

## The Heavens 1201

Chapter 1201: The Fourth Technique, Void Seal!

The reason Shang Xia chose to fight 2 rank six Star Beasts at once was to test out his Six Harmony Rod Technique. He planned to use the first 3 moves in order to prepare to unleash the fourth! Of course, he was confident he would be able to take them down regardless of whether he could complete his Rod Technique or not.

In the time he spent in seclusion, he came up with a general idea of what his fourth strike should be. The fastest way to test out his ideas and technique would be through real combat!

Those rank six Star Beasts weren't weaklings that had just reached their current level. In terms of cultivation level, one could be compared to a second tier True Immortal while the other was comparable to a third tier True Immortal.

Taking their natural talent into consideration, they should be able to fight off multiple cultivators at the same level. If they ran into experts who had weaker foundations, fighting 5 to 7 of them off wouldn't be a problem.

That was why the True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World felt that they would be required to take action even though Shang Xia had already become a high-level True Immortal.

Also... Even after understanding the reason behind the Tongyou Institution's decision to take on the Star Beast pack alone, the other True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World still had some level of grievances.

That was a reason why they were prepared to interfere in the battle after some time no matter if Shang Xia had the upper hand or was starting to fall to a disadvantage. With their collective strength, they weren't afraid of the situation turning worse. What they wanted to do was to take the opportunity to vent their frustrations while also making Shang Xia owe them a favor if possible.

Of course, the prerequisite to doing something like that was for Shang Xia to be unable to kill those rank six Star beasts immediately and allow the battle to drag on!

The True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World felt that no matter how strong Shang Xia was, it wasn't possible for him to accomplish such a feat.

Reality slapped them all in the face.

Not only was Shang Xia able to kill the rank six Star Beasts quickly, he even displayed a might that frightened everyone observing the battle.

When he started swinging his Stone Rod earlier, Shang Xia unleashed multiple moves. He used Harmonizing Continent, Starry Disorder, and Void Emptiness to send them flying while dealing heavy injuries.

Of his technique, Harmonizing Continent was perfect when it came to head-on conflicts as it was based on raw strength. After Shang Xia reached the fourth tier and could control everything in the You Continent with a single thought, he was able to draw on a terrifying amount of energy. Harmonizing Continent far outranked the other techniques in terms of pure might.

It was the move that sent both Star Beast flying earlier.

His second move, Starry Disorder, could adapt to any sort of situation. It was a move that allowed Shang Xia, who trained in so many different techniques during his cultivation journey, to combine the speed and precision of everything he knew. Facing 2 Star Beasts at once, he was able to fight them off easily.

As for his third move, Void Emptiness... It capitalized on his opponent's weakness and was mostly used to deal the finishing blow.

Against cultivators of the same level, it mainly dealt with their domains. The moment a True Immortal's domain was broken, they wouldn't be able to remain calm no matter their cultivation level. Void Emptiness was the reason Shang Xia was able to fight against Wen Juxiang despite their difference in cultivation levels.

Stopping the Star Beasts charge with Harmonizing Continent, resisting their attacks, and messing up their tempo with Starry Disorder, before using Void Emptiness to counterattack, Shang Xia caused massive damage to both of them.

However... It wasn't enough to take them out. The Star Beasts relied on their overwhelmingly strong life force to withstand Shang Xia's assault and that was what the True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World observed initially.

Clearly, Shang Xia needed a surefire way to end the battle quickly.

Pulling out the fourth move of his Six Harmony Rod Technique from his arsenal of moves, Shang Xia dealt the final blow.

The fourth move of his Six Harmony Rod Technique, Void Seal!

While he was fighting the beasts earlier, he extended his divine soul to its maximum range. It covered the battlefield, fully enveloping the Star Beast pack and the Star Ships of the various factions.

As soon as he unleashed Void Seal, everything covered in his divine soul froze. It was as if they had been locked in place!

Everything might have happened in a split second, and Shang Xia was unable to sustain Void Seal for a long time, but a moment was all he required. It was more than enough to slam his Stone Rod into the foreheads of the rank six Star Beasts that couldn't put up any resistance.

