## The Heavens 1071

Chapter 1071: Formation Divine Weapon, the Five Element Ring

Seeing as the matter regarding the Star Beast Nest was going smoothly, Shang Xia casually chatted with Kou Chongxue for some time before greeting the other True Immortals before returning to the Talisman Pagoda in the institution. He continued to ponder over the strange rank six talisman.

The better half of a month passed again and when Shang Xia felt that he was basically done thinking about the talisman and planned to leave for the Starry Pavilion, an urgent transmission came from Kou Chongxue to summon him back to the heavenly screen.

"What's going on?!" Shang Xia asked the moment he arrived. The other True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World had already arrived and even Yin Jingxu didn't care about the consequences of drawing over Star Beasts as he gathered starlight to gain additional strength comparable to a True Immortal.

"We discovered tracks of foreign experts around the Star Beast Nest." Kou Chongxue spoke, causing Shang Xia's heart to start pounding again.

"Are we sure?! Did they discover our presence? Have they contacted us? How strong are they? Which world do they come from? Are they connected to Star Origin City?" Shang Xia threw out multiple questions in haste.

Kou Chongxue muttered softly, "Both sides discovered each other's presence. Our clones are prepared to engage them right now and we don't know where they come from. They don't know our background either, and even though we might not start fighting immediately, you, me, Lu Wuzi, and Huang Jinghan will have to prepare to rush over to provide support whenever necessary."

Nodding, he grunted in a low voice, "Alright!"

He understood that Kou Chongxue was right. Both sides wouldn't start fighting immediately because of a Star Beast Nest, especially if they didn't know each other's background.

A moment later, Yang Taihe spoke suddenly, "The other side should be there for the rank five Star Beast we killed back then. After all, it didn't appear when they tried invading our world and it should have been hunted down by those people back then."

Everyone nodded slightly and had to admit that Yang Taihe's deduction was pretty logical.

That would mean that the other side was also there for the Star Beast Nest and their plan might be the same as their Spirit Luxuriant World. Unfortunately, they were a step too late.

The next moment, Yang Taihe, Zhang Xuansheng, and the rest looked a little more serious and Kou Chongxue spoke in their place. "Unfortunately, we need you to make a trip over personally!"

Shang Xia nodded without saying anything else. His figure flashed and entered the spatula tunnel.

"This tunnel can't support the entry of a second tier True Immortal! I need to borrow all of your help..." Yang Taihe wasn't done speaking when he was interrupted by a loud rumble.

When the True Immortals turned to look at the source of the sound coming from the spatial tunnel, they noticed that it had already been swallowed by rays of five colored light.

Compared to cultivators of other levels who were staring at the scene in amazement, the True Immortals present managed to see what was happening through the resplendent rays.

A five colored ring appeared from under the spatial tunnel and landed on the spatial gate Shang Xia just passed through. It was as though it was afraid the tunnel wouldn't be able to support the pressure of a second tier True Immortal and wanted to keep Shang Xia safe.

The blurry spatial gate instantly solidified. In fact, the entire spatial tunnel became a lot stronger.

"It's not just True Immortals... Even if massive Star Ships, or even if we try to drag the entire nest back here, the spatial tunnel would be able to withstand the pressure!"

"It's a Formation Divine Artifact! It really is a Formation Divine Artifact! Don't forget True Immortal Meng Yuanxiu of the Azure Oddity world, he had something like it!"

"Why does the Formation Divine Artifact look so familiar?"

"Oh? The young lady who's using it doesn't seem to be in the Martial Dipper Realm yet!"

"She's also only a rank four Formation Grandmaster... She hadn't reached the fifth rank yet, let alone the sixth rank like Meng Yuanxiu..."

"No... Something is strange! Her cultivation is experiencing some sort of transformation! Is she trying to resonate her dantian with the Formation Divine Weapon?! She... What is she doing?!"

"She's using it to draw over different fate dipper essences... This is absurd! Wouldn't that make her date dippers impure?!"

"You're mistaken. She's refining all 5 fate dippers at once. It has nothing to do with impurity..."

"Simultaneous refinement of fate dippers? Is she... True Immortal Little Shang?!"

"Do you understand now? Hehe... The Formation Grandmaster of the Tongyou Institution seems to have a deep relationship with True Immortal Little Shang. She's most likely walking down the same path as him!"

"It's no wonder..."

"Hey? Was it just me or did you guys also notice the strangeness in her art of formations when she solidified the spatial tunnel earlier? Even with the Formation Divine Weapon, she managed to fully stabilize it even though a True Immortal was about to enter. That's something only rank five Formation Grandmasters can do, right?"

"Hiss... Rank five Formation Grandmaster! The Tongyou Institution is truly a monster alright! They produced talents in all fields! Who the hell called them new upstarts with weak foundations?"

"Hah! True Immortal Kou, congratulations on gaining another peerless talent!"

Kou Chongxue was also greatly taken aback when he noticed what happened. Only after he started receiving congratulations did a faint smile return to his face. "This can truly be considered a great surprise. I didn't think that the Five Element Ring would produce its artifact spirit after sensing Shang Xia ran into trouble… At the end of the day, it really was a weapon meant for him!"

Liu Jingsheng stared at him with a strange expression. "So... Whose Formation Divine Weapon is that then?"

Kou Chongxue didn't need to say anything else as after solidifying the spatial tunnel, the Five Element Ring slowly returned to Chu Jia.

The five colored light that covered the region eventually faded away but a thin layer remained on the weapon itself. The different colored lights continued to flicker as the different elements interacted with each other. The pulsating light seemed to indicate each breath the Formation Divine Weapon took.

Around Chu Jia were a bunch of Formation Grandmasters from the various factions. At the very least, they were in the fourth rank.

However, with the birth of the Formation Divine Weapon, Chu Jia not only entered the Martial Dipper Realm, she also became a rank five Formation Grandmaster without any issues.

Chapter 1072: Spirit Faith World

With her cultivation reaching the Martial Dipper Realm, her art of formations reached the peak of the fifth rank in an instant. With the support of the Five Element Ring, the changes that happened to Chu Jia made it such that the Tongyou Institution gained an expert that was practically comparable to a True Immortal!

Ignoring the jealous gaze everyone was shooting him, Kou Chongxue recalled Chu Jia when he saw that the spatial tunnel was solid enough. He wanted her to return to the You Continent to cultivate in seclusion.

Of course, more importantly, she had to be in charge of the rank six formation around the Tongyou Institution.

Without a True Immortal, they experienced an infiltration. The Tongyou Institution had to station either Kou Chongxue or Shang Xia around the Elysium at all times to prevent anything like it from happening again.

Kou Chongxue might have already learned how to split off a clone and planned to use it to take charge of the Elysium in his place, but a clone was still a mere clone at the end of the day. No matter what, it couldn't be compared to a True Immortal personally holding the fort.

With Chu Jia breaking through to the Martial Dipper Realm, along with the strange transformation of her Formation Divine Weapon, if she was able to properly set up a rank six formation, Kou Chongxue and Shang Xia would no longer have to worry about staying in the Elysium.

Actually, Kou Chongxue was already itching to get on with it. Despite knowing that laying down a rank six formation would require a large number of resources and couldn't be done in a short amount of time, he was still pretty excited.

Chu Jia, who had already been a rank five Formation Grandmaster for some time, truly had the ability to lay down a rank six formation with her new Formation Divine Weapon!

Of course, Shang Xia, who was currently in the Star Beast Nest, didn't know the transformation Chu Jia experienced.

However, the moment he left the spatial tunnel, he discovered that there were 5 auras from True Immortals around the Star Beast Nest, rather than 4...

Of them, 4 stood outside the Star Beast Nest while another remained within.

His curiosity lasted half a second as he released his divine soul to inspect the situation. He quickly discovered that the aura of the fifth True Immortal came from Tian Mengzi, who was hiding in the Star Beast Nest.

"Illusion Talisman! He actually used it to pretend to be a True Immortal..." Shang Xia saw through his disguise immediately. After all, he was the one who produced the talisman.

The Star Beast Nest boasted rugged terrain and it seemed to resemble a giant cave system rather than a secret region.

The essence qi was extremely abundant, and even though it was different from the essence qi contained in the Spirit Luxuriant World, it didn't stop one from cultivating. In fact, the essence qi contained in the secret region was closely related to the power of starlight and it was extremely suitable for experts who walked down the path of Stargazers to cultivate within.

