skinned the beast and cleaned the bones. The essence of the Star Beast is condensed in this specific piece. I wonder if I'll be able to craft a divine grade brush with it!"

Chapter 1064: Heavenly Star Palace's Scheme

Shang Xia might have described everything simply, but everyone present was a True Immortal... Well almost, but all of them could tell how dangerous it had been.

As soon as both sides started to fight, the rank six Star Beast utilized its innate talent to bring both of them away!

Any existence in the Martial Void Realm could shatter a land mass in the vast sea of stars. However, to be able to forcefully carry out a spatial transfer under such circumstances, they might be thrown into a random spatial crack if they weren't careful. If they were lucky, they would be able to end up in some random space. If they were unlucky, they would never be able to escape from where they ended up.

It was then that Shang Xia's gaze landed on Yin Jingxu. He chuckled, "Palace Master Yin, you really caused a huge disturbance this time. Even I was shocked."

Yin Jingxu, who just managed to calm himself, felt his heart pounding again. "No, I wouldn't dare, I wouldn't dare! It truly was an accident! I didn't think that things would go so far!"

Shang Xia didn't care about his explanation and he continued to ask, "I believe your Heavenly Star Palace has records related to Star Beasts, right?"

Yin Jingxu replied hastily, "Yes, but... About how we would draw over Star Beasts with the starlight we summoned..."

Shang Xia waved his hands and interrupted, "Hand over all the records related to Star Beasts to all of us. I believe my request isn't going overboard. From the looks of it, as long as the Star Observatory remains, our world will frequently be harassed by Star Beasts."

Despite being completely unwilling to hand over what Shang Xia wanted, he didn't dare to reject in the slightest. He even had to act as though he was accomplishing a noble task as he responded, "Of course! Of course we'll share the information we know! It's our duty to do so."

Shang Xia nodded slowly and gestured to where he once stood. He unleashed his domain and with his inner qi, he restored the shattered space. After he was done, the destructive qi was nowhere to be seen. Even the spatial fluctuations had been quelled.

When he was done, Shang Xia muttered, "I was transported into their nest by the rank six Star Beast. Now, we need the Heavenly Star Palace to use everything they have to locate the Star Beast Nest in the vast sea of stars. When we're done, we will need the various factions to construct a spatial tunnel to head over. This should be the job of Stargazers, and I believe helping locate places like this is part of the agreement the Heavenly Star Palace made when we agreed to assist you in the reconstruction of the Star Observatory."

Yin Jingxu replied hastily, "Yes, of course! It's our duty!"

Lu Wuzi found it slightly weird and he wondered out loud, "Since you were brought to the Star Beast Nest, don't you know where it is?"

Shang Xia shook his head and sighed, "There's something strange about their nest. It seems to be drifting about in the sea of stars and the reason I was able to return was because of our World's Will. I wouldn't be able to locate their nest even if I wanted to..."

Nodding slowly, Lu Wuzi mumbled, "Since that's the case, we should take the chance to head out there for a stroll when the chance comes."

Lu Wuzi might also be a True Immortal of the Spirit Luxuriant World, but his Void Origin was heavily damaged when he ascended. He was firmly stuck in last place among the True Immortals in terms of combat strength. Also, he was the only True Immortal of the Ice Essence Sect. His inheritance had yet to be fully integrated and he didn't dare to head out into the sea of stars randomly. The only time he left the Spirit Luxuriant World was to go over to the Star Origin City."

Yang Taihe suddenly asked, "True Immortal Little Shang, what is there in the Star Beast Nest exactly for us to have to quickly construct a spatial tunnel there?"

After thinking for a moment, Shang Xia explained, "Because I had limited time, I couldn't fully explore the Star Beast Nest. However, it should be located in the remains of some collapsed secret region. Things in there might be useless to us, but it might be a good place for disciples of our factions to gain experience. I also feel that if we manage the Space Beast Nest properly, it might become one of our hidden bases of operations in the sea of stars. In the future, we can't possibly do nothing and develop as we were. In order to hasten our growth, there are no two ways about it. We have to expand. Even if we don't disturb others, they won't watch us do what we want and let us go…"

Liu Jingsheng also added, "True Immortal Little Shang is right. Palace Master Yin, I wonder if the number of Stargazers you have is enough... Those you helped to nurture for us have been wasting their time away back in our Elysiums. We don't have a Star Observatory for them to use. Even if we did, they are just Students and Scholars... They won't be able to use it properly. Why don't we send them over to your Heavenly Star Palace to help you guys out? Even if they're just assistants, they'll be able to learn something and at the very least, become an Astronomer like you. What do you think?"

Raising his head abruptly, Yin Jingxu quickly remembered his current situation and lowered it just as rapidly. He grumbled softly in response, "Alright..."

With a face full of smiles, Liu Jingsheng addressed the rest, "What do the rest of you think?"

Kou Chongxue and Shang Xia agreed with faces full of smiles.

Lu Wuzi also agreed while chuckling, "That would be for the best! However, Palace Master Yin, you can't hide anything this time!"

Even though he sounded like he was joking, Yin Jingxu knew that Lu Wuzi was far from kidding. It was a serious warning!

The matter of the Star Beast invasion drew to a close just like that. However, everything allowed the True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World to understand that with the continued growth of the Spirit Luxuriant World, they would be facing more and more threats.

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As they made their way back to the You Continent, Shang Xia spoke to Kou Chongxue, "The Yuanchen Sect's attitude towards the Heavenly Star Palace is obvious. From the looks of it, they don't seem like they're giving up on the Jiao Continent. Yin Jingxu's actions could even be said to be a direct provocation to them."

Kou Chongxue replied, "That's not surprising at all. Actually, the Yuanchen Sect set their sights on the Jiao Continent long before us. Actually, I interfered with their plans when I used the support of the Jiao Continent to break through. Their plan to completely devour the Jiao Continent was thus disrupted."

"Should we start taking precautions? Not only do we need to guard against the Yuanchen Sect, but we also need to deal with Yin Jingxu of the Heavenly Star Palace now! I can't shake the feeling that the Heavenly Star Palace has much deeper schemes that we haven't discovered..." Shang Xia mumbled.

Kou Chongxue quickly responded, "The Jiao Continent is massive and when we succeeded in our conquest of the Azure Flame World, the spatial tunnel was constructed above the Jiao Continent. The 3 main continents we brought back also entered the heavenly screen above the Jiao Continent and it can be said that the benefits the Jiao Continent received are great. The Yuanchen Sect's true aim isn't to fight with us over the Jiao Continent! They want to split it up and create a new continent!"

Shang Xia was taken aback when he heard Kou Chongxue's revelation. He only managed to react after a short moment. "The Yuanchen Sect actually has such plans?! Right now, our Spirit Luxuriant World has 33 continents... If they create another, wouldn't that mean that we would reach the limit of a Spirit World?"

A sneer left Kou Chongxue's lips. "So what?! Thinking back, the Divine Capital Sect, White Deer Paradise, and some other factions wanted our You Continent to be wiped off the map!"

When they finally returned, Kou Chongxue gave Shang Xia a general rundown of what happened after he was sent away by the rank six Star Beast. "Yan Ming's suspicions are right. The Heavenly Star Palace possesses a complete martial inheritance for Stargazers."

"So what? The Heaven Observation Sect was so strong back then with their powerful inheritance... Weren't they still exterminated?" Shang Xia chuckled.

Pointing at Shang Xia, Kou Chongxue broke out in laughter, "Brat, why does this sound like you are trying to teach me what to do? When did our positions change?"

Summoning the high-level experts of the institution, Kou Chongxue told them what happened before instructing, "That's pretty much what we're going to be focused on next. We definitely have to join the patrols in the vast sea of stars. We have to discuss the details with the other factions. Next, we need to hasten the defense system around our world. For the foreseeable future, I will personally take charge of matters in the You Continent. We won't need too many people to stay in the Formation Hall. Every rank three Formation Master and above can head up to the heavenly screen. Alright, the last matter is related to the Stargazer inheritance..."