By the time the flow of space returned to normal, the life force of the rank six Star Beasts had been extinguished.

Even though the Star Beast pack might not understand what had happened, they knew what it meant after they could no longer feel the existence of their leaders. They tried to escape without a second thought.

The high-level experts of the various powers quickly recovered, and they discovered what happened when they were sealed for that very short moment.

Even though a bunch of them reacted quickly and went to hunt down the fleeing beasts to obtain pretty commendable loot from the battle, most of them weren't really paying attention when they attacked. The only reason they managed to kill the Star Beasts they did was because the beasts were also no longer putting up resistance and were fleeing for their lives.

Anyone who felt what happened earlier, including those from the Tongyou Institution, couldn't shake the feeling of helplessness when they were frozen earlier. No one liked the feeling where they couldn't move their body and when their fate was in the hands of outsiders.

Shang Xia, who was standing in the middle of the battlefield, could clearly feel the complicated gazes landing on him.

"Heh... A fourth tier True Immortal at the level of Dao Harmony... High-level True Immortal..." Zhang Xuansheng grunted once before his figure started to blur. It didn't take long before he disappeared from his spot above the heavenly screen.

The other True Immortals also took their leave.

After Shang Xia slayed the 2 rank six Star Beasts, the Star Beast invasion came to an end. There was no doubt about the outcome of the battle even if continued to rage on.

In the void, Shang Xia turned to look at the region above the heavenly screen of the Jiao Continent and a cryptic smile flashed across his face.

Chapter 1202: Limitations

After killing the rank six Star Beasts, Shang Xia didn't bother staying around as he brought their corpses back to the Tongyou Institution. He headed to the Star Observatory to hand Xin Lu and Yuan Qiuyuan what he obtained from the beasts.

After he passed it to them, he asked, "Take a look at these and tell me what they are?"

Other than the skins of the beasts, Shang Xia obtained the eyes of a rank six Star Beasts that turned into massive crystals bigger than his fists that were sparkling softly. They looked pretty strange.

From the other Star beast, Shang Xia obtained a cord-like treasure that was made from several golden strands intertwined with each other. It was also sparkling with soft starlight. It came from the feelers of the Star Beast and contained its essence after it died.

Xin Lu covered her lips before chuckling softly. She couldn't help but be attracted to the treasures as she carefully played with the crystal eyeballs.

Yuan Qiuyuan was also slightly embarrassed as he revealed an expression of helplessness.

Shang Xia couldn't help but frown. "What's the matter?"

Scratching his head, Yuan Qiuyuan mumbled, "Martial Uncle Shang, we were thinking of using the Star Essence Core of the Star Beast to create Star Artifacts, but we forgot that we are merely Stargazers... Even if we used the Star Essence Core of rank six Star Beasts to craft Star Artifacts, we won't be able to use them!"

Finally, Xin Lu couldn't contain her laughter and she burst out with uncontrollable laughter.

Shang Xia slapped his forehead instinctively. It was something he should have thought of, but with the threat of the invasion looming above their heads, none of them thought that far.

Eventually, Shang Xia sighed softly and asked, "I'll pass down the order for them to gather the Star Essence Core of lower ranked Star Beasts. Anyway, explain to me what a Star Artifact is. Also... Where's Yan Ming?"

Shang Xia glanced across the Star Observatory and realized that he couldn't find her anywhere. Even after covering it with his divine soul, he couldn't feel her aura.

Xin Lu explained, "Young Lady Yan Ming joined the battle with the rest. She probably hasn't come back..."

A frown appeared on Shang Xia's face. When he was in the middle of the battlefield earlier, he didn't notice that she took part in the battle due to the many Star Ships and experts present. He actually intended for her to remain in the Star Observatory to assist them in tracking the whereabouts of the Star Beast Nest. No matter what, she was an Astronomer and every bit helps.

Yuan Qiuyuan didn't notice the strange expression on Shang Xia's face and he simply replied to Shang Xia's original question. "A Star Artifact is a special tool used by Stargazers and it's similar to a Formation Divine Artifact. It's just that Star Artifacts are a little too niche and many Stargazers might not have even heard of one..."