Even though the Star Beast Nest was established deep in space and was drifting about with no fixed position, the space within the secret region was relatively stable. At the very least, Shang Xia was able to create spatial tunnels and travel around as he wished.

. . .

When Shang Xia appeared in front of him, Tian Mengzi heaved a sigh of relief. "You're finally here! I was close to my limit..."

Shang Xia stared at the talisman with a curious gaze. "The aura of a True Immortal... How did you do it?"

Staring at Shang Xia full of confusion, Tian Mengzi grumbled, "You made this talisman. Why are you asking me?!"

Seeing the look of shock on Shang Xia's face, Tian Mengzi was also struck speechless. "Do you really not know?"

Shang Xia's thoughts spun and he quickly noticed what had happened. He looked at the talisman that was reaching the end of its lifespan and asked, "Why does it only last for such a short amount of time?"

From what he knew, after the Illusion Talisman was activated, it would be able to last for months! Even though the time it was usable was limited, it should be able to show its effects for a much longer time... It shouldn't be like what Tian Mengzi was experiencing.

It was fine if Shang Xia didn't ask... He was the creator of the talisman! If he didn't know, how did he expect others to?! Tian Mengzi started grumbling immediately, "How should I know?! Not only can this talisman last for a short time, but it's also constantly eating up my dipper qi!"

Shang Xia sank deeper into thought and finally determined that the reason Tian Mengzi was able to produce the aura of a True Immortal was because of the remnant energy Shang Xia left in it when he was crafting the talisman.

If that was the case, it seemed as though the Illusion Talisman was pretty interesting! It wasn't just a simple rank five talisman!

It was a shame that the talisman had no defensive or offensive properties. It could only change one's aura to scare others. The moment they made their move, the illusion would be broken!

After thinking about it, Shang Xia reached out slowly and started to draw in mid air. As his inner qi dissipated slowly around his fingertips, a simple Illusion Talisman appeared in mid air.

With a single gesture, the talisman landed on Tian Mengzi. He immediately felt the aura around him growing stronger and more importantly, the talisman in his hand wasn't sucking up his dipper qi any longer. He immediately felt a lot more assured and he laughed, "Nice! Looks like I'll be able to keep this up for a while longer."

Nodding, Shang Xia no longer remained in the Star Beast Nest. The next time he reappeared, he had already appeared in the space outside the nest.

As soon as he showed himself, he didn't restrain his aura in the slightest. A horrifying pressure descended and caused the space hundreds of miles wide to fluctuate wildly.

In that instant, the 3 True Immortals facing Yang Taihe, Zhang Xuansheng, Li Jidao, and Kou Chongxue's clones retreated tens of miles as their expressions changed drastically. They immediately prepared for battle.

Actually, they weren't the only ones who were affected by Shang Xia's aura. Even the 4 clones were shocked.

"Fellow cultivators, you don't look very familiar. I wonder which world you come from? Shall we exchange some pointers?" Shang Xia took control of the situation the moment he appeared.

The clones understood their identities and they weren't planning to speak against him. In fact, all of them prepared themselves to back him up at any moment.

"Fellow True Immortal, since you wish to know where we come from, why don't you tell us where you're from first?" One of the second tier True Immortals on the other side shot a question in response and he didn't seem to want to back down in the slightest.

Nodding, Shang Xia mumbled softly, "You seem to make sense. We are from the Spirit Luxuriant World and I come from the Shang Clan. How should I address all of you?"

"Spirit Luxuriant World?" The True Immortals on the other side were slightly taken aback. The second tier True Immortal who seemed to be the leader of the 3 replied, "We never heard of you before, and you shouldn't have heard of our Spirit Faith World either. I am Yan Wujiu. I would like to ask... How did all of you manage to locate this place?"

Chapter 1073: Crossing a Thousand Miles in a Flash

"Spirit Faith World!" Shang Xia shot a glance at the clones of the other True Immortals and noticed their fluctuating emotions.

There was no doubt about it. The True Immortals on the other side were probably feeling the same thing.

"I am Yan Wujiu. I would like to ask... How did all of you manage to locate this place?" The other side seemed to want to point something out to Shang Xia and the others.

"For them to mention 'locating this place'... Would that mean that the Spirit Faith World is close by?" Yang Taihe sent a voice transmission to the others.

"Maybe it's their way of trying to hide it, but... This makes it too obvious!" Zhang Xuansheng also responded, but he seemed to be slightly conservative in his estimates.

On the side, Li Jidao's clone muttered, "Since things have already progressed to this point, we definitely have to carefully inspect the space hundreds of thousands of miles around this Space Beast Nest."

"If the Spirit Faith World really is located in this region, we'll hold the initiative right now!" Kou Chongxue muttered. He turned around and immediately sent another voice transmission to Shang Xia, "Kid, how do you plan to deal with this?"

Shang Xia revealed a soft smile and addressed the other party directly, "We located this place exactly how you did!"

One of the first tier True Immortals on the other side growled, "The Star Beasts here have been harassing our world. We suffered quite a bit in their hands and we gathered our True Immortals to search for several months before finding their nest..."

The second tier True Immortal coughed softly and interrupted the person speaking.

Shang Xia and the others had been communicating silently the entire time. They were able to gain a lot of information from what the other party said earlier.

"The Spirit Faith World was once besieged by a horde of Star Beasts and there has to be a rank six Star Beast among them. If this is the only Star Beast Nest in the region... Wouldn't that mean that they couldn't even handle a single rank six Star Beast?" "Maybe they already killed one...?"

One had to know that when the Spirit Luxuriant World was under attack, the pack that split off from the horde was slain completely. Even the rank six Star Beast was killed by Shang Xia without help from anyone else.

That point alone was enough to prove the difference in strength between the worlds.

"Were the True Immortals of the Spirit Faith World out when the Star Beast attacked? Did the beasts manage to catch them at a bad time?"

"Or maybe... The Spirit Faith World is actually just the Azure Faith World!"

As soon as someone voiced that guess, everyone fell silent.

Shang Xia took the chance to continue speaking to the others. "Fellow cultivators, you can rest assured then. The rank six Star Beast brought along tens of rank four and five Star Beasts to mess with us and we exterminated them all. We have also conquered their nest."

As soon as they heard what he said, their expressions changed.

Zhang Xuansheng's clone spoke to the experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World, "They have been searching for several months before chasing a single Star Beast back to its nest, and that would mean that they don't have a Stargazer inheritance. They can't deduce its location like us."

Yang Taihe's clone continued, "Even though we conquered the Star Beast Nest, we can't bring it away with us. If they truly come from a Spirit World, and they're located nearby, it has already been some time since we ran into them. They would definitely have sent reinforcements..."

Li Jidao's clone spoke in a deep voice, "If they really are from a Spirit World, we can't take them lightly..."

Everyone understood Li Jidao's concern. If the Spirit Faith World truly existed and had 3 True Immortals who could roam the sea of stars... How many Elysium True Immortals would they have?

Shang Xia couldn't help but add, "For them to waste so much time talking to us... They're either thinking about how to communicate properly with us or even establish some sort of cooperation, or they're buying time to wait for their reinforcements to arrive."

Yang Taihe's clone asked Shang Xia another question all of a sudden. "True Immortal Little Shang, How confident are you of obtaining victory if you fight all 3 of them?"

"What's the matter? Do all 4 of you plan to stand at the side and watch us fight?" Shang Xia chuckled in response without answering the question directly.

Even though their clones were at the bottom tier in terms of combat abilities of the Martial Void Realm, they still had the power of one nonetheless! Not to mention the fact that there were 4 of them! If they joined hands, it wouldn't be a problem to deal with an ordinary second tier True Immortal.

Yang Taihe's clone simply chuckled without saying anything else.

Yan Wujiu finally answered, "Fellow cultivators of the Spirit Luxuriant World, where are you in the vast sea of stars anyway? The sea of stars is too massive and our worlds are fated if we ran into each other today. Our worlds should exchange pointers and help each other grow!"

Li Jidao's clone roared with laughter while addressing the other experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World. "They're really taking us as newbies who hadn't seen the vast sea of stars. Do they really think that they can get us to reveal the position of our world with a few simple inquiries?"

"Why do we need to make things so complicated? This nest is a good enough platform for us to carry out an exchange and help each other. If you're really interested in our world, you can easily head over from the spatial tunnel we created inside the secret region that contains the Star Beast Nest!" Shang Xia joked. Even though he sounded light-hearted, he was warning them that the experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World weren't going to give up the Star Beast Nest and would be managing it directly.