As he spoke, his gaze passed everyone in the hall and landed on 2 figures sitting at the back. "Yan Ming, you guys..."

Before he was done, Yan Ming interrupted, "Patriarch Kou, we are thinking of becoming a rank three Astronomer before heading over!"

"Why so?" Kou Chongxue asked.

"If nothing goes wrong, our future as a Stargazer is limited. We wish to use our inheritance to become a rank three Astronomer before going over to learn their inheritance. It would be great if we could fill in the gaps of what we know."

After she spoke, she patted the Upper Division student beside her and muttered, "At the very least, this kid should be more promising when walking down the path of a Stargazer."

Kou Chongxue grunted softly and everyone turned to look at the uncomfortable-looking student sitting behind Yan Ming. Eventually, he laughed, "What is your name? Which division are you from? Who is your teacher anyway?"

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When Kou Chongxue was hosting the meeting in the main hall of the Tongyou Institution, the same scene was playing out with the other great powers.

Of course, there was also a great discussion happening over at the Heavenly Star Palace. In one of the structures constructed under the Star Observatory in the Jiao Continent, every single Martial Dipper Realm expert of the Heavenly Star Palace was gathered.

"Hmph! The 6 great powers are real bullies!" One of the new Martial Dipper Realm experts roared with anger and slapped the table while getting to his feet after hearing Yin Jingxu's recount.

"Sit down!" Ha Dengqing snapped. Only after seeing them reluctantly getting back to their seat did he continue. He growled in a low voice, "Is there a point shouting and screaming over here? We're on the chopping block right now! No matter what, you can be considered a great pillar of our sect. What do you think you would do if you were in Palace Master Yin's position?"

Ha Dengqing was one of the most senior elders of the Heavenly Star Palace. His status was prominent and he had a lot of authority. He was also one of the main supporters of Palace Master Yin Jingxu. The moment he spoke, a majestic pressure suppressed everyone in the hall. Ha Dengqing understood that even though she made sense, there were also flaws in her logic. However, seeing as several younger members of the Heavenly Star Palace were about to leap off their seats in anger, he quickly turned to Yin Jingxu to ask, "Palace Master, how much longer until you can enter the Martial Void Realm?"

Indeed... Everyone calmed down after hearing the question as they awaited his reply.

Yin Jingxu's gaze swept across those in the hall before speaking slowly, "Soon. If there are no accidents, I will be able to break through within the year! Even if we have to delay it slightly, I will need 2 years at most!"

He looked at Yi Jingzi and continued, "It's a shame there was nothing left from the Azure Flame World and we need to continue looking for clues. However... the Star Beast Nest True Immortal Little Shang discovered might really be a chance for us!"

Chapter 1065: Feng Ziyuan and Feng Ziying

In the Talisman Hall of the Tongyou Institution...

Shang Xia looked at Ren Huan eagerly as he asked, "How is it?"

Ren Huan stared at the beast skin that had been laid out and was several tens of feet wide. There was faint starlight flickering on its surface. An unsure expression could be seen on his face.

"So? How is it?" Shang Xia hesitated slightly and started to feel uneasy when he saw how silent Ren Huan was. "Can we not even make a single sheet of rank six talisman paper from this?"

Shaking his head, the unsure expression turned a little weird. "Hall Master, are you sure this... Are you sure this is the skin of the rank six Star Beast?"

"Absolutely." Shang Xia replied with confidence. "Back then, the rank six Star Beast was smacked silly when I landed my hit. When we were transported to the nest, I killed it with a few more hits. However, before I could skin the beast, it started to transform and become some strange aerolite-like object. In the end, only this piece of skin was left after I shattered it. The crystal starlight bone was also produced..."

After he spoke, Shang Xia finally reacted. He glanced at Ren Huan and grumbled, "Damn! You actually thought I did something to it!"

Ren Huan waved his hands frantically and laughed, "Of course not! Hehe, it's just..."

"What?" Shang Xia pressed.

Chuckling, Ren Huan continued, "Even though I didn't see the rank six Star Beast, I've seen a rank five Star Beast. It's at least 500 feet long and it has a massive body... How could the skin of the rank six Star Beast be so tiny?"

"How would I know?" Shang Xia snorted, "The rank six Star Beast was 800 feet long and even though it's not too massive, after its death, its body was petrified. Its skin didn't do the same and it shrunk into this..." Ren Huan nodded and he glanced at the skin of the rank six Star Beast. Rubbing his chin, no one knew what he was thinking of.

Seeing him deep in contemplation, Shang Xia couldn't help but speak again, "Hey, you said that the skin of a Star Beast is condensed from starlight in the vast sea of stars. It can be used as talisman paper without much processing. The skin of a rank six Star Beast is here! Take a look and see if you can make it into rank six talisman paper. You'll be able to save a lot of trouble anyway."

Raising his head slightly, Ren Huan glanced at Shang Xia. He eventually muttered, "It's not impossible, but I'm afraid there is something else the skin of the rank six Star Beast can be used for."

"It has other uses?" Shang Xia frowned. "What do you mean?"

"Let's get the members of the Weapons Hall to take a look." Ren Huan said after a short moment of contemplation.

Shang Xia shook his head instinctively. "Weapons Hall? What can they do? In our institution, the Talisman, Formation, Medicine, and Weapons Hall make up our foundations. The Weapons Hall is the worst among them and it has the weakest foundations. In all these years, the Weapons Hall only managed to maintain operations by crafting Embroidered Cloud Cases and Spatial Pouches. It's hard for them to cover the cost of crafting a high-grade weapon..."

Pausing, Shang Xia sucked in a cold breath and seemed to realize something. He turned to Ren Huan and gasped, "Do you mean... Do you mean this beast skin can be used to make Spatial Pouches?"

Pressing his lips together, Ren Huan revealed a strange expression while mumbling, "The space contained in a Spatial Pouch made from this material might be even larger than before!"

Shang Xia stared at the piece of skin on the ground before turning to Ren Huan. "I don't care what the members of the Weapons Hall say. At the very least, half of this needs to be used to make rank six talisman paper."

"Even if we use half of this, we wouldn't be able to produce many sheets of talisman paper. At best, we'll be able to get 3 or 4 sheets..." Ren Huan sighed.

Shang Xia was stunned. "How can that be? Didn't you say that the skin of the beast can be turned into rank six talisman paper? No matter what this piece of skin is at least 30 to 40 feet wide…"

Ren Huan explained, "It's true that the beast skin is extremely special. If we had a proper method to craft rank six talisman paper, I wouldn't need to process this much and would be able to produce ten or so sheets of rank six talisman paper by adding some additional material. However, we don't have any..."

"So... We can only rely on the essence gathered in the skin of the beast then?" Shang Xia mumbled.

After working with Ren Huan for so long, even if Shang Xia didn't know how to craft talisman paper, he was pretty knowledgeable when it came down to it.

Nodding, Ren Huan replied, "That's right. It's like refining metal. If we can't add any additional material during the process, we can only temper the metal repeatedly! Even if it's not the best quality, it should still be pretty good!"

Shang Xia looked at the beast skin and sighed unwillingly, "Alright then... I'll hand this over to you. Do as you see fit."

After he was done, he left without turning back.

He didn't manage to get far when he was stopped by someone else.

"What?! The members of the Heavenly Star Palace want the bone that contains the essence of the rank six Star Beast?" Shang Xia sneered. It was as though he heard the greatest joke of his life and he snorted disdainfully, "Don't even think about it! I won't trade it with them no matter how many treasures they bring out. Do I look like I'm lacking in treasures?"

The deacon of the Outreach Division who came to convey the news smiled helplessly, "Hall Master Little Shang, I'm just a messenger sent by the deputy patriarch to relay the request of the Heavenly Star Palace. Don't shoot the messenger!"