Shang Xia waved to interrupt him. "Well, I'm afraid you won't have a chance to use one anytime soon then. Our Weapons Hall... Never mind, there's no point talking about them now. We should try to find a way to contact the Hundred Weapons Mill. Right, is the method of crafting Star Artifacts recorded in the inheritance?"

"Yes. But... If we look for the Hundred Weapons Mill, we will have to share the crafting method..." Yuan Qiuyuan mumbled.

Grunting helplessly, Shang Xia decided not to bother himself with the problem and he simply sighed, "Go think of something yourself then."

Despite being slightly annoyed, he was thinking about how pressing it was for the Tongyou Institution to find their own Blacksmith Grandmaster.

The Weapons Hall of the Tongyou Institution had turned into a laughing stock, but it wasn't as though they were a complete waste of resources. At the very least, the quality of the Spatial Artifacts they produced was pretty good. It was especially so for the larger Spatial Pouches. Not only had they been well received in the Spirit Luxuriant World, but other worlds also managed to get their hands on it through some channels in Star Origin City. Through the sale of Spatial Pouches, the Tongyou Institution managed to obtain high-level treasures and essence crystals...

Watching the 2 Star Essence Core flickering softly in their hands, Shang Xia couldn't help but remind the 2 of them, "We need to quickly locate the Star Beast Nest. We can't forget that we're not the only ones in the Spirit Luxuriant World with a Star Observatory and Stargazers..."

Xin Lu and Yuan Qiuyuan could hear the displeasure in Shang Xia's tone and they quickly placed the Star Essence Cores down.

Shang Xia could pretty much guess why they were in no rush to track the beasts. He could tell they also knew that the Heavenly Star Palace wouldn't fight with the Tongyou Institution for the Star Beast Nest even if they could track the beasts, but he had to push them a little regardless.

Not too long later, spatial fluctuations appeared close by as Yan Ming returned.

Raising an eyebrow, Shang Xia mumbled, "Wait... You're back already?"

Yan Ming looked at Xin Lu and Yuan Qiuyuan who were already getting busy before glancing at the Star Essence Cores. “Basically all the Star Beasts had been killed and all that’s left is to split up the spoils... There’s nothing for me to do up there and I came back first. After all, I should be able to help them locate the Star Beast Nest.”

Shang Xia frowned. “Did you really have to take part in the battle? You could have remained here to help them in the first place...”

Compared to the tone he took with Xin Lu and Yuan Qiuyuan, he was a lot more casual when speaking to Yan Ming.

Glancing at Shang Xia, Yan Ming snorted, “I’m not a cultivator with no aspirations! Anyway, the institution doesn’t feed idlers! Even if it’s to look for my own opportunities, or to obtain benefits for the institution so I will be rewarded... I had to take part in the battle for a chance to obtain a chance to refine my third fate dipper. If I remain here, when will an Astronomer like me save up enough merits to obtain an Origin Dipper? Moreover... Refining a fate dipper is a matter of extreme importance. Do you know how difficult it is to find one that suits me?”

Shang Xia was slightly taken aback as he truly hadn’t considered things like that. He felt a trace of embarrassment.

Speaking of which, the idea of refining a suitable fate dipper that had spread in the institution was also thanks to Shang Xia.

After entering the Five Element Realm back then, Shang Xia’s ideology about the five elements and balance between one’s fate dippers had been widely accepted in the institution.

Those who followed his method were able to keep a good balance between their fate dippers and the impact to their combat abilities was also obvious. As such, the experts of the Tongyou Institution have been learning towards refining fate dippers of the 5 elements.

In recent years, the Tongyou Institution has been gathering fate dipper essence of the 5 elements. Unfortunately, they only managed to slightly narrow down the choices of Origin Dippers one could refine.

Along with the rise of the Tongyou Institution, they had more and more experts capable of breaking through to the Martial Dipper Realm. After they advanced, they continued to grow stronger and they required more Origin Dippers as they grew stronger. The institution had already reached its limit when providing Origin Dippers and they had run low on resources.