Of course, they had to establish the necessary friendliness.

The Spirit Luxuriant World had all the qualifications to speak that way. After all, they were the ones who grasped the advantage after conquering the Star Beast Nest. The worst case scenario would be destroying it completely and retreating to the Spirit Luxuriant World. Even if that was what they did, they wouldn't be losing anything anyway.

However, if they were truly able to establish themselves in that region of space...

Shang Xia's expression changed slightly and he quickly addressed the clones. "There's a third tier True Immortal rushing over as we speak!"

Even though they were shocked, their expressions didn't change in the slightest.

Shang Xia didn't just talk to the True Immortal clones. He also spoke to the Martial Dipper Realm experts from the various factions. "An expert from the other side is here. All of you should retreat to the Spirit Luxuriant World for the time being."

The mid to high-level experts who were searching for treasure in the Star Beast Nest quickly received the news. With their Marital Dipper Realm experts leading the way, all of them returned to the Spirit Luxuriant World in an orderly fashion.

When everyone was extremely alert and ready to do battle at any time, the True Immortals from the Spirit Faith World seemed to notice something and a look of joy appeared on Yan Wujiu's face. He addressed Shang Xia and the others loudly, "Fellow cultivators, since you managed to clean up the Star Beast Nest, feel free to take everything with you. However, we would like to invite you to leave this place as soon as possible and return to your world. Let's not interfere in each other's matters."

Shang Xia chuckled in response, "What's with the sudden change of attitude? Is it because you found someone to rely on like the third tier True Immortal who is rushing over as we speak?"

Yan Wujiu's expression sank and he gasped instinctively, "How do you know?!"

Before Shang Xia could respond, a ball of snowy white light appeared thousands of miles away. In an instant, it crossed the distance like a shooting star and rushed straight for the Star Beast Nest that was behind Shang Xia and the rest.

Chapter 1074: Six Harmony Rod Technique

Without a doubt, the person who made the move was the third tier True Immortal from the Spirit Faith World!

"Looks like we still have to do it eventually..." Shang Xia mumbled to himself as he appeared in the path of the snowy white light.

Behind him lay the Star Beast Nest and even though the experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World had been retreating ever since they received the news from Shang Xia, the speed at which they could travel through the spatial tunnel was limited. At least two-thirds of them remained.

Shang Xia couldn't allow the other side to attack the Star Beast Nest as they pleased with so many cultivators of the Spirit Luxuriant World hiding within. Also, he wanted to keep it intact to act as an outpost in the sea of stars.

After all, it would be an extremely strategic location and it was the key to them obtaining the advantage when dealing with the Spirit Faith World.

However... He had to face an attack from a third tier True Immortal!

Yang Taihe and the others wanted to help, but he stopped them.

Naturally, they didn't need him to explain why he stopped them. When Shang Xia faced the attack from the third tier True Immortal, Yan Wujiu and the others also started to approach.

The next moment, the 'True Immortal' hidden in the Star Beast Nest also started to move. Every True Immortal present felt the aura rushing over to the edge of the Star Beast Nest, ready to help in case anything happened.

6 True Immortals! The experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World also have the ability to split off clones! Even though those clones don't possess considerable fighting strength, their existence is proof that their true body exists. A world with 6 True Immortals can't be considered weak at all and a mere Star Beast Nest would be far from enough to summon the full strength of a peak-tier Spirit World! If that's the case... That would mean that the Spirit Luxuriant World is a lot more powerful than expected and there are way more than 6 True Immortals!

Shang Xia and the others had been evaluating the strength the other side possessed, but so were they! They needed to know what they were dealing with!

The next moment, Shang Xia grunted once and the Stone Rod in his hand swept out with terrifying force, crashing into the ball of snowy white light.

The white light that resembled a meteor was massive and Shang Xia was nothing more than a larger ant in front of it. Even the Stone Rod seemed like a mere toothpick when compared to the size of the ball of snowy white light.

However... The moment the rod crashed into the ball of light, it stopped for a few seconds.

The snowy white ball of light wasn't the only thing that was stopped. The True Immortals who were pressing closer to the clones of Yang Taihe and the others also froze.

They weren't restrained by anything. Instead, they were just completely shocked.

A second tier True Immortal was at the level of Inner Fusion, but he decided to meet the attack of a third tier True Immortal with brute force!

From the looks of it, he even managed to stop it!

Several breaths of time passed, and Shang Xia was eventually sent flying away from the powerful energy contained in the ball of light. Despite being blown away, the ball of snowy white light also scattered.

A burst of frost energy filled the area and froze space itself. Cracks appeared on massive asteroids in the distance before they crumbled to icy dust.

As the region of space they were in had been flowing constantly, it brought the secret region that contained the Star Beast Nest around, making it difficult for anyone to lock on to its position.

However, with the clash between Shang Xia and the third tier True Immortal, they seemed to have thrown a massive rock into the river of space as intense fluctuations filled the region.

It was just that the Spirit Luxuriant World had already gained a full lock on the position of the Star Beast Nest and no matter how much it traveled through space, the spatial tunnel would remain.

In the void hundreds of miles apart, Shang Xia finally struggled free from the restraints of the chaotic flow around him and he quickly turned to look at the Star Beast Nest that appeared several thousand miles nearby. Seeing how it was still wobbling about without any signs of severe destruction, Shang Xia heaved a sigh of relief.

A look of regret soon crossed his face.

Earlier, he used the second move in his Six Harmony Rod Technique. Even though the second move was unpredictable and the different strikes he unleashed during it could superimpose on each other to unleash a terrifying might, it seemed to be a stretch when up against a third tier True Immortal.

It was a shame he only created 2 moves when it came to his rank six martial art. The first required him to store energy and it wasn't suitable for intense battles like that. Even though his second move had 5 strikes in total and stemmed from his understanding of Inner Fusion, his cultivation still limited his true abilities.

What he didn't know was that when he stopped the attack earlier, he shocked everyone present.

In the void hundreds of miles away, an old expert with a long beard that consisted of only 5 strands of hair, clad in inky green robes, stood quietly.

Shang Xia's gaze seemed to pierce through the void as it landed on the old man.

No longer caring about the frustration and powerlessness he felt earlier, his attention was placed on the opposing expert immediately.

He met the solemn gaze of the old expert.

It was then that another powerful fluctuation came from the Star Beast Nest as another expert from the Spirit Luxuriant World rushed over.

It was Kou Chongxue's true body, and Shang Xia didn't even need to see him to know that he was there to back them up.

Like Shang Xia, Kou Chongxue was also a second tier True Immortal! Of the True Immortals who could leave the Spirit Luxuriant World as they pleased, they were the only ones in the second tier!

Since Shang Xia could detect his arrival, the third tier True Immortal on the other side could definitely do the same.

Looking at the young foreign cultivator before him, the old expert felt different emotions running through his heart. His expression became pretty colorful and even though he was less than a thousand miles away from the Star Beast Nest, he wasn't confident he could destroy it with the young True Immortal in his way.

"Hehe... Senior, can we start talking nicely now?" Shang Xia noticed the other party's hesitation and fear, but they weren't in the Spirit Luxuriant World's territory at the moment. After displaying his might, it was time to open negotiations.

Chapter 1075: Unable to Resist

To be honest, the existence of a third tier True Immortal who could leave the Spirit Faith World as he pleased already exceeded the expectations of those from the Spirit Luxuriant World.

The moment they detected his presence, the experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World even made up their minds to give up on the Star Beast Nest if they had to.

A third tier True Immortal wasn't someone who could be easily nurtured by any world!

Even the Spirit Luxuriant World, which could be seen as a freakish existence among Spirit Worlds, only managed to produce a third tier Elysium True Immortal like Yang Taihe after an ungodly amount of time!

Kou Chongxue, the widely recognized son of luck, and Shang Xia, the crazy freak of the Spirit Luxuriant World who seemed to possess some insane talent and cultivation method, were still stuck in the second tier!

Even so, their appearance already shocked the experts of the Spirit Faith World so much that their eyeballs were about to pop out of their sockets.

The appearance of a third tier True Immortal was undoubtedly a sign that the Spirit Faith World had been in existence far longer than the Spirit Luxuriant World. After all, the longer they lived, the greater their foundations...