Shang Xia waved his hand to dismiss the deacon. However, he stopped the deacon before he could take 2 steps.

The deacon turned to stare at Shang Xia in confusion.

Coughing softly, Shang Xia muttered, "Tell the members of the Heavenly Star Palace that they can get their hands on it if they want to. It's not difficult either. As long as they tell me exactly what they want to use it for, and if they trade a divine grade talisman brush for it, I'll agree."

The members of the Heavenly Star Palace weren't fools who would overpay for the treasure. However, Shang Xia had no avenue to get his hands on a divine grade brush and he didn't mind asking around.

Crafting any divine artifact was incomparably difficult to begin with. Even though the Spirit Luxuriant World had already entered the ranks of Spirit Worlds, the number of divine weapons they had was few. In fact, every one of them was basically at the level of an inheritance treasure of any faction.

Every single divine weapon was difficult to craft, and any faction that wanted to make one needed several years of accumulation in order to do so.

Without even taking anything else into account, looking at how Chu Jia was trying to craft the Formation Divine Weapon, one would understand how difficult it was. Even with the behemoth that was the Tongyou Institution fully supporting her, almost 4 years had passed since she started. Even so, the Formation Divine Weapon was nowhere near complete.

That was also why even if Shang Xia wanted to commission the Hundred Weapons Mill to craft a divine grade brush, they didn't have much time or energy to spare.

"Looks like I have to head to the Starry Pavilion no matter what..." Shang Xia muttered to himself.

Actually, Shang Xia was also curious. He wanted to know what type of rank six talisman the Starry Pavilion wanted him to craft for them to be willing to pay such a huge price for it. Moreover, they were really trying to keep it a secret.

After greeting Kou Chongxue, Shang Xia left the Spirit Luxuriant World. He didn't even use the spatial tunnel that connected the Three Unity Island to the Star Relay of the Star Origin City as he opened a spatial tunnel himself to descend into the wilderness in the Land of Star Origin.

Avoiding the patrols of the Star Origin Guards, Shang Xia entered the city after hiding his aura.

At that moment, the Spirit Luxuriant World's position in Star Origin City had been solidified. As one of the great powers in the Spirit Luxuriant World, the Tongyou Institution had 2 True Immortals! Their reputation in the city was also among the top. Naturally, they had their own influence and businesses there.

However, there were too many people present. If Shang Xia appeared normally, the news of his arrival would quickly spread to the various powers that established themselves in the city.

Shang Xia didn't wish for anyone to notice him as he concealed his aura the moment he entered the city. He casually looked for an inn and got a place to stay.

2 days later, a group of Star Origin Guards passed the inn he was staying in while patrolling the city.

Half a day later, Feng Ziying, a member of the fifth squad in the Fourth Camp of the Star Origin Guards, entered the inn without being noticed by anyone.

Knock... Knock... Knock...

As soon as the knocking faded, one of the doors opened.

Shang Xia looked at the person before him and muttered, "If I didn't have a way to accurately determine your identity, I would never believe that you're Huang Hu!"

Feng Ziying laughed and walked into the room. "It doesn't matter if it's Huang Yu or Feng Ziying. It's just one of my many identities..."

Shang Xia closed the door before turning to the person who was already seated on the tablet, pouring himself a cup of tea. He gasped in shock, "Even now, I can't tell how you managed to weasel your way into the Star Origin Guards!"

Feng Ziying chuckled in response, "Don't hurt your brains if you can't think of it. Why can't you focus on your cultivation instead of thinking of this useless stuff?"

Seeing as he wasn't willing to reveal his secrets, Shang Xia didn't continue pressing deeper. Instead, he changed the topic. "How are things now? There isn't anyone who suspects you, right? How's that fellow, Luo Qi? He seems to be in a different squad from you."

"Relax. Everything is normal at the moment. Fourth Camp Commander Feng Yiyuan has been in seclusion to prepare for her breakthrough into the Martial Void Realm. As of right now, Captain Qu of the second squad, the deputy camp commander, is running the show." Feng Ziying explained.

"Oh? It's her... Huh? She became a Camp Commander?" Shang Xia gasped.

He didn't think that he would hear the name of someone he was familiar with from Feng Ziying. However, he quickly thought of something. "Feng Ziyuan, Feng Ziying... Wait! Your name wasn't chosen randomly, right?!"

"Of course there is a real Feng Ziying out there. Whether there's a connection between Feng Ziying and Feng Ziyuan... They can think whatever they want. Whatever it is, I didn't say anything!" Feng Ziying laughed.

Shang Xia wondered what would happen when Feng Ziyuan left seclusion.

However, he had faith that Huang Yu... Or Feng Ziying, had a comprehensive plan and thought about it from all angles. He wouldn't leave any big holes in his identity. In the end, he sighed, "You should be careful. As long as anything seems strange, you should prioritize protecting yourself."

Feng Ziying chuckled under his breath and waved his hands casually, "You don't have to worry about me. Anyway, is something the matter for you to come over here?! You're acting so suspicious and you aren't even willing to reveal your identity. If you don't do anything, you might be able to hide from everyone. The moment you act, it would be difficult to hide your tracks from the Star Origin Guards."

Shang Xia smiled in response. He told Feng Ziying about the invitation he received from the Starry Pavilion to craft rank six talismans before telling him about everything that happened in the Spirit Luxuriant World recently.

When he was done, he muttered, "Actually, the reason I'm looking for you is because I want to ask if you know anything about the talisman they need. There's also the matter of looking for information about the True Immortals who left the Star Origin Guards. Can you find out where they went and what their cultivation realms are like? Also, which one of them are the most active or improved recently..."

Feng Ziying stared at him with a profound gaze and eventually mumbled, "Damn kid, you're asking for too much!"

Shang Xia grinned in response. "That's far from it. It's just news regarding the True Immortals who left the Star Origin Guards. If you find it convenient, you can also pay attention to things related to the Superior Worlds and the Star Origin City Lord!"

Feng Ziying sucked in a cold breath in response, "Brat, you better not play with fire. Don't tell me you think that the Starry Pavilion's request to craft rank six talismans has anything to do with these. As for the Star Origin City Lord... That's an existence who lived past 1000 years! He's a supreme expert whose cultivation reached the Seventh Order of the Primary Realm!"

Chapter 1066: Entering the Starry Pavilion Again

In the Starry Pavilion that was on the busy Starry Avenue...

The second Shang Xia stepped into the Starry Pavilion, Zhou Mingdao who received the news ran down from the higher floors in haste.

"True Immortal Little Shang, we are honored by your presence! Your arrival truly brings light to our humble dwelling!" Zhou Mingdao greeted while cupping his fists in greeting. He was extremely respectful. Thinking back to the time when Shang Xia first came to the Starry Pavilion, even though Zhou Mingdao also brought him around, but they used to be cultivators of the same level. Shang Xia was also basking in the reputation of the Spirit Luxuriant World because of their recent ascension back then. When Zhou Mingdao was introducing treasures in the Starry Pavilion, there was a trace of arrogance hidden in his voice and there was a slight trace of disdain for Shang Xia.

Even if Zhou Mingdao wasn't fawning over Shang Xia like a god at the moment, his attitude was clearly much better than before.

Shang Xia wasn't someone who would start acting all high and mighty just because of an increase in cultivation. He chuckled politely, "Deputy Pavilion Master Zhou, looks like I have to intrude on you guys this time..."

"Nonsense! I can't wait to welcome you. It's no trouble at all!" Zhou Mingdao quickly welcomed Shang Xia to the sixth floor of the Starry Pavilion and personally brought over a cup of good tea "True Immortal Little Shang, please wait a moment. I'll inform the Pavilion Master of your arrival right away! I believe he will be extremely excited now that you have come."

Shang Xia took a sip of tea and savored it. "Deputy Pavilion Master Zhou, please do what you must."

Zhou Mingdao cupped his fists before taking his leave.