Of course, that was only because of the number of experts they were producing. Compared to other factions, the Tongyou Institution could be considered a factory at churning out Martial Dipper Realm experts.

As a whole, the Spirit Luxuriant World was still unable to produce enough Origin Dippers to meet the demands of their experts even after it completed its world ascension.

Shang Xia thought for a moment before asking, “How many cultivators in our institution require Origin Dippers but can’t get one?”

Chapter 1203: Spirit Chime Stone

“How many cultivators in our institution require Origin Dippers but can’t get one?”

Yan Ming thought for a moment before sighing in a low voice, “There aren’t too many who require one immediately. Probably 2 or 3 of them are waiting for an Origin Dipper to be produced. I should have done enough to be rewarded with another one, and almost everyone would be gathering merits in order to prepare for their future. If they reach the peak of their current level and can’t obtain Origin Dippers due to their lack of contributions, they can only wait helplessly.”

Shang Xia nodded with a look of deep contemplation before he continued, “After I left, what happened on the battlefield? How were the corpses and loot split?”

Yan Ming thought for some time before responding, “By the time I left, the last of the Star Beasts had already been killed. More than a third of the pack had been slain by us and naturally, the corpses of those Star Beasts belong to us. A good half of the remaining Star Beasts were killed by the experts who came after and we worked together with some other great powers to end the rest. That’s where it becomes difficult to split the gains. When I left, Instructor Ge and Instructor Sun were negotiating with the other great powers. Well... Those Star Beasts that were killed without our involvement aren’t really our problem anyway...”

“Let’s trade some of the resources we obtained from the Star Beasts for Star Essence Cores with the other powers or with other worlds in Star Origin City...” Shang Xia mentioned after thinking for some time.

Yan Ming was taken aback and wanted to say more, but she swallowed her words before they could leave her lips.

Shang Xia waved his hand casually and muttered, “The most important thing is to locate the Star Beast Nest. You should quickly assist Xin Lu and Yuan Qiuyuan as there might be another batch of high-grade treasures located within. After all... This pack is a lot stronger than the pack of Star Beasts that was attracted by the Heavenly Star Palace back then.”

After he spoke, he wanted to turn to leave. However, he looked at the pool of Star Essence Liquid beneath the Starry Tree for some time. He saw the tree that was the height of a man swaying softly with a cape-like treasure hanging on it. The cape-like treasure was sparkling with starlight.

“Golden Crow Blood, Emperor Flow Liquid... With Star Essence Liquid, can we really create a weakened version of the Triple Divine Light Water?” Shang Xia muttered to himself before finally vanishing from the Star Observatory.

He understood that if he continued to remain in the Star Observatory, he would be placing too much pressure on Yuan Qiuyuan. Well... His presence didn’t really bother Xin Lu, but the same couldn’t be said for the young Stargazer of the Tongyou Institution.

When Shang Xia returned from the battle, Yin Jingxu was quickly hurrying the Stargazers of the Heavenly Star Palace to track the location of the Star Beast Nest.

Yi Jingzi, the third Stargazer of the Heavenly Star Palace who returned from the Star Beast Nest. Huang Jinghan had been stationed in, was one of the few experts who had the qualifications to speak to Yin Jingxu directly.

“Martial Uncle, even if we manage to locate the Star Beast Nest before the Tongyou Institution, are we really going to try to take control of it under True Immortal Shang Xia’s nose?” Yi Jingzi asked.

Clearly, she knew that even if they located the Star Beast Nest before the Tongyou Institution, it would be useless.

Yin Jingxu glanced at her and mumbled, “Are you sure the Stargazer of the Tongyou Institution will be able to locate the Star Beast Nest? Moreover...”

“Palace Master!”

Before he could finish, he was interrupted by Stargazer Tang Yu. “When we tried to locate the Star Beast Nest by backtracking the spatial tunnel, we were interrupted!”

Yin Jingxu gasped before growling softly, “Did the Stargazer from the Tongyou Institution make a move? Hmph, perfect timing. Use this chance to show them our might!”

After speaking, Yin Jingxu noticed a strange expression on Tang Yu’s face and heard the Stargazer mutter, “Palace Master, they don’t seem to be the Tongyou Institution...”