Before they fully understood the Spirit Faith World, it seemed as though the experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World weren't planning to let the conflict grow too intense. Moreover, the Star Beast Nest was a great place they could harvest resources from and there was no need to go from taking over a secret region to starting another war between worlds so easily.

To the experts of the Spirit Faith World, Shang Xia's cultivation was at the level of Inner Fusion, but he was already able to fight a third tier True Immortal at the level of External Unity without falling to a great disadvantage. They were already shocked by his achievement, not to mention the fact that the other side already stationed 6 True Immortals in the Star Beast Nest with another second tier True Immortal rushing over as they spoke.

Under such circumstances, they wouldn't dare to make reckless moves in the face of the power the Spirit Luxuriant World revealed.

It was also then that Kou Chongxue's true body arrived in the secret region. A moment later, he arrived outside the Star Beast Nest and met up with his clone.

The second Kou Chongxue appeared, the clone returned to him and his aura burst forth, unrestrained. The might of a second tier True Immortal was revealed instantly!

Compared to Shang Xia, Kou Chongxue's aura might not be as majestic or powerful, but it was still terrifying. It was sharp and he seemed to be in great control of it. Yan Wujiu, who was also a second tier True Immortal, didn't dare to take another step forward and he didn't even dare to meet Kou Chongxue's gaze!

Retreating before they even started fighting... Without a doubt, Yan Wujiu was no match for Kou Chongxue!

Earlier, there was Shang Xia who resisted the strike of a third tier True Immortal without being thrown into a complete disadvantage. Now, there was Kou Chongxue whose aura alone was enough to completely suppress an expert of the same level.

How the hell are the experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World so damn powerful with such high combat abilities?!

Whatever happened couldn't be hidden from Shang Xia or the third tier True Immortal of the Spirit Faith World.

Finally, the third tier True Immortal spoke. "What do you want to talk about?"

Shang Xia chuckled and understood that the other party no longer wanted to fight. He cupped his fists in response and gave a proper introduction, "I am Shang Xia of the Spirit Luxuriant World. How may I address you, esteemed senior?"

Falling silent for a moment, the third tier True Immortal eventually muttered, "You can call me Lan Zhengfeng!"

"Senior Lan it is! We managed to come here through a coincidence, but since we managed to locate the Star Beast Nest, it doesn't make sense for us to leave it alone and give away all the benefits. It's fortunate we managed to run into each other on accident and all we want is to use the Star Beast Nest as a platform to interact with you guys." Shang Xia laughed.

The third tier True Immortal glanced at Shang Xia and muttered, "Why do you think I should believe what you said?"

"You should believe in our abilities! With our world's foundations and collective strength, both of us can trust that we aren't useless and neither will we go back on our word. After all, we found this place, didn't we?" Shang Xia chuckled.

Falling silent for a moment, Lan Zhengfeng continued, "Fellow cultivator, you seem straightforward. However, how much do you understand about our Spirit Faith World?"

With a confident look in his eyes, Shang Xia declared, "I'm just putting it out there right now. It's exactly because we don't know anything about each other that we need to communicate and interact with each other!"

"Since that's the case, I'll hand this over to the other True Immortals. You guys can iron out the details yourself. I'll take my leave!" The third tier True Immortal grunted once and chose to take his leave.

After he was done, his aura disappeared from Shang Xia's range of detection.

Ensuring that the other party was gone, Shang Xia smiled to himself before turning to return.

After seeing that the third tier True Immortal had left, Yan Wujiu and the others also retreated slowly.

"Did you reach an agreement?" Kou Chongxue asked the moment Shang Xia returned.

Shang Xia no longer looked as composed as before. He nodded casually and mumbled, "We won't be fighting for the time being. Let's get some people over to start negotiations with them. I'm afraid we need to station a True Immortal in the Star Beast Nest in the future. Moreover, they need to be ready to retreat the moment they try anything funny…"

Kou Chongxue nodded with praise, "The other side has a third tier True Immortal and it's clear their foundations are a lot stronger than us. It's a smart move to not fight immediately..."

Shang Xia also nodded in response.

One couldn't see how the True Immortals of the Spirit Faith World had left. If Shang Xia or Kou Chongxue tried to leave the vicinity of the Star Beast Nest to poke about, they had no doubt they would be attacked again! In fact, they might fall right into a trap.

"Since the matter has been dealt with, shall we return to the Spirit Luxuriant World?" Yang Taihe's clone asked.

Li Jidao's clone questioned, "We need a True Immortal to remain here to hold the fort. Who among us will be the most suitable?"

Shaking his head, Zhang Xuansheng's clone sighed, "Unless either Patriarch Kou or True Immortal Shang Xia is willing to stay behind, we can't do anything else. None of us clones are suitable to remain..."

After thinking for some time, Yang Taihe's clone responded, "It's true that our clones can't be stationed here. At the very least, not now. We need someone to station their true body here for the time being."

Everyone turned to look at Kou Chongxue and Shang Xia.

Waving his hand, Kou Chongxue sighed, "This old man here has to protect the Tongyou Elysium and I don't have the energy to stay here."

"I have an appointment in Star Origin City that I can't miss." Shang Xia added.

The clones looked at each other and eventually, Zhang Xuansheng spoke on their behalf. "Looks like it's going to be either Huang Jinghan or Lu Wuzi then."

"Let's just send Huang Jinghan over here. There's Liu Jingsheng to take care of matters in the Yuanchen Sect anyway. Moreover, Huang Jinghan isn't a weakling. We can also reveal the existence of another True Immortal to ensure the members of the Spirit Faith World remain in check." Li Jidao's clone concluded.

Pressing his lips together, Shang Xia agreed. "This sounds like a good plan. We'll let Senior Huang take up the post in the Star Beast Nest for a few years and after the communication between our worlds stabilizes, we can send a clone over."

Zhang Xuansheng's clone finally concluded, "Alright, that's settled then. We'll head back and inform the Yuanchen Sect."

Facing the 'recommendation' of so many True Immortals, there was no chance for Huang Jinghan to reject their goodwill.

As they returned to the secret region, the True Immortals and clones eventually stared at Tian Mengzi who was emitting the aura of a True Immortal.

In their eyes, Tian Mengzi was a mere third element Martial Dipper Realm expert. However, he was surrounded by the aura of a True Immortal even though he was just standing there.

Their gazes soon landed on the rank five talisman in his hand.

"True Immortal Little Shang is truly a skilled master. If I didn't personally witness such an amazing disguise method, even I would be fooled!" Li Jidao's clone mumbled as a strange light flashed in his eyes.

"True Immortal Li is exaggerating..." Shang Xia waved his arm once and scattered the aura of a True Immortal around Tian Mengzi. At the same time, the Illusion Talisman in his hand turned to dust.

Chapter 1076: Silver Branch Star Splendor Brush

"The Illusion Talisman is a rank five talisman, but it was made by a True Immortal! Or perhaps, it was created with the help of one. As such, the user would be able to disguise themselves as a True Immortal. Even a True Immortal wouldn't be able to discover their true cultivation level if they didn't make a move!"

After a series of tests in the Talisman Hall, Shang Xia and the other Talisman Grandmasters finally managed to uncover how Tian Mengzi did it.

However, the disappointment of their Talisman Grandmasters was evident. They thought that the Illusion Talisman could be classified as a rank six talisman because of that, but that was not the case. Their hopes were dashed.

The Illusion Talisman might be able to let one pretend to be a True Immortal, but they were merely borrowing the power left in the talisman to put on a facade.

After getting to the bottom of the matter, Shang Xia looked for Kou Chongxue once again and informed him about his intention to head to the Starry Pavilion.

"How are things over at the Star Beast Nest?" Shang Xia asked casually.

"Both sides have already carried out 2 deals and we gained some understanding of each other. However, the Spirit Faith World seems extremely guarded against us and we haven't been able to venture too far away from the Star Beast Nest. Naturally, we can't properly probe them out because of this." Kou Chongxue replied.

In response, Shang Xia laughed, "If we were in their place, we'd probably take an even more extreme approach. Well... There will be ample time for us to do what we need to in the future. Since we didn't start fighting at the Star Beast Nest, we'll eventually be able to dig out all their secrets."

Kou Chongxue shot a glance at Shang Xia with a raised eyebrow in response. From his expression, it was clear he didn't expect Shang Xia to say something like that. "Who would have thought that you would be so patient? I even thought that you would be like the rest who feel like the Spirit Faith World's action of sealing up the space ten thousand miles around the nest would be an act of provocation."