Not too long later, a light flashed in Shang Xia's eyes as he heard a candid voice coming from outside the hall. "True Immortal Little Shang, I've been waiting for a long time now! Why have you only come now?"

The doors opened and a figure with a wide smile on his face entered. However, he still maintained a dignified expression while strolling into the hall. He was a second tier True Immortal and his gaze landed on Shang Xia the moment he arrived. The next second, he broke into laughter, "I have long since heard of True Immortal Little Shang! We finally meet today!"

Shang Xia got to his feet and returned the greeting. "Pavilion Master Tong, you're too polite! It's my pleasure too!"

Both of them chatted casually and eventually took their seats.

Tong Yutang, the Starry Pavilion Master, got straight to the point now that they were done with the formalities. "True Immortal Little Shang, now that you're here, I believe that my request to craft talismans will be accomplished. We will have to rely on you from now on."

Seeing how direct the other party was, Shang Xia didn't beat about the bush either. He simply asked what he had been curious about the entire time. "I have a question. The Star Origin City is powerful and has wide connections. You're friendly with the other worlds too. I'm afraid the number of rank six Talisman Grandmasters you know aren't few at all. Why are you especially looking for me? Moreover, when Deputy Pavilion Master Zhou looked for me back then, I was still a rank five Talisman Grandmaster. I had no experience crafting rank six talismans."

Tong Yutang broke out laughing the next moment. "I believe this question has been bothering you for a long time, right?"

Shang Xia nodded. "Exactly. I asked Deputy Pavilion Master Zhou in the past, but all I got was a vague reply. He said that I would be able to understand everything after meeting you."

Tong Yutang grunted once. "Deputy Pavilion Master Zhou didn't answer you because he probably didn't know much himself! The reason I invited you over was to craft a secret rank six formation talisman."

"Formation talisman?" Shang Xia frowned. He muttered with some confusion, "Is it really just a Formation Talisman?"

One had to know that a Formation Talisman was the easiest talisman to craft among those of the same rank.

If it truly was a rank six Formation Talisman, why was there a need to act so secretive?!

However, Tong Yutang nodded solemnly. "It really is a Formation Talisman. However, this talisman is different from ordinary Formation Talismans. It's a secret inheritance of our Star Origin City and it's said to be left behind by the Star Origin City Lord when he established the city back then. It's something unique to our city."

If that truly was a Formation Talisman, that would explain why they were willing to look for Shang Xia when he was still a rank five Formation Grandmaster.

After all, according to how the dao of talismans worked, a Formation Talisman was the easiest to craft among the same ranks and it wouldn't be a stretch for Shang Xia to craft one since he had already become a True Immortal.

However... That didn't fully explain his doubts.

Shang Xia continued to ask, "If it's a secret inheritance unique to your Star Origin City... Why would you get others to craft it for you?"

Tong Yutang chuckled before staring at Shang Xia, "True Immortal Little Shang, how would you know that the Formation Talisman you're crafting is the full inheritance?"

Slightly taken aback, Shang Xia wondered out loud, "Pavilion Master Tong, do you mean that I am only crafting a portion of the rank six Formation Talisman?"

Shang Xia's heart ran cold as he asked.

If that was true, he had to suspect that Tong Yutang had absolutely no knowledge of how to craft talismans.

After all, crafting portions of the talisman might ensure that their secret doesn't leak, but when put into practice, it would be a complete mess.

Every Talisman Grandmaster had their own way of crafting talismans. Their methods weren't the same either. The higher their level, the more unique their way of crafting talismans. It would be completely impossible to replicate what another Talisman Grandmaster did.

If a Talisman Grandmaster made a portion of the talisman before handing it to another Talisman Grandmaster, the success rate would be far lower than either grandmaster's success rate.

Moreover, the quality of the talisman would be greatly lowered.

That was also only taking into account 2 people crafting the same talisman. If there were 3, 4, or even more people... Their success rate would be abysmal!

Tong Yutang knew that Shang Xia had misunderstood his meaning, but he seemed to have his own reservations and he fell silent for some time.

Seeing Tong Yutang's reaction, Shang Xia muttered, "If Pavilion Master Tong has any difficulties..."

"Huh?" Tong Yutang snapped back to reality. "No, no. True Immortal Little Shang, please don't misunderstand."

He quickly continued, "Actually, the secret inheritance of our Star Origin City is different from other rank six inheritances. It's split into many different branches and every one of them can be used to produce a rank six talisman. However, there is something different about all of them and after we combine them all, they will interact in a unique way!"

After speaking, Tong Yutang looked at Shang Xia and explained in a low voice, "True Immortal Little Shang, you're just going to be crafting 1 of those talismans. Of course, before you craft them, you need to swear an oath that you won't leak the inheritance or teach it to anyone else."

"Of course." Shang Xia was enlightened after hearing the explanation. He wasn't surprised by the fact he needed to take an oath either. He knew that there was no point in asking how many other talismans there were in the series and he wouldn't ask which of them were made by which Talisman Grandmasters...

He simply cupped his fists in response. "Since that's the case, I'll do my best! It's just that..."

Seeing as Shang Xia had made up his mind to help, Tong Yutang smiled, "Yes? True Immortal Little Shang, feel free to mention any concerns you have."

"It's about the promises Deputy Pavilion Master Zhou made. Especially the matter about trading a divine brush..." Shang Xia chuckled in embarrassment. "I'm not afraid that Pavilion Master Tong will laugh at me, but our foundations are just too shallow. My Tongyou Institution doesn't have many resources either. As a rank six Talisman Grandmaster, I don't even have a proper talisman brush. In order to craft a rank six talisman, I destroyed 3 brushes before succeeding..."

"Oh?" A light lit up in Tong Yutang's eyes. "True Immortal Little Shang, you actually managed to craft a rank six talisman?"

Shang Xia forced a chuckle. "I believe Pavilion Master Tong heard about the time the Tongyou Elysium was infiltrated..."

That matter had long since turned into a joke between the worlds. How could the master of the Starry Pavilion be in the dark?

"Haha..." Tong Yutang chuckled. "It should be Wen Juxiang, a fourth tier True Immortal from the Essence Hong World who did it. I heard that ever since he reached the level of Dao Harmony, he was able to conceal himself in the void and pass through the heavenly curtain of various worlds without being detected. However, he wouldn't be able to resist the rejection of the World's Will... Oh... How is that related to your successful creation of a rank six talisman anyway?"

Shang Xia carefully remembered the name Tong Yutang revealed. He maintained a casual expression and chuckled, "Actually, it happened when I was testing the effects of my talisman. I only discovered his presence when using it."

"So that's what happened..." Tong Yutang laughed, "Looks like I need to congratulate True Immortal Little Shang for becoming a rank six Talisman Grandmaster! I was impolite to you before!"

A True Immortal who was a rank five Talisman Grandmaster was of a completely different status than a True Immortal who was a rank six Talisman Grandmaster.

Like Shang Xia, Tong Yutang was also a second tier True Immortal. That was why they could speak casually as they were of the same status. In fact, Shang Xia would be a little more respectful because of Tong Yutang's seniority. However, with Shang Xia's revelation that he was a rank six Talisman Grandmaster, it seemed as though Tong Yutang was the one who needed to be more respectful.

Shang Xia laughed, "I was merely lucky and created it by a fluke! I'm still far from being a proper rank six Talisman Grandmaster!"

After exchanging another round of pleasantries, Tong Yutang spoke candidly, "Even though a divine brush is precious, our Starry Pavilion still has them. We have 1 or 2 divine brushes... Alright, let's do this. After you craft the talismans, you can get someone to make the deal with Deputy Pavilion Master Zhou."

Shang Xia cupped his fists and showed how grateful he was with an exaggerated sigh, "Many thanks, Pavilion Master Tong!"

When they were done, they spoke about some random matters again before Shang Xia asked again, "I wonder how many talismans you need?"