“Huh?” Yin Jingxu looked at him in shock.

“Palace Master, the disturbance is extremely intense and we’re basically forced to stop tracking the location of the Star Beast Nest. The method the other side is using is far superior to us and I can’t believe how powerful they are!” Tang Yu frowned and mumbled.

With a tight frown locked on his face, Yin Jingxu asked, “Do you mean... That a Grand Stargazer is interfering with your search? Where the hell did the Tongyou Institution find a Grand Stargazer?”

Stuttering with unease, Tang Yu mumbled, “This... Perhaps... Perhaps the Tongyou Institution isn’t behind this?”

Yin Jingxu widened his eyes in shock before grunting softly, “Try to interact with the other party and ask about their identity.”

Yin Jingxu was an Astronomer himself, and it used to be very likely for him to be able to become a Stargazer.

Unfortunately, with his cultivation rising in recent years, he slackened off when it came to the art of observing the stars. He was still a rank three Astronomer, but he had a certain understanding of their ways.

Yi Jingzi interjected suddenly, “The other party said that he’s Xiao Shengyi of the Star Origin City and requested that we give up tracking this Star Beast Nest. He will also send experts of the Star Origin City to explain his considerations.”

Yin Jingxu felt that something was off and he mumbled with unease, “They probably thought we attracted the Star Beast pack to look for its nest!”

“There’s nothing strange about that. After all, no one knows that our Spirit Luxuriant World had another faction with a Stargazer inheritance that had the ability to do the same...” Yi Jingzi sighed.

After a moment of silence, Yi Jingzi asked, “How should we respond? Should we inform them that we’re not the Tongyou Institution?”

Before Yin Jingxu could say anything, his expression changed and he turned to look outside the heavenly screen.

“They’re really fast...”

Turning to Yi Jingzi, he mumbled, “There’s no need to tell them anything. They are already here. From the looks of it, more waves are going to rise...”

After he spoke, he disappeared from the Star Observatory.

...

At the same time, Star Ships started to return with their spoils of battle.

Yin Jingxu hurried over to the Three Unity Island and saw Xing Xingtian waiting for him.

Abiding by the rules of Star Origin City and the Spirit Luxuriant World, even though Xing Xingtian rushed over without informing the Spirit Luxuriant World, he didn’t leave the island. The True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World didn’t see him as a threat and merely sent someone over to take a look.

Seeing Yin Jingxu, Xing Xingtian smiled and cupped his fists respectfully. “The Star Beast pack has been eliminated and from the looks of it, your Spirit Luxuriant World gained a lot. I believe your Heavenly Star Palace definitely gained a bulk of the treasures.”

Hearing Xing Xingtian’s praise, Yin Jingxu sighed but didn’t mention anything related to the Star Beast pack. Instead, he questioned, “I wonder what brings you here?”

The moment Yin Jingxu saw Xing Xingtian, he understood that there had to be a secret involved in whatever they were doing. However, he didn’t mention anything about the Tongyou Institution having their own Star Observatory yet as he wanted to probe out more information from Xing Xingtian.

“Let’s walk and talk. Speaking of which, I haven’t left Star Origin City for a long time and I have long since heard of your Heavenly Star Palace’s Star Observatory. I apologize for intruding, but I hope Palace Master Yin can bring me around your Star Observatory and allow me to widen my horizons.” Xing Xingtian chuckled.

“Camp Commander Xing, you’re joking... How can my Star Observatory be compared to the Star Observatory in Star Origin City? We’re just a little fry in front of you guys and we’re not worth mentioning at all!” Even though that was what Yin Jingxu was saying, he didn’t dare to force Xing Xingtian to remain in Three Unity Island. He simply gestured for the Camp Commander to follow him before flying slowly towards the Spirit Luxuriant World.



While they were making their way over, Yin Jingxu asked, “I wonder what’s the reason behind Grandmaster Xiao’s message? I am extremely confused now and I hope Camp Commander Xing can enlighten me...”