"Of course we need to be wary of the other side..." Shang Xia chuckled, "However, from what I've heard in Star Origin City, the expeditions and devouring of worlds usually take dozens of years to plan and execute. It might even take up to hundreds of years to do so. Attacking a world, splitting it up, and assimilating it... Practically every phase requires a large amount of time! Only then would the world be completely taken over. Taking that into account, the rise of our Spirit Luxuriant World has been too abrupt. That is probably why we're being too impatient! We can't even wait for several months..."

Kou Chongxue burst out laughing and felt a lot more reassured that Shang Xia was able to think that way.

Bidding the patriarch farewell, Shang Xia went to the Three Unity Island and initiated a spatial transfer over to Star Origin City. When he stepped out of the Star Plaza, he went straight to the Starry Pavilion.

"Haha! For True Immortal Little Shang to be so calm and composed, I feel a lot more confident in your abilities!" Tong Yutang praised immediately.

Shang Xia revealed a strange expression that was filled with a tinge of regret while also being a little playful, "Pavilion Master Tong is too kind. I have not tried my hand at the Formation Talisman yet. You're giving me a lot of pressure here and aren't you afraid that I might not be able to ensure it and end up wasting more rank six talisman paper?"

"Huh?" Tong Yutang gasped softly and waved his hand generously in response, "Since I invited you over to craft talismans, why would I be afraid of wasting some talisman paper? As long as my Starry Pavilion can afford it, you can feel free to use it at will!"

Shang Xia couldn't jump in joy, but he managed to put on a dignified expression while responding, "I will definitely try my best!"

Tong Yutang also became more serious and he made a simple gesture to Shang Xia. "Please."

In the quiet chamber, a Talisman Platform, a Spirit Gathering Formation, a Jade Stool, Calming Incense, Inksticks, a crystal inkstone, talisman paper, a copper press, and a basin to wash a brush could be seen. There was also a silver brush that seemed to be glowing with starlight sitting quietly on the table.

One had to say that the chamber Tong Yutang prepared for Shang Xia had far surpassed the Talisman Pagoda that the Tongyou Institution spared no expense to build for Shang Xia.

That was true wealth!

Ignoring the luxurious setup he had been presented with, Shang Xia's gaze was locked onto the brush.

It was clear he was looking at a divine brush, and it was called the Silver Branch Star Splendor Brush.

"Looks like if I don't give it my all, it will be a little difficult to explain my actions... I'll have to try my best this time!" Shang Xia muttered to himself while shaking his head.

He had already grabbed the brush to play around with it and his true thoughts were clear for all to see.

Finally tearing his gaze away from the brush, he looked at the rank six talisman paper before him.

There were 5 sheets in total. Actually, it wasn't that the Starry Pavilion was stingy enough to only provide him with 5 sheets. It was because Shang Xia requested for them not to give him too many at once.

There were also a bunch of rank four and rank five talisman paper he could use to warm up before the crafting process.

The Silver Branch Star Splendor Brush might be a divine grade brush, but Shang Xia hadn't used it before! He had to familiarize himself with it before attempting to craft the rank six talisman!

There was also taliman ink that had been prepared for him. Other than an ink stick that shone with a deep vermillion hue, Shang Xia also requested for a batch of rank four and rank five talisman ink.

After using 2 days to calm himself down and adjust his condition, Shang Xia finally picked up his brush.

He decided to craft rank four Extermination Lightning Attracting Talismans, Spiritual Protection Substitution Talismans, Divine Restraint Talismans, and Needle Extermination Light Talismans as they were of higher difficulty in order to test his skills, he discovered that the process went extremely smoothly. He didn't fail a single time. He crafted 7 rank four talismans in total before he stopped.

Even though it was his first time using the Silver Branch Star Splendor Brush, it wasn't difficult to use at all! Instead, everything went exceedingly smoothly.

Despite completing the talismans, Shang Xia fell deep into contemplation. Everything might have gone smoothly, but that didn't mean that he had already grasped the way to perfectly use the brush. The reason he didn't fail a single time was probably because rank four talismans were no longer challenging to him. As such, crafting them didn't mean that he could practice the proper way of using the brush.

Ordinarily speaking, the higher the quality of the talisman being crafted, the more intricate the runes required. Their ability to control their inner qi was also extremely important.

Not only did one have to be able to control their inner qi well, they would also need deep reserves. Whatever it was, it wasn't easy to craft a rank six talisman.

Using the Silver Branch Star Splendor Brush to craft rank five talismans, he chose to craft a Substitution Talisman for a start. Just as he completed the first part of a rune, the talisman paper started twisting on the platform and it seemed to want to cause small-scale fluctuations around him.

With a helpless sigh, Shang Xia waved once and the talisman paper was crushed into a ball and thrown to a corner.

"The brush ensures smooth flow of inner qi, but it's just too smooth... It might not be a good thing..." Shang Xia chuckled to himself before taking another sheet of rank five talisman paper.

With the experience of the previous time, he quickly completed a rank five Substitution Talisman without making a single mistake.

Soon, he started to craft an Illusion Talisman, a Heavenly Lightning Curtain Talisman, a Dipper Protection Talisman, a Teleportation Talisman, a Space Calming Talisman, and a Mysterious Harmony Talisman. Even though he made mistakes during the process, his success rate was still terrifyingly high. He used 10 sheets of rank five talisman paper to craft 7 rank five talismans. Not only did he manage to achieve a 70 percent success rate, he realized that the Silver Branch Star Splendor Brush became an extension of his hand during his last few attempts. Even though the talismans he was crafting became more complicated, he didn't fail a single time!

As such, Shang Xia felt that he completely grasped the use of the Silver Branch Star Splendor Brush and the only thing left to do was to fully focus on the rank six Formation Talisman he was commissioned to craft.

Chapter 1077: Rank Six Formation Talisman!

On the 7th floor of the Starry Pavilion...

Zhou Mingdao stood respectfully beside Tong Yutang who was seated behind a desk. He made his report in a low voice, "Pavilion Master, the Star Origin Guards sent news that there is someone searching for news of the guards who left on the Star Ship that day..."

He carefully observed Tong Yutang and continued, "Pavilion Master, should we..."

Tong Yutang, who looked like he was letting his thoughts wander, raised his hand to stop Zhou Mingdao and muttered, "Wouldn't that just tell the person who's trying to dig for information that he's looking in the right direction? They're beating around the grass to startle the snake to see who will bite, and you want to be the snake?"

Lowering his head, Zhou Mingdao quickly replied, "Pavilion Master, you're right! I was too naive! Please advise me on what to do..."

Without even turning to look at Zhou Mingdao, Tong Yutang mumbled, "We don't have to do anything!"

"What if..." Zhou Mingdao couldn't help but mumble.

"There's no what if!" Tong Yutang's tone sank and Zhou Mingdao immediately bowed even lower.

Seemingly noticing the change in his emotions, Tong Yutang quickly forced himself to regain his composure. He continued, with a trace of mockery in his voice, "From the looks of it, the Star Origin Guards is far from being a united force like Zhuge Xiang says!"

Zhou Mingdao quickly added to show his agreement, "Pavilion Master, from the looks of it, after Commander Zhuge Xiang formed some connections with those from Superior Worlds, he doesn't seem to care about matters regarding the Star Origin Guards any longer... From the looks of it, rumors of Zhuge Xiang leaving his post that came from inside the Star Origin Guards might not be completely wrong..."

Finally, Tong Yutang raised his head slightly to glance at Zhou Mingdao.

Noticing the Pavilion Master's gaze, Zhou Mingdao felt a trace of panic and he stuttered, "I... I... I crossed the line! Pavilion Master, I will accept any punishment..."

Sighing softly, Tong Yutang mumbled, "Mingdao... You've been by my side for several tens of years now. You should know what you can say, and what you can't. Do you really need me to teach you things like that?"

Zhou Mingdao felt his knees going soft and he fell on them before yelling in fright, "Pavilion Master, I know my mistakes!"

Silence filled the room, and Zhou Mingdao trembled all over. Only after some time did Tong Yutang's calm voice ring through the room. "Get up. Do your job well and don't make the same mistake!"

"Thank... Thank you, Pavilion Master!" Zhou Mingdao crawled to his feet in haste and he didn't dare to say anything else. He quickly cupped his fist and bade his farewell. "I shall take my leave right now!"