"7... I need at least 7 of them!" Tong Yutang muttered.

"If that's the case..." Shang Xia fell silent for some time and didn't agree immediately.

Seeing Shang Xia's reaction, Tong Yutang quickly asked, "What's the matter? True Immortal Little Shang, do you have some concerns?"

"Ah..." Shang Xia chuckled apologetically, "I won't hide anything from Pavilion Master Tong at this point. My skills are barely satisfactory. Even if I obtain your talisman inheritance, I will need several months to come up with a way to craft them. Moreover, I might waste a lot of resources during the process and I will also need time to recover while improving my skills. Even if everything goes smoothly, I will need anywhere from 1.5 to 2 years to complete the talismans. I believe I can't stay in the Starry Pavilion for such a long time!" After he spoke, Shang Xia thought that Tong Yutang would use some other reason or perhaps some additional benefits to persuade him to remain in the Starry Pavilion.

However, Tong Yutang simply burst out laughing. "True Immortal Little Shang, I feel a lot more assured after hearing what you said. It seems like you have some skills when it comes to crafting rank six talismans."

Looking at the look of confusion on Shang Xia's face, Tong Yutang continued to chuckle, "You can rest assured. Even if you wish to stay here the entire time to craft talismans, I will still persuade you to return to your world from time to time!"

Shang Xia eventually understood what Tong Yutang meant. "Pavilion Master Tong, do you not wish to let anyone know that I am here crafting talismans?"

Tong Yutang nodded with a smile on his face. A profound light flashed in his eyes. "This is something you will have to add to your oath when we hand you the inheritance..."

Chapter 1067: Unexpected

When Shang Xia came to an agreement with Tong Yutang to craft rank six talismans in the Starry Pavilion, he saw Tong Yutang retrieving a jade slip that contained the inheritance.

"Our Starry Pavilion has a secret chamber you can use. True Immortal Little Shang, feel free to study the inheritance there." Tong Yutang spoke. After he was done, he gestured for Zhou Mingdao to lead Shang Xia over.

Shang Xia didn't stand on ceremony either. He stayed in the secret chamber for 7 whole days and nights.

After he emerged, Tong Yutang personally came to welcome him. However, he saw a look of confusion on Shang Xia's face.

"True Immortal Little Shang, did you manage to gain anything from studying the inheritance?" Tong Yutang asked without a change in expression.

Shang Xia looked at the pavilion master with an uncertain gaze. "It's really strange... The talisman inheritance is just far too strange. No matter how I look at it, it doesn't seem like a Formation Talisman. If not for your explanation back then, I would have thought it was something else!"

Tong Yutang didn't look disappointed at all. Instead, a trace of amusement could be seen in his eyes. "True Immortal Little Shang, are you able to craft it?"

The look of confusion on Shang Xia's face scattered and he muttered, "Of course I can. However, there is just something strange I can't exactly understand..."

"True Immortal Little Shang, is there a need to worry about all these? The inheritance came from the city lord and even though it's a rank six inheritance, the city lord is an old ancestor in the Seventh Order. The secrets it contains naturally surpasses the scope of our understanding." Shang Xia nodded slowly in response, but he quickly started shaking his head. No one knew if he didn't agree with Tong Yutang's explanation or if he was shaking his head to show his lack of understanding of the inheritance.

"True Immortal Little Shang, when do you plan to start crafting the talisman?" Tong Yutang continued to ask.

Shang Xia could feel that Tong Yutang needed the talisman urgently and he muttered softly in response, "Because of how abnormal this talisman is, I need to study it a little more. I also need to deduce the process in my mind. I believe I will need a little more time to prepare. At the very least, I can only start in 2 months."

"Alright." Tong Yutang agreed happily.

When he heard that Shang Xia needed more time, he wondered how long it was going to take. He didn't think that 2 months was all that was needed. He was celebrating to himself, but he tried to conceal his emotions the best he could. However, Shang Xia could still hear how impatient he was.

From the looks of it, Tong Yutang really needs the talisman. 2 months is also not a long time for him...According to what he said back then, he needed a complete set. What I'm making is merely a piece in the set and that would mean that the other rank six Talisman Grandmasters are crafting other Formation Talismans. He might have already gathered the rest and is waiting for this last piece...

As Tong Yutang didn't want others to know that Shang Xia was crafting talismans in the Starry Pavilion, he didn't intentionally delay his departure. After Shang Xia left seclusion, he immediately departed from the Starry Pavilion.

After entering the wilderness in the Land of Star Origin, he changed his appearance again and hid in the Star Origin City.

2 days didn't pass when Feng Ziying came looking for him again. This time, they met in another inn.

"What talisman did Pavilion Master Tong want you to craft? He's being so secretive! Even after poking around several captains or Deputy Camp Commanders, I didn't hear anything about it." Feng Ziying questioned.

At that moment, he was a fourth element Martial Dipper Realm expert. His cultivation had already caught up to those weaker Camp Commanders.

Moreover, with the intentional spread of information about how he was related to Fourth Camp Commander Feng Ziyuan, his status was far from an ordinary Star Origin Guard. Those he interacted with were usually captains or higher.

It was much easier for him to gather information in the Star Origin Guards that way.

Shang Xia was slightly surprised by Feng Ziying's revelation, and he muttered, "Of course you wouldn't have heard. Even though the members of the Starry Pavilion are those who retired from the Star Origin Guards, they're no longer members. They wouldn't tell you everything..."

Feng Ziying shook his head after hesitating slightly. "I really wonder what talisman Tong Yutang needs you to craft. It's even part of an entire series... You even need to prepare for 2 whole months before you can start crafting it? Aren't Formation Talismans the lowest tier talismans of their rank?"

"This Formation Talisman is clearly different!" Shang Xia shook his head and muttered, "However, I believe I should be able to complete the deduction process in a month or so. Even though crafting the talisman should be pretty weird, it's still a rank six talisman. The only problem is that Tong Yutang is a little too enthusiastic about the whole thing. That's why I intentionally dragged it out a little longer. However, from his reaction, I didn't delay it long enough."

Feng Ziying glanced at Shang Xia from the corner of his eye and muttered, "Why do I feel like you're trying to show off?"

"Really?" Shang Xia grinned innocently.

"Forget it." Feng Ziying waved casually and mumbled, "What are the general runes you need to draw on it? Even though I don't know much about talismans, I have a slight idea of what the runes mean. Draw out a rough sketch and I'll see what style they have. Whatever it is, I'll be able to widen my horizons at the very least."

Shang Xia understood that Feng Ziying wanted to help him deduce what the talisman might be, and he didn't hesitate. He grabbed a rank three talisman paper and drew some runes on it.

He wasn't actually making a talisman. Instead, he merely drew some runes on the paper.

As Feng Ziying studied the runes on the talisman, his frown grew deeper.

Shang Xia felt his heart pounding and he wondered out loud, "No way... Have you seen it before?"

Feng Ziying raised his head to look at Shang Xia. "Shit, you best believe it… I find it pretty familiar, but I can't remember where I saw something like this…"

Shang Xia nodded slowly. "That's not surprising. You're not a True Immortal. High-level talismans have a way of messing with someone's memory. It's like how a high-level expert just has to conceal their aura to prevent a lower level cultivator from noticing them... I believe you probably saw a talisman like that for a second or two."

"Fuck! Why do I feel like you're still showing off?! I just can't seem to see where..." Sneering once, Feng Ziying continued, "Whatever. That would mean that there would be something even more eye-catching when I saw something like it. That was probably why I don't remember where I learned those runes..."

Shang Xia muttered, "That's still a clue. If you're willing to look into it, that would be great. However, you need to be careful..."

Feng Ziying broke out laughing. "Do I need you to tell me something like that? When I left to become a spy of the institution, you haven't even grown... Ahem!"

Feng Ziying felt a little uncomfortable the more he spoke, and he covered everything up with a soft cough.