At the side, Xing Xingtian sighed, “It’s nothing much... It’s just that the star curtain has been weakened and the discovery of every Star Beast Nest might cause this region of space containing our Star Origin Dao Field and all your worlds to be exposed to the vast sea of stars and attract unwanted troubles.”

“Star curtain?” Yin Jingxu raised an eyebrow.

Since he heard from Shang Xia about the Star Origin Dao Field’s plan to exploit the various worlds, he felt extremely uneasy with how Xing Xingtian was making it seem like they wanted to protect the various worlds connected to them.

Naturally, he concealed what he heard from Xing Xingtian.

Chuckling softly, Xing Xingtian didn’t say anymore. Instead, he continued to saunter in front of Yin Jingxu before entering the spatial tunnel that led to the Spirit Luxuriant World from Three Unity Island.

Yin Jingxu quickly followed behind him, but his gaze was suddenly attracted to several Star Ships that were returning and he sighed to himself. He wanted to shift Xing Xingtian’s attention away, but Xing Xingtian was the first to speak. “From the looks of it, the Star Beast pack you killed was pretty large... Every Star Ship is carrying a lot of treasure...”

Yin Jingxu forced a chuckle and wanted to change the topic again, but Xing Xingtian grunted in a strange tone, “Huh? Why are the Star Ships flying to another part of the heavenly screen?”

...

After Shang Xia left the Tongyou Elysium, he ran into the Star Ships returning and noticed that almost all of them contained the gains they received after killing the Star Beast pack.

The Spirit Luxuriant World only learned of how valuable treasures obtained from the corpses of those beasts were a long time after the first Star Beast Invasion.

After a Star Beast was killed, other than their skin that could be used to create super large Spatial Pouches and their Star Essence Core, their bodies would usually turn to stone.

The various factions of the Spirit Luxuriant World didn’t know the use of their petrified corpse, but the Stargazers of the Heavenly Star Palace eventually noticed that those corpses were great material to create Star Observatories due to their superior ability to attract starlight.

After they discovered the Star Beast Nest, they realized that if they were to break everything down, they would be able to use the fragments and whatever was contained within to build a Star Observatory.

They also discovered those petrified corpses were extremely suitable when it came to laying down formations.

It was a pity they discovered it too late. The spirits stored in the petrified corpses had already dissipated and they were useless. They also learned that those petrified corpses were called Spirit Chime Stones, and the Star Beast nest also contained a bunch of them. Not only did the Star Beast

Nest nurture treasures, they could also ensure the spirituality in those Spirit Chime Stones didn't dissipate.

The Star Beast pack that came to invade the Spirit Luxuriant World was basically free treasure delivery, and the Tongyou Institution benefited the most from it. In fact, most of their Star Ships contained the petrified stone corpses of those beasts.

Chapter 1204: Clone With Increasing Cultivation Realm

Shang Xia looked at the Star Ships returning and saw that most of them contained Spirit Nurturing Stones.

“What are you looking at?” Someone asked suddenly.

Anyone who could notice Shang Xia's presence was naturally in the Martial Dipper Realm or higher.

A figure emerged from one of the Star Ships and flew directly to Shang Xia's side. It was the person who spoke earlier, and it was none other than Chu Jia.

Raising an eyebrow, Shang Xia muttered in a strange voice, “You took part in the battle too? You don't have to, you know?”

The smile on Chu Jia's face disappeared suddenly and she pouted while grumbling in a low voice, “What do you mean by that?! Are you looking down on me?”

Shang Xia waved his hand casually and noticed the sudden change in her mood. He decided to probe her intentions. “Were you also there to gain more merits so that you can be rewarded by the institution to obtain fate dipper essences? Hmm... After you complete the rank six grand formation around our institution, there shouldn't be anyone rivaling your achievements, right?”

Chu Jia was the second expert in the Tongyou Institution who entered the Martial Dipper Realm by refining all her fate dippers simultaneously. As such, Shang Xia was extremely sensitive to the change in her aura. Also, she didn't bother concealing her cultivation in front of Shang Xia...

After entering the Martial Dipper Realm, Chu Jia also chose to address it the same way as Shang Xia as the Five Element Realm.