Taking 2 steps back, Zhou Mingdao prepared to leave the room when Tong Yutang seemed to have thought of something. His voice rang from behind Zhou Mingdao, "Right, what's going on with True Immortal Little Shang at the moment?"

Turning around, Zhou Mingdao bowed his head slightly and replied, "Pavilion Master, a month has already passed and there haven't been any signs from the chamber. True Immortal Little Shang hasn't emerged either and with your instructions, I didn't dare to disturb him."

"Alright. Let's not bother him then. You can leave."

Taking another 2 steps back, Zhou Mingdao eventually reached the exit and he left the room, turning around to close the door softly.

In the quiet room, Tong Yutang's soft laughter filled the air. "Heh... Zhuge Xiang has been a genius his entire life, but just a single mistake is enough to ruin him. He's trying to kiss up to the Essence Hong World and Essence Ming World in a futile attempt. He's trying to make use of their higher ups to break through to the fifth tier, but does he really think they're such kind-hearted individuals to help him for free? I wonder how much of our thousand year foundations he betrayed..."

No one knew how long had passed when another sigh rang in the room, "Star Origin Lord... Did you really run into an accident? Look at the state of our Star Origin..."

His words became unintelligible near the end.

...

Also on the seventh floor of the Starry Pavilion, Shang Xia was cooped up in his chamber to craft talismans. He didn't know anything that happened in Tong Yutong's study room.

Currently, he was adjusting his condition back to his peak state.

He ran through the crafting process of the rank six Formation Talisman more than a thousand times in his mind and after familiarizing himself with the Silver Branch Star Splendor Brush, he finally made his first stroke on the rank six talisman paper.

The feeling he had was completely different from when he was crafting his Six Harmony Teleportation Talisman back then. The greatest difference came from the brush he was using!

A divine grade brush lived up to its reputation indeed!

Thinking back to the time he was crafting the Six Harmony Teleportation Talisman, the high-grade brush in his hand was on the verge of destruction every time he used it and he had to be extremely careful. He no longer had the problem and he could use the brush without worrying that it would break.

With less to worry about, he felt a little more confident.

However, he quickly restrained himself and turned his focus on the rank six Formation Talisman he was supposed to craft.

Tong Yutang once said that it was only a part of an entire series of talismans.

As for how many talismans were in the series, Shang Xia had no idea. Tong Yutang didn't say anything about it, and he knew better to ask.

However... As he studied the talisman, Shang Xia had a sneaking suspicion that Tong Yutang wasn't just hiding the true use of the Formation Talisman. He had been lying all along!

Crafting one of the talismans in the series?

Shang Xia shook his head with a cold snort. He was basically crafting one small part of a larger Formation Talisman!

Even though the difference between an entire series of talismans and a small part of 1 talisman might sound similar, they differed greatly!

The former might mean that it was a new way of using rank six talismans, while the latter meant that it was possible the talisman was so special it already surpassed the sixth rank!

After all, a series of talismans meant that they would be able to form a massive formation when it was complete. While the other meant that a single superior talisman could be made!

There was no need to go into detail on what they entailed.

If Shang Xia's deductions were correct, the Formation Talisman he was crafting was merely a part of a talisman of an even higher rank!

It was like how he studied the semi-complete rank six talisman Kou Chongxue got his hands on back then. He managed to come up with the Five Element Teleportation Talisman! If what he was making was a semi-complete higher ranked talisman, he would have to completely reevaluate its worth!

Could it be part of a rank seven talisman?!

Shang Xia didn't dare to imagine what would happen if it was, but he understood that regardless if his conjecture was right or wrong, he had to craft it before thinking about anything else.

Unfortunately, because of his wandering thoughts, he barely completed half the talisman when his inner qi fluctuated wildly, causing the talisman to shatter.

Failing on his very first attempt of crafting a new talisman wasn't something strange anyway.

With his experience, Shang Xia managed to resolve the problem he was facing. It had nothing to do with his penmanship. Instead, the problem lay with the runes he needed to draw!

To put it another way, he didn't make a mistake when crafting the talisman! Instead, the talisman inheritance Tong Yutang provided was the problem!

In order to ensure he wasn't the problem, Shang Xia took 2 full days to run through everything that happened during the process. Unfortunately, he reached the same conclusion every single time.

The inheritance Tong Yutang provided might be the problem, but it might also be the fact that he had to combine different parts of the inheritance to ensure that he didn't lose control completely during the crafting process.

After thinking about it, Shang Xia finally emerged from his chamber after a month and a half.

Zhou Mingdao rushed over the moment he received the news, and he brought Shang Xia over to Tong Yutang's study.

"Pavilion Master Tong, this talisman... It doesn't seem complete!" Shang Xia didn't beat about the bush.

Tong Yutang burst out laughing in response, "Of course it isn't. Didn't I tell you that it's part of an entire series?"

Shang Xia shook his head and sighed, "Pavilion Master Tong, I believe you should understand what I mean. No matter how I try, there seems to be something missing and I can't solve the problem unless..."

"True Immortal Little Shang!" Tong Yutang interrupted Shang Xia before he could finish. Getting to his feet, he muttered, "I need you to think of a way. Come up with a

method to solve the problem of the runes being unbalanced itself and complete the talisman!"

"This is extremely important, and I can only implore you to do so!"

Chapter 1078: Rank Six Formation Talisman Pt.2

Is it just a simple deduction?

Seeing as Tong Yutang was so serious, Shang Xia couldn't help but confirm again, "If it's just deducing the rest of the talisman to solve the problem of imbalance, it won't be too difficult. However, the real problem is... If his talisman is merely a part of a series and I randomly think of a way to patch up the problem with his talisman, I might affect the rest..."

Shang Xia didn't complete his sentence, but his meaning was clear.

Tong Yutang maintained his casual expression and spoke firmly, "True Immortal Little Shang, all you have to do is to complete the talisman. You don't have to worry about the rest."

With that, Shang Xia returned to his chamber. He already had an idea of what was going on. The Formation Talisman he was crafting wasn't part of a series! It was definitely part of an even higher level inheritance!

As for the part he was required to craft, Shang Xia didn't know how much of it corresponded to the higher level talisman. However, there was one thing he was very sure of, and that even if it wasn't half of the higher level talisman, it was at least a third of it!

Otherwise, there was no way he hadn't come up with anything after studying the talisman for such a long time.

Even though there were many questionable points, there was still something he couldn't quite understand even after thinking for such a long time. That was how a superior talisman could be split into different parts. It wasn't something that could be done easily!

Because of his experience when attempting to craft the talisman, he could tell that the part that had been split off wasn't done randomly. For someone to be able to split up a superior talisman into talismans of lower ranks would mean that their achievements in the dao of talismans had already reached a terrifying level. At the very least, it was way higher than himself.

That begged the question. Since the other party was able to split up the talisman inheritance, why couldn't they perfect the parts of the inheritance so that Shang Xia didn't have to come up with his own solution?

Whatever it was, Shang Xia received Tong Yutang's nod of approval and there was nothing else stopping him from perfecting the inheritance.

Actually, solving the problem of the disequilibrium of the runes wasn't anything too difficult for Shang Xia. After all, the main parts of the talisman were recorded in the inheritance and all he had to do was to patch it up a little. In fact, Shang Xia even had a mental outline of what he wanted to do before looking for Tong Yutang.

It was just that... Even though he fixed the problem of disequilibrium of the runes, he would definitely run into more problems...

If he ran into problems on every attempt... Wouldn't that mean that he would need to waste a rank six talisman paper every time?

Even though the talisman paper was provided by the Starry Pavilion, Shang Xia knew that it wasn't something he could waste as he wished.

If he had to use more effort to deduce his next move... That would mean that things would only get more difficult!

Shang Xia wanted to give Zhou Mingdao the rank four and rank five talismans he made to request a new batch of talisman paper, but Zhou Mingdao wasn't willing to accept them at all!

He said that the lower ranked talisman paper was prepared for Shang Xia to begin with and he should naturally be given them to warm up before attempting a rank six talisman.

Even so, Shang Xia insisted on giving away those completed talismans.

Soon after, the dozens of sheets of lower ranked talisman paper were used to fix the problem of the disequilibrium between the runes and even though they couldn't completely solve the problem as he wasn't crafting a rank six talisman, it was a lot more cost effective than to use rank six talisman paper to test out his theory.

As such, Shang Xia used ten or so days to familiarize himself with the crafting process to the point where he couldn't be more well versed in it. Doing so, he used up more than 10 rank four talisman papers.