Naturally, Shang Xia wouldn't care about little things like that. He simply laughed, "Damn old man, are you showing off right now?"

"Hehe..." Feng Ziying didn't say more.

Soon after, Shang Xia's question came again. "I asked you to look out for 2 things back then. Did you discover anything?"

Turning serious again, Feng Ziying muttered, "Actually, I did!"

"Did you find out those who became fourth tier True Immortals who reached the level of Dao Harmony?!" Shang Xia's eyes widened in shock.

"From what I know, in recent years, the only high-level expert who entered seclusion to break through to the Martial Void Realm was Feng Ziyuan." Feng Ziying shook his head and spoke of something else instead.

"Then..." Shang Xia stared at him in confusion.

With a smile on his face, Feng Ziying continued, "However, I managed to discover the identity of the True Immortal on the Star Ship that left the city recently. I'm afraid you're going to be extremely shocked by this revelation."

"Who is it?" Shang Xia asked.

"Hehe... It's Tong Yutang of the Starry Pavilion!"

Chapter 1068: Feng Ziying's Guess

"How could it be him?!" Shang Xia gasped in shock as he stared at Feng Ziying. "That should just be a coincidence, right? There have to be other hidden True Immortals in Star Origin City. New recruits to the Star Origin Guards like yourself might not know they exist..."

Feng Ziying snickered softly in response, "The Star Ship is basically the same one Kou Chongxue described. The timing is also pretty much correct. What's more, right after the Star Ship and Tong Yutang returned, Zhou Mingdao went over to the Spirit Luxuriant World to look for you."

Shang Xia continued to ask, "What identity did Tong Yutang use to board the Star Ship? Maybe the higher ups of the Star Origin Guards already knew about it?"

Feng Ziying shook his head and sighed, "Every single True Immortal in the city has a responsibility to patrol the sea of stars. Tong Yutang left the city because of that..."

"Do you suspect that the third tier True Immortal who discovered Patriarch Kou's presence was Tong Yutang?" Shang Xia couldn't help but ask.

"From the looks of it, he's most likely to be the one..." Feng Ziying mumbled.

Shaking his head, Shang Xia sighed, "That's not really possible. After all, his cultivation is only at the second tier..."

Feng Ziying interrupted him before he could finish. "Are you 100 percent sure you won't make a mistake when judging his cultivation realm? Could there really be no special or secret method he can use to hide his cultivation?"

Shang Xia wanted to say that his divine soul was a lot more powerful than those of the same level and his senses were a lot sharper. It would be difficult for anyone to hide their true cultivation realm from him.

However... Difficult to hide and completely impossible to hoodwink him was a different concept altogether.

As he grew stronger, Shang Xia felt that stronger experts had a lot of strange abilities. As the saying goes, there's always a taller mountain. He wouldn't dare to say for sure that there wasn't anyone out there who had the ability to avoid being detected.

After thinking about it, Shang Xia raised his eyebrow and muttered, "If that's true, things will get interesting. Why did Tong Yutang hide his cultivation level? Does the higher ups of the Star Origin Guard know that he's hiding his true cultivation? What's his goal for doing so?"

Feng Ziying chuckled. "Are you planning to dig out everything about Tong Yutang? It's probably because you're interested in the formation they used to assist in the advancement of a third tier True Immortal into the fourth tier, right?"

Shang Xia nodded in affirmation. "It's a shame we can't get Patriarch Kou to personally take a trip to Star Origin City to meet with Tong Yutang. If he had the chance, Patriarch Kou would most likely be able to determine if that's the person he saw!"

However... If it really was Tong Yutang, changing his aura wouldn't pose too much difficulty if he really managed to hide his true cultivation realm from so many people.

From the sensitivity of their divine souls, Kou Chongxue was far from Shang Xia. If even Shang Xia was unable to determine Tong Yutang true strength, there was no way Kou Chongxue would be able to.

Compared to the suspicious Shang Xia, Feng Ziying seemed to have a different view of the entire matter. "From what I think, rather than keeping an eye on Tong Yutang, it would be much better to focus on the other Star Origin Guards who went out with the Star Ship back then. Since Patriarch Kou alerted them, there is no way the other experts on the ship wouldn't know what happened."

Shang Xia burst out laughing at Feng Ziying's evaluation. "From what you're saying, there should be a problem within the Star Origin Guards... No... You think that there's something strange going on with Star Origin City?"

"If Tong Yutang really is the expert who attempted to reach the level of Dao Harmony, there is no way Zhuge Xiang would not know of his existence!" Feng Ziying added.

Carefully picking up the rank three talisman paper that had runes drawn on it, Shang Xia crushed it completely. Not even ashes were left when he was done.

"There's something else," Shang Xia muttered in a low voice, "I have to trouble you to find traces of Wen Juxiang, a fourth tier True Immortal. He comes from the Essence Hong World and it's extremely likely he's the one who infiltrated our Tongyou Elysium."

Slightly taken aback, Feng Ziying mumbled, "Don't tell me that's something you learned from the Starry Pavilion..."

Nodding slowly, Shang Xia continued, "I need you to be careful when looking out for clues. You cannot allow anyone to discover your tracks!"

Feng Ziying sneered softly in response, "Do I need you to teach me what to do?"

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After Feng Ziying left, Shang Xia casually strolled around Star Origin City before heading out into the wilderness to return to the Spirit Luxuriant World.

When he returned, the first place he went was the Star Observatory in the Jiao Continent. He went to get an update on the progress of creating a spatial tunnel to the Star Beast Nest.

Finally arriving back in the You Continent, Shang Xia went to greet Kou Chongxue before entering seclusion in the Talisman Pagoda.

No matter what, he needed to prepare himself to craft talismans for the Starry Pavilion. Because of them, he managed to obtain a second rank six talisman inheritance, even though he didn't know it would work.

After carefully calculating every part of the talisman inheritance, Shang Xia couldn't help but try to come up with the other parts of the talisman. At the very least, he wanted to understand what the talisman would be used for.

It was a shame his efforts were completely useless. Not only was he unable to come up with the other talismans in the series, he couldn't even understand what the talisman he would create would be used for.

It was no wonder Tong Yutang would be willing to hand the inheritance over to others.

It wasn't as though Shang Xia didn't think of using the Crimson Soul Tablet to deduce the other talisman in the series. However, after entering the Six Direction Realm, the Crimson Soul Tablet seemed to be nourished by his Void Origin and started to transform. It had been dormant in recent years and even when they conquered the Azure Flame World back then, it didn't react in the slightest. Only when he broke through to the level of Inner Fusion did it react slightly.

Along with his increased cultivation, Shang Xia could tell that his connection with the Crimson Soul Tablet was getting stronger. His understanding of it also grew accordingly.

For example, Shang Xia knew that it didn't just have a function of coming up with advancement medicines and martial intents. It was able to accurately appraise high-level treasures and could even help when deriving steps to complete a talisman.

Shang Xia suspected that the Crimson Soul Tablet only had the first 2 functions, and the rest were developed along with his achievements. Of course, those were merely the tablet's assistive abilities.

He even thought that if he wasn't a Talisman Master and was a Formation Grandmaster or other professions, the tablet would also develop assistive functions for it.

However, the tablet seemed to be undergoing some strange transformation at the moment and Shang Xia could even feel that world origin from a Spirit World wouldn't be enough to take it up any longer. He would most likely have to find world origin from an Essence World in order to help it complete the transformation.

The moment it completed the transformation, Shang Xia could tell that it would produce a new ability!

The only problem was... He needed world origin from an Essence World!

Shang Xia couldn't help but feel a wave of defeat. After all, the Spirit Luxuriant World was far from reaching the level of an Essence World.

The scene of the Frost Wave affecting the Northern Region of the Spirit Abundance World filled Shang Xia's mind the next moment.

Back then, Shang Xia and Kou Chongxue determined that there might be another world hidden in the void somewhere close to the Spirit Abundance World. The Spirit Abundance World was unable to invade them due to the presence of the Frost Wave and that could only mean that the hidden world was of a higher level than them! It might just be an Essence World!