Compared to the experts of the institution in the same batch as Shang Xia who broke through to the Martial Dipper Realm or higher, Chu Jia seemed to have broken through a little later.

However, that didn't mean that she was weaker. Due to her immense knowledge of the Five Element Formations she had strong foundations even before breaking through to the Five Element Realm. Since the time she broke through, her cultivation soared rapidly.

... Chu Jia might be able to hide the extent of her cultivation from others, but there was no chance she was fooling Shang Xia.

He could tell that she had refined a total of 25 fate dipper essences, which made her comparable to a second element Martial Dipper Realm expert who was on her way to the next level.

She was already as strong as Yan Ming, if not stronger.

Of course, pure cultivation wasn't enough to evaluate Chu Jia's strength. She was also a rank five Formation Grandmaster and since she could use all 5 elements, she was able to do what ordinary rank five Formation Grandmasters couldn't.

For example, she was able to pry through the doors of what a rank six Formation Grandmaster could do, which was something she never imagined.

...

Despite being tilted at Shang Xia's question, she deflated like a balloon.

"You're more familiar with the Five Element Realm than me... Every time I wish to complete a full cycle, I would need to gather 5 fate dipper essences corresponding to the ones I already refined. It's fine if I only need to locate one of them, but gathering a complete set is extremely difficult! You also mentioned the Yin Yang alignment of the fate dipper essences I had to refine when I first stepped into the Five Element Realm, making it even more difficult to find! Even if there are several fate dipper essences of the element, I might not be able to use them..."

Chu Jia quickly started grumbling and voicing her grievances.

Shang Xia couldn't help but chuckle, "What's the matter? Are you regretting using my method to step into the Five Element Realm?"

Suddenly rolling her eyes at him, Chu Jia pouted, "Of course not... I'm just here to tell you... Hmm... When the Stargazers locate the Star Beast Nest, you have to gather a bunch of suitable fate dipper essences for me!"

"That's not a problem at all..." Shang Xia raised his eyebrow and mumbled softly. He seemed to have thought of something the next moment and asked, "What's the matter? Are there a lot of cultivators in the institution who cannot progress in the Martial Dipper Realm due to the lack of resources?"

After thinking a little, Chu Jia replied, "Actually, there are many who have reached the large completion, or even grand completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm who cannot break through due to the lack of resources..."

Nodding slowly, Shang Xia continued, "Right, I'll keep that in mind... Anyway, those Spirit Chime Stones that were obtained from the corpses of the Star Beasts... Can they hasten the speed at which our grand formation is completed?"

Shang Xia understood that Chu Jia's achievements in the dao of formations had already reached an impressive level. All she needed was an opportunity to take the final step to become a rank six Formation Grandmaster. Of course, in order to become a rank six Formation Grandmaster, she would have to complete the Tongyou Institution's rank six grand formation.

After becoming a rank six Formation Grandmaster, she would be able to retrieve the Five Element Ring from the rank six grand formation without affecting its operations.

Chu Jia simply gestured with open palms and sighed, "It might speed up the process, but a good portion of those Spirit Chime Stones should be used on the Essence Refining Void Returning Formation."

Shang Xia frowned but no longer said anything related to the formation. Instead, he changed the topic back to the fate dipper essences Chu Jia needed. "Which type of fate dipper essence do you require anyway?"

"I'm only lacking a single fire element fate dipper essence to complete the fifth set. I lack a fire element and wood element fate dipper essence to complete the sixth set of fate dipper elements, and the same for my seventh set. As long as I can find 3 fire element fate dipper essences and 2 wood element fate dipper essences, I am confident I can complete my seventh cycle of refinement!" Chu Jia mumbled casually.

Shang Xia's eyelids started to twitch and he suddenly no longer felt like talking to her.

Who the hell refines so many sets of fate dipper essences at the same time?! She already gathered so many...

Turning around, he wanted to just leave Chu Jia who was staring at him with a crafty smile.

All of a sudden, a streak of starlight rushed out of the heavenly screen above the You Continent.

"Oh? Looks like they found it?" Shang Xia gasped.

As he was about to leave, he raised his head to look in the south. He seemed to have felt something strange, and he decided to leave behind a clone before he left.