When he felt that he was ready again, he prepared to attempt crafting the rank six Formation Talisman.

This time, he quickly got past the halfway mark. During the process, he ran into 2 situations of runic disequilibrium. Fortunately, he already expected them when practicing earlier and he patched it up.

His second attempt still ended in failure, but it was still related to the disequilibrium of the runes. It was one he missed during his deduction earlier.

Using 3 more days to think about his mistakes and arrange his thoughts, he started his third attempt.

Everything seemed to be going smoothly, and after fixing the last part of the problem with the runes, he managed to reach a 95 percent completion rate of the talisman. Seeing as it was just a step away from being created, Shang Xia's brush landed decisively on the talisman paper. Unfortunately, the instant it did, everything went wrong. The talisman paper started to crumble and if not for his quick reactions, the remnant energy would destroy the entire room.

This time, Shang Xia didn't even need to use his brains to know what went wrong. During the process of fixing the problem of runic disequilibrium, he ignored the part where they could fit properly into the entire talisman.

Because of that, he used up 3 of the 5 rank six talisman papers Zhou Mingdao provided.

"No matter how I think about it, I seem to have gotten the short end of the stick by accepting the request..." Shang Xia mumbled to himself.

Helpless, he could only start from the beginning. This time, not only did he have to fix the various runes, he needed to ensure they followed the general pattern and would fit in well with each other.

It felt extremely similar to the time when he came up with his own rank five Five Element Teleportation Talisman from the semi-complete rank six talisman.

10 more days passed and Shang Xia made his fourth attempt. Unfortunately, he still failed.

However, this time, it wasn't because of the problem with the runes. Instead, it was because he made a mistake during the crafting process.

It was unavoidable as even the mightiest Talisman Grandmaster would make mistakes from time to time. Not to mention the fact that it was a completely new rank six talisman! Other than the part where he exhausted his brain power when trying to fix the problem with the runes, he discovered that even though it was supposed to be the most basic Formation Talisman, it was just as difficult to craft as his Six Harmony Teleportation Talisman!

Then again... Ever since Shang Xia became a Talisman Master, there hadn't been many talismans where he failed four times in a row!

This time, Shang Xia didn't adjust his condition. He simply grabbed the last piece of rank five talisman paper and started the crafting process.

3 days passed and Shang Xia didn't take a single break. By the time he completed his last stroke, a burst of dense spiritual light emerged from the newly created talisman before slowly fading away.

After more than 2 months of going through many deductions and the process of fixing the runes, failing 4 times in total, Shang Xia finally crafted the rank six Formation Talisman on his fifth attempt.

When the spiritual light finally dissipated, Shang Xia stared at the talisman he made and mumbled to himself, "Why do I feel like this is so familiar?"

Chapter 1079: Formation Talisman, Star Robe, Camp Commander, Stargazer

On the seventh floor of the Starry Pavilion.

Zhou Mingdao ran hastily over to Tong Yutang's study before knocking the door softly and entering.

"What's the matter for you to be in such a rush?" Tong Yutang looked at a half-open scroll on his desk and asked.

"It's the talisman from our secret inheritance! True Immortal Shang Xia actually completed it and I brought it over to you!" Zhou Mingdao quickly presented a scroll in his hand over to Tong Yutang.

That was right, it was a scroll!

After the fifth rank, talismans that were made would usually be massive and one would keep them in a scroll.

Tong Yutong, who was sitting at his desk calmly, stood up abruptly. His calm demeanor was nowhere to be seen as he grabbed the scroll from Zhou Mingdao's hand and opened it on his table.

Perhaps it was because he was too emotional, Zhou Mingdao noticed that the lower half of Tong Yutang's body was illusory. His entire body seemed to fail to coordinate with each other.

The feeling of disharmony between the upper and lower half of his body disappeared quickly, and Zhou Mingdao lowered his head and pretended not to notice.

However, he was clear in his heart that the being before him wasn't Tong Yutang's true body. It was a mere clone.

As for when Tong Yutang left the Starry Pavilion or what he went to do, Zhou Mingdao didn't know and he didn't wish to know.

"Good... Great, this is great!" Tong Yutang failed to contain his joy.

After a good half a minute of celebration, Tong Yutang shifted his attention away from the completed talisman and turned to Zhou Mingdao to ask, "Where is True Immortal Little Shang at the moment? Where did he go?"

"After crafting the talisman, True Immortal Little Shang said that he was feeling a little tired from the constant seclusion and decided to take a stroll around the city. He's planning to take it easy for some time before crafting the remaining talismans." Zhou Mingdao explained with his gaze lowered.

"Oh, yeah... Right! There's no rush, no rush at all! Hehe... Since he already completed the first talisman, he naturally has the ability to do the rest! All he has to do is to repeat whatever he did anyway!" Tong Yutang smiled while waving his hand casually, seemingly not caring about the fact that Shang Xia left for some time. He completely forgot about how excited he reacted when the completed talisman was brought over to him earlier.

He continued to address Zhou Mingdao, "As long as True Immortal Little Shang raises any requests when crafting the rest of the talismans, fulfill them to the best of our abilities! As long as he completes the 7 talismans, we won't hesitate to pay any price!"

Zhou Mingdao replied hastily, "Yes. I will definitely prepare everything he requires!"

"Hmm." Grunting once, Tong Yutang waved his arm and dismissed Zhou Mingdao.

When Zhou Mingdao left the room, Tong Yutang finally turned to look at the completed talisman on the table.

"Finally... I didn't think that the first to complete the restoration of the main portion of the talisman would be a newly promoted rank six Talisman Grandmaster!" Tong Yutang muttered as he slowly rolled up the scroll before him. He eventually sighed again, "However... of the 7 separate talismans, as long as 1 of them is complete, we will be able to extrapolate everything else! Hmm... As long as I bring out the completed talisman for the others to reference, they should be able to deduce the rest of it. If they can't... Hmph, their reputation as rank six Talisman Grandmasters would be completely useless!"

All of a sudden, knocking sounds came from outside.

"What's the matter?" Tong Yutang knew that Zhou Mingdao was the person outside, but he still carefully stored the talisman.

"Pavilion Master, Camp Commander Xing is here to pay you a visit!" Zhou Mingdao's respectful voice came from outside.

"I'm not meeting him!" Tong Yutang's voice came from within. "Tell him that I managed to gain something through my cultivation today and I'm in seclusion!"

•••

After completing the talisman, Shang Xia noticed a familiar aura from the spiritual light it emitted and he even tried thinking back to where he felt it in the past.

Eventually, he recalled that it came from the Star Observatory!

No... To be more exact, it was when the Star Observatory attracted starlight from the vast sea of stars. Shang Xia once felt a similar aura back then!

"Is this secret inheritance related to the Star Observatory?!" Shang Xia wondered to himself.

In one of the entertainment venues in Star Origin City, Shang Xia and Feng Ziying sat close by as they watched a pretty female singer do her thing. Neither of them seemed to be interacting with each other on the surface.

"Didn't you say that you found those runes familiar? Have you seen a Star Observatory?" Shang Xia sent a voice transmission over while slowly placing his cup of tea down on the table. His head swayed slowly to the melody and he seemed to be fully immersed in her voice.

"Nope!" Feng Ziying didn't respond immediately. He only replied after carefully thinking about it for a moment. However, his expression was also one of intoxication as he watched the singer on stage.

"How is the familiar feeling from a Star Observatory connected to the tunes then?" Shang Xia narrowed his eyes as he questioned through voice transmission, but he seemed to be humming the song while enjoying it.

"Connection..." Feng Ziying seemed to have reached the peak of joy as he continued to listen to the song.

"Ahem... did you think of something?!" Shang Xia raised his teacup to take another sip and he mumbled.

"Oh! I thought of it! It's the Star Robe!" Feng Ziying replied while keeping his gaze on the female singer on stage. Despite the heightened emotions he was showing on the surface, his voice was unusually calm as he explained, "I once saw the Deputy Second Camp Commander, True Immortal Tian Moran, personally displaying the might of our Star Origin Guards' battle formation. When he activated the battle formation and the connection between the Star Robes were formed, all 7 of them seemed to be covered in starlight, greatly increasing their abilities. The runes that appeared during that time were extremely similar to the ones you showed me!"

"Are you sure?!" Shang Xia placed his cup down again and clapped his hands along to the melody while responding.