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As a month passed, the Heavenly Star Palace sent news that they completed their calculations and determined the position of the Star Beast Nest. The only thing they needed to do next was for the True Immortals to assist their Formation Masters in constructing the spatial tunnel.

Of course, Shang Xia didn't need to show himself for that. After all, he was the one who discovered the presence of the nest. The institution would definitely be prioritized when it came to the exploration process.

Even without him, Shang Xia knew that Chu Jia would be involved in the construction of the spatial tunnel and he couldn't help but get the impulse to head over to take a look.

Above the heavenly screen of the Jiao Continent, a formless spatial gate appeared.

However, compared to the time when they constructed the spatial gate that led to the Azure Flame World, the Five Element Ring was nowhere to be seen and the gate was a lot more blurry.

The spatial tunnel back then could allow Star Ships, and even massive land fragments to be transported, but the tunnel they were looking at could only allow cultivators to move about as they pleased. It was difficult to send even a single Star Ship through.

Chapter 1069: Possibility of Rearing Star Beasts

Along with the stabilization of the spatial gate, experts at the second tier Martial Void Realm or higher like Yang Taihe, Zhang Xuansheng, Li Jidao, and Kou Chongxue split off clones and sent them into the tunnel.

Shang Xia might have personally entered the nest in the past, but back then, his attention was on fighting the rank six Star Beast. After he completed his task, he returned to the Spirit Luxuriant World in a blurry state and he wasn't able to pay too much attention to his surroundings.

According to him, after killing the rank six Star Beast, Shang Xia had a feeling that there would no longer be any rank six Star Beast in the nest.

However, in order to play it safe, after opening the spatial tunnel, none of the True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World went over personally. Instead, they sent 4 clones with combat strength in the Martial Void Realm over.

They were in charge of ensuring the safety of the region. They would pay attention to the region around the nest, but they wouldn't be in charge of its development and exploration.

Those would be left to the Martial Intent Realm, Martial Extermination Realm, and Martial Dipper Realm experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World. It would be a chance for them to temper themselves.

The order was then decided. The experts of the 6 great powers of the Spirit Luxuriant World would be sent over first, followed by the cultivators of the Heavenly Star Palace. Finally, the members of the other factions would be allowed to head over. Of course, these would all be experts in the Martial Dipper Realm.

Only when they had all gone over would cultivators in the Martial Intent Realm and Martial Extermination Realm be sent over.

Looking at the disciples from the institution who would be sent over eventually, Shang Xia discovered a few familiar faces. Some of them were people he gave pointers to in the past, and some of them had shown up to his lectures.

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Before the final batches of cultivators were sent through, Formation Masters, who were in charge of maintaining the spatial tunnel, broke out into chaos.

Shang Xia turned to stare at them and he extended his divine soul over.

Fluctuations came from within the spatial tunnel and it was clear it came from a massive bawl. From the strength of the shockwaves, those fighting should be in the Martial Dipper Realm!

Something is wrong... Don't tell me there are some factions fighting among themselves in the Space Beast Nest?!

Shang Xia thought about how the clones of the 4 True Immortals had already gone over. They should be more than capable of stopping anyone from fighting...

"Unless they weren't willing to step in... No. They might have been held up by something!" Shang Xia gasped. His gaze turned to the true bodies of the 4 True Immortals.

Kou Chongxue noticed his gaze and shook his head slowly, "Even though we don't know what is happening over there at the moment, I can tell that my clone hasn't run into anyone there..."

Soon, the clones of the other True Immortals also sent back news that they didn't meet any enemies either.

The high level experts of the various factions stationed above the heavenly screen relaxed immediately. It seemed as though the clones of the 4 True Immortals truly had things under control there. From the looks of it, the great battle that broke out should most probably be a test the clones left behind.

However... Shang Xia realized many people glancing at him from time to time.

He didn't know what was going on, but eventually, he realized they were blaming him for not properly scouting out the situation in the Star Beast Nest before he returned.

Back when he was sent into the Star Beast Nest, he casually swept his divine soul across the nest. He didn't discover any Star Beast left inside.

From the looks of it, those Star Beasts probably left the nest together to invade the Spirit Luxuriant World. They might also have ran away in fright when they discovered Shang Xia killing a rank six Star Beast in their nest. They probably ran back after and met the experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World who were sent over.

Indeed... After some time, news came back from the Star Beast Nest. The other side of the spatial tunnel was attacked by a rank five Star Beast without warning and it was eventually killed after many Martial Dipper Realm experts joined hands. There were a bunch of Martial Extermination Realm cultivators who were injured, and some Martial Void Realm experts suffered light wounds.

With the danger dealt with, the Spirit Luxuriant World sent their last 2 batches of disciples into the Star Beast Nest.

Actually, the nest of the Star Beast was located in a massive secret region that was comparable to a Holy Land. However, Star Beasts were beasts at the end of the day. They weren't able to manage it well and their territory couldn't compare to the territories of the great powers or even some of the larger factions in the Spirit Luxuriant World.

However, because of their innate abilities, the secret region they were in was strengthened nonetheless in order to support the propagation of Star Beasts. They managed to produce treasures because of their innate abilities called star crystals and it was something that was similar to essence crystals in nature but was unique to Star Beasts.

Essence crystals were created from the condensation of heaven and earth qi, along with world origin. Star crystals were condensed from the power of starlight. Even though it couldn't be used like essence crystals to directly raise one's cultivation, it could still be used in some way after some processing. Moreover, it would be very useful when it came to inheritances related to the stars. Be it Formations, Talismans, or even weapons... As long as they were related to the power of the stars, those crystals would come in handy. They would also be able to refine Origin Dippers containing the power of stars.

According to the records left turned in by the Heavenly Star Palace, Star Beasts were born to pursue the power of the stars. Starlight was basically food for them and those star crystals were probably food they prepared for themselves.

"From the looks of it, the Heavenly Star Palace still kept a lot of secrets for themselves. We definitely have to push them from time to time to see what else they're hiding," Shang Xia chuckled. He continued in a low voice while speaking to Kou Chongxue, "From the looks of it, we might have to change our plans for the Star Beast Nest?"

Before waiting for Kou Chongxue to say anything, Chu Jia's voice came from behind them. "After all, no one thought that there would be any surviving Star Beasts left inside. If none of them were left, it didn't matter if we took all the star crystals. However, if there are some left, it's possible to

make the Star Beast Nest a production zone for star crystals... We would be able to obtain an endless supply!"

Shang Xia turned to look at Chu Jia while laughing, "Are you planning to rear Star Beasts like livestock?! Aren't you afraid that they'll turn around and bite you when they grow strong enough?"

Chu Jia simply rolled her eyes at him. "With you 2 True Immortals holding the fort, what's there to be afraid of?!"

Kou Chongxue laughed softly in response. "Is this an idea from the Heavenly Star Palace?"

"They brought it up, but whether or not their suggestion will be accepted will depend on all you True Immortals!" Chu Jia replied.

After he spoke, she glanced at the rest. "They probably already heard about it..."

Indeed. It didn't take long before Yang Taihe asked them for their opinion regarding the Heavenly Star Palace's idea.

With Kou Chongxue present, there usually wasn't a need for Shang Xia to worry about matters like that. After all, they didn't call the old man Patriarch Kou for nothing! He was in charge of matters like that!

The True Immortals started their communication while Shang Xia simply laughed while addressing Chu Jia. "Is your Formation Divine Weapon not done yet?"

"The experts of the Hundred Weapons Mill can't be sure either. All they can tell me is to wait for the birth of the artifact spirit. It might be born tomorrow or in the following months. It might even take a few years!" Chu Jia sighed softly in response.

She couldn't help but look at Shang Xia while asking, "What's the matter? Are you really in a rush to make your divine brush?"