"Yeah!" Feng Ziying sounded extremely sure. He continued, "The squad I was in also used the battle formation back then and the Star Robe is truly able to draw over starlight to boost the user's abilities. Unfortunately, the Star Robe is only able to store a small amount of power and is far from the battle formation demonstrated by Tian Moran. Moreover, the runes that appeared when Tian Moran displayed the formation are nowhere to be seen..."

After piercing through the final veil, the confusion that Feng Ziying suffered due to the suppression of void qi was no longer present and he was able to recall everything in detail.

"Which means to say... The Formation Talisman Tong Yutang wants me to craft might be related to the Star Robes?" Shang Xia nodded as if in approval of the performance on stage before he continued transmitting his voice, "The problem here is... What is Tong Yutang's true goal?! According to the tradition of the Star Origin Guards, Tong Yutang should only be a mere ex-member!"

Feng Ziying shook his head to indicate that he also didn't know, but to others, he seemed to be lamenting the fact that the singer had to take her leave.

•••

When Shang Xia returned to the Starry Pavilion, he ran into someone clad in Star Robes.

Only after taking 2 steps did he realize that he ran into the Seventh Camp Commander, Xing Xingtian who had been described by Feng Ziying back then.

Perhaps it was because he learned that the talismans he had to craft were related to the Star Robes, but he paid special attention to them.

What also piqued Shang Xia's interest was that Feng Ziying once told him that Xing Xingtian was a Stargazer and his camp was in charge of the Star Observatory in the city!

It seemed as though things were getting more and more interesting!

Chapter 1080: The New Observation

After he returned to the Starry Pavilion, Zhou Mingdao received news of his return and brought another 5 sheets of rank six talisman paper and a new rank six ink stick.

"The Pavilion Master is elated after hearing that you managed to complete the talisman. Unfortunately, he's in seclusion after receiving new insights in his cultivation and is unable to meet anyone for the time being. He ordered me to fully support your efforts and you can inform me if you need anything else." Zhou Mingdao bowed respectfully.

To that, Shang Xia burst into laughter, "Pavilion Master Tong is too kind! I have to trouble Deputy Pavilion Master Zhou in the future then. However, I don't have any requests for the time being. As long as there is enough talisman paper, talisman ink, I'm good..."

Zhou Mingdao sighed with emotion, "True Immortal Little Shang is truly of noble character. I'm afraid if anyone else is in your place, they would have already requested a bunch of treasures... Sigh... Right, why am I even saying this..."

Zhou Mingdao knew that he had a slip of the tongue and quickly changed the topic.

Shang Xia felt like he caught something from what Zhou Mingdao said, but he simply chuckled and didn't say anything else.

After exchanging some pleasantries with Zhou Mingdao and speaking about several interesting matters he noticed in the city, he returned to the quiet chamber. He prepared to continue crafting rank six Formation Talismans.

With hidden thoughts filling his mind, the 11th year of the Spirit Luxuriant Calendar rolled about.

According to the agreement he made with Tong Yutang in the past, he needed to craft 7 talismans in total. He still needed to make 6 more.

After taking 3 days to adjust his condition, Shang Xia prepared to start his second attempt. With the experience of crafting it once before, the process was much smoother than before.

Even so, his sixth attempt... The first attempt after successfully crafting the first talisman... ended in failure.

Crafting talismans was an intricate task to begin with and the requirements were extremely high. Moreover, the talisman was of amazing quality, and the difficulty of making it was similarly high.

The acute precision needed to control one's essence qi, and the sudden depletion during the crafting process, along with the intense concentration needed... Even as a True Immortal, Shang Xia found it too taxing on himself.

Even with a divine brush, all his efforts would go to waste if he was just a little careless.

Fortunately, he had already been prepared to fail and he managed to calm himself quickly. After adjusting his mental state, he prepared for his next attempt and quickly started his seventh try. This time, he failed after completing a good 50 percent of the talisman.

Making mistakes halfway and failing due to some minor problems was the most devastating way to mess up. Fortunately, he was no newbie Talisman Grandmaster and after rearranging his thoughts, he returned to his peak state after 6 days.

Along with his eighth attempt, everything went smoothly and he didn't mess up too badly during the process. He managed to craft the second talisman required.

Emerging from seclusion, Zhou Mingdao, who heard the news, quickly ran over to greet him. However, he found it strange that Shang Xia emerged so much quicker than before.

"True Immortal Little Shang, this..." Zhou Mingdao asked with a trace of suspicion. He was worried that Shang Xia failed 5 times in a row and had to emerge from seclusion because he had no other choice.

Even though he received orders from Tong Yutang to support Shang Xia with everything they had as long as he was able to craft 7 talismans, he would still feel a little heartache if Shang Xia destroyed 5 sheets of rank six talisman paper without succeeding once.

After all, those were rank six talisman papers they were talking about! The Starry Pavilion might be a behemoth when it came to resources, but they weren't able to waste so much rank six talisman paper like that!

Shang Xia chuckled softly in response before taking out another scroll under Zhou Mingdao's shocked gaze. "Fortunately, I managed to succeed once. I was pretty lucky and I completed it in 3 attempts. However, the talisman is still a little too complicated for me right now and I am not confident in crafting more with the remaining talisman paper. I planned to leave seclusion for the time being. Deputy Pavilion Master Zhou, I have to trouble you to replenish the talisman papers I used."

Zhou Mingdao carefully received the second Formation Talisman from Shang Xia before turning to look at the remaining talisman paper in the room. He inspected his surroundings before muttering softly, "True Immortal Little Shang, there's no need to worry. I'll replenish them immediately!"

Shang Xia didn't think that Zhou Mingdao would mess with him and after watching him leave, Shang Xia also decided to return to the Spirit Luxuriant World for some time.

The Spirit Luxuriant World established themselves on the Star Beast Nest and started coming into contact with the Spirit Faith World for a good half a year at that point, and the spatial gate leading to the Star Beast Nest had already been shifted by the many Formation Grandmasters of the Spirit Luxuriant World to one of the floating continents outside the heavenly screen while laying down heavy protection around it.

Even though some time had passed, the Spirit Faith World clearly hadn't let down their guards. However, the interaction between both worlds had increased in intensity and both sides were already starting to trade rank five spiritual treasures with each other. They also managed to obtain precious treasures not seen in each other's world during the process.

..

After secretly returning to the institution, Shang Xia didn't discover Kou Chongxue's presence. In fact, he didn't even notice a trace of the old man's clone!

"Don't tell me this old fellow ran away again..." Shang Xia mumbled to himself while mocking Kou Chongxue. However, he understood that Kou Chongxue wouldn't be so irresponsible. If he wasn't able to find Kou Chongxue in the institution, that could only mean that the patriarch was hiding in the Tongyou Elysium.

His return didn't alarm anyone and he simply sent a voice transmission to the deputy patriarchs as a quick greeting before entering the Elysium.

By then, Chu Jia had already started planning for the rank six formation that would cover the Tongyou Institution and the Tongyou Elysium.

However, her current skills were only at the peak of a rank five Formation Grandmaster. Even though she had the qualifications to lay down a rank six formation with the Five Element Ring that was already a Formation Divine Weapon, the scale required to cover the Tongyou Institution and the Elysium wasn't something she could complete in a short time. Taking tens of years wouldn't be surprising.

Shang Xia didn't see Chu jia, and he thought that she should probably be taking charge of the Formation Hall to lay down the foundations of the rank six formation. As such, he was in no rush to look for her. What he was more interested in was what Kou Chongxue was doing in the Tongyou Elysium.

As soon as he stepped into the Tongyou Elysium, he was discovered by Kou Chongxue.

"Huh? Why are you back now? Did you complete the talismans the Starry Pavilion requested?" Kou Chongxue asked with slight confusion. "Didn't you say that the inheritance is pretty strange and it wouldn't be easy to craft?"

Shang Xia appeared beside Kou Chongxue the next second and his gaze landed on the Heaven Supporting Jade Pillar that was a Star Observatory!

"Wait? There are 2 of them? They can already make use of the Star Observatory?" Shang Xia didn't answer Kou Chongxue's question and he instinctively sent his divine soul over to the Star Observatory. He could feel the power of starlight gathering and he questioned, "Aren't we being a little too hasty?"

"We already have 2 rank three Astronomers! Moreover, they even managed to discover something!" Kou Chongxue chuckled in amusement.

"Oh? What did they find?" Shang Xia's interest was piqued instantly.