Chapter 1070: Divine Weapon!

Shang Xia learned from Chu Jia that during their expedition to the Star Beast Nest, there seemed to be a general plan. They didn't go crazy and run around looking for treasures the moment they were sent over.

"Gathering star crystals is the main job of cultivators in the Martial Intent Realm. Most of the Martial Extermination Realm experts are supposed to go around exploring the region and getting rid of any dangers. They are also in charge of gathering precious resources other than star crystals." Chu Jia introduced the task for cultivators of different levels before she continued, "As for Martial Dipper Realm experts, their main task isn't inside the Star Beast Nest. They have to leave the secret region and explore the space around them. The clones of the 4 True Immortals are there to protect them."

Shang Xia nodded as everything was within his expectations. He chuckled, "Looks like the True Immortals of the various factions are also very serious about this."

"Of course they're taking a secret region out there seriously. Everyone already knows the importance of strengthening our world. Locating, conquering, and devouring other worlds will allow us to speed up the process, and we can also grow stronger that way. A single Azure Flame World managed to benefit us twice, and after the world ascension back then, 5 True Immortals were born! Even those who were already in the Martial Void Realm managed to grow stronger. The number of experts in the Martial Dipper Realm and Martial Extermination Realm also increased quite a bit!" Chu Jia muttered.

Shang Xia couldn't help but interrupt, "That might be the case, but the sea of stars is limitless. Finding a world is like looking for a needle in a haystack! We can only rely on luck if we search aimlessly."

Actually, the greatest use of a Star Observatory was to look for worlds in the vast sea of stars. It could also be used to locate asteroid belts, broken landmasses, Earth Stars, or secret regions of value!

In the Star Map the Tongyou Institution possessed, it was highly likely there were locations of other worlds recorded. However, the number of people who know about its existence is few and far between.

For example, Chu Jia, who was already part of the upper echelons of the institution, only knew about the existence of the bronze book. She took part in a battle to obtain it back then, but that was all she knew. She didn't know what it actually was, and the contents recorded within. In fact, Kou Chongxue and Shang Xia were the only 2 people in the institution who knew what the book contained. Not even the deputy patriarchs knew.

Chu Jia's eyes spun around slightly and she mumbled, "Looks like the True Immortals came to a decision. They probably plan to make the Star Beast Nest a long-term land of trials."

"Oh," Shang Xia grunted once before turning to look at the others. He continued, "From the looks of it, there should be other living Star Beasts in the nest. Right?"

Kou Chongxue's reply came swiftly. "Yes. We discovered several stone caves in the depths of the nest and there are many young Star Beasts present. They are all in the third rank and lower. There seem to be other rank four Star Beasts, but those had already been surrounded and killed."

From the looks of it, they managed to form a stable connection with the cultivators on the other side as they received prompt news of whatever was happening.

"Looks like they came to an agreement to only kill rank four Star Beasts or higher?" Shang Xia asked.

"No clue. We don't know how to handle the situation right now and we can only do this for now. After all, even the members of the Heavenly Star Palace can't determine how long it takes for the Star Beasts to mature. They can only give a rough estimate for now and we can open the spatial tunnel in set internals to send our experts over to train themselves and harvest resources." Kou Chongxue shook his head while speaking.

Chu Jia thought for a second and continued, "I'm afraid we won't be able to open the spatial tunnel too quickly. We also need to beware of backlashes..."

"It's unavoidable. To make the Star Beast Nest into a land of trials where we can harvest benefits constantly requires taking some risks." Kou Chongxue sighed.

"Did we gather the skin and essence bone of the beast? We need to be careful in case other people snatch our benefits..." Shang Xia reminded.

"Do you think they're stupid or something? Don't forget, every Star Beast that was killed would leave behind a piece of skin and their essence nucleus," Kou Chongxue roared with laughter.

"Oh, right, you probably don't know what an essence nucleus is yet!" Kou Chongxue muttered. Before Shang Xia could start asking, Kou Chongxue already started to explain, "An essence nucleus is a part of the body left behind that contains the essence of the beast. It can be any part of the beast, like the bone you retrieved back then. It can also be a piece of its organ, like an eyeball or something. It might even be a single tooth."

"An essence nucleus can be considered the highest ranked treasure in its rank. I don't dare to speak for the rest, but at the very least, Blacksmith Grandmasters have been fighting over the essence nucleus of the rank four and five Star Beasts that were killed."

Shang Xia couldn't help but gasp, "Is there anyone who set their sights on my rank six essence nucleus?"

"Heh." Kou Chongxue simply snorted without giving a proper answer.

Shang Xia could only mutter a little awkwardly, "It's fine if there isn't! We already have a way to get our hands on a divine brush!"

Chu Jia gasped in shock. "The Starry Pavilion really agreed?! What's their condition though?"

"Pavilion Master Tong Yutang seemed to be joking when he said it, but he said that if I am able to bring out the essence nucleus of the rank six Star Beast, he will immediately craft a divine grade brush for me. However, I rejected it. He revealed that he was joking after and said that I'll only be able to learn of a way to obtain the divine brush after I complete crafting his talismans." Shang Xia shook his head slowly.

Chu Jia sneered instantly. "Old fox! He's dreaming! I have been staying in the Tianya Pavilion for some time and I've been interacting with the Blacksmith Grandmasters there. Even though I don't know too much about crafting weapons, I still learned a thing or two! A divine weapon can also be split into different grades!"

"Oh?" Shang Xia glanced at Kou Chongxue.

Kou Chongxue chuckled softly and explained, "I might have heard of something similar in the past, but not many people can differentiate them for real. I would like to hear how the Hundred Weapons Mill classifies them?"

Chu Jia shook her head slowly and sighed, "From what I heard, the different grades of divine weapons are extremely complicated. The quality of the weapon, the strength of the artifact spirit, or compatibility with its user... Every aspect has to be taken into account. Blacksmith Grandmasters who aren't in the fifth rank or higher are unable to evaluate the quality of a divine weapon. Even I can't be sure of the different grades. I can only listen to the 2 Blacksmith Grandmasters evaluate the divine weapons known in our Spirit Luxuriant World."

"What about the Five Element Ring..." Shang Xia couldn't help but ask.

However, he was interrupted by Chu Jia who already knew what he was going to ask. "It's a low-grade divine weapon!"

Taken aback, Shang Xia wanted to continue asking, but he recalled that Chu Jia mentioned something about her not knowing how it's graded.

"However..." Chu Jia's tone changed all of a sudden, "The Five Element Ring was made for you, and your path of cultivation is what it's aligned towards. As such, when you're using the weapon, it can unleash the power of a mid-grade divine weapon."

Shang Xia nodded instinctively, and he continued to ask, "What about Patriarch Kou's Hidden Frost Sword?"

"It's a mid-grade divine weapon."

Chu Jia spoke about how the Blacksmith Grandmasters thought highly of the weapon and spoke well of it. The weapon was basically made naturally, and it was very suited to Kou Chongxue's sword art. It can be said to be a superior mid-grade divine weapon."

"What about the Yuanchen Heavy Sword?" Kou Chognxue raised an eyebrow and asked.

"Low-grade divine weapon! However, they said that the material used to craft the Yuanchen Heavy Sword is impressive. Unfortunately, it hadn't been long since it was made and it hadn't been nourished enough by high-level experts. After its weakness has been patched up, it might be able to reach the level of a mid-grade divine weapon!" Chu Jia explained.

Kou Chongxue and Shang Xia asked about several more well-known divine weapons in the Spirit Luxuriant World and Chu Jia repeated everything the Blacksmith Grandmasters told her. All of them were basically low-grade divine weapons. There were only 2 to 3 that reached the mid-grade standard. As for high-grade divine weapons... Even though they might not have seen it, the Blacksmith Grandmasters said that they definitely exist in ancient factions like the Eternal Palace, Divine Capital Sect, and Northern Sea Mystic Sect."