"What's the matter?" Chu Jia asked. She understood Shang Xia well and knew what his change in expression meant.

Shang Xia shook his head and muttered, "If anyone comes knocking, get my clone to meet them in my stead. You should head back to the grand formation and prepare to control the Five Element Ring before I get back."

Chu Jia knew that something definitely happened and she quickly rushed back to the formation core in the Tongyou Institution.

Shang Xia's true body also disappeared the next moment as he reappeared in the Star Observatory.

The moment he arrived, he asked, "Did you locate the Star Beast Nest?"

"We did." Yuan Qiuyuan replied, and there was a look of excitement on his face. However, he seemed to have thought of something and he muttered, "There's something strange about this though. There seemed to be other Stargazers who noticed our actions."

Before anyone realized, Yuan Qiuyuan seemed to have already taken charge of the Star Observatory.

"Are they the Heavenly Star Palace?" Shang Xia frowned. Even though that was the question he asked, he seemed to already have an answer in mind.

“No, it’s not them.” Yuan Qiuyuan replied. “Initially, the Heavenly Star Palace tried to look for the Star Beast Nest, but we were a little faster than them. Strangely enough, they were interrupted by some other people and those who stopped them are definitely stronger than the Heavenly Star Palace...”

Shang Xia’s eyelids twitched and he stared at Xin Lu. He continued to ask again, “Did those who stopped the Heavenly Star Palace try to interfere with us?”

Yuan Qiuyuan also mumbled curiously, “That’s where things are getting strange. With their abilities, they definitely noticed us after stopping the Heavenly Star Palace. However, the other side didn’t do anything and acted as though they didn’t see what we were doing.”

Shang Xia chuckled softly and wanted to say more, but Xin Lu interjected, “The other party should be from the Star Origin City. The reason they didn’t stop us was probably because Senior Brother Xiao noticed who we were...”

Xin Lu’s explanation shocked Yuan Qiuyuan, but Shang Xia wasn’t surprised. That was because before he rushed to the Star Observatory in the Tongyou Elysium, he already noticed Xing Xingtian who had arrived on Three Unity Island.

“Alright, we shouldn’t waste any more time. Indicate which way I have to go and we’ll talk after I return.” Shang Xia muttered. He could guess what Xing Xingtian wanted to achieve and even though he didn’t wish to mess with the Star Origin Guards yet, he could still pretend as though he didn’t know what they wanted to say and head out first. After all, Xing Xingtian couldn’t blame him since he didn’t know.

After all... Shang Xia, who had already become a high-level True Immortal, had the qualifications to negotiate with the Star Origin Guards.

...

Following the guidance of starlight Yuan Qiuyuan and Xin Lu created, Shang Xia successfully located the spatial tunnel the Star Beast pack created. With traces left behind, he was able to muck around and still locate where their nest was.

“Protect this stream of light... It will make my return easier.” Shang Xia left behind a single transmission for Xin Lu and the rest before stepping into the spatial tunnel.

At the same time, Xing Xingtian’s arrival alerted the True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World. Many of the higher-ups of the various powers could also guess that Xing Xingtian’s arrival had something to do with the Star Beast invasion.

A transmission to gather the various True Immortals quickly arrived, and it eventually landed in Shang Xia’s clone’s hands.

Looking above the heavenly screen, Shang Xia’s clone chuckled to himself before heading over.

By the time he arrived, almost everyone had arrived. Xing Xingtian looked at Shang Xia’s clone with a strange gaze.

He wasn’t the only one as the others also looked at Shang Xia in a weird way.

“Looks like Camp Commander Xing came... I came a little late... Apologies...” Shang Xia cupped his fists respectfully as soon as he arrived. He also ignored the strange gazes on him.

Xing Xingtian hastily returned the greeting before asking curiously, “I have long since heard of True Immortal Little Shang’s reputation. Now... I am no longer the Seventh Camp Commander. I am not the Second Camp Commander. It’s just that... True Immortal Little Shang, you seem very familiar. Have we met before?”

Shang Xia’s clone chuckled softly in response, “We haven’t met, but I also have a sense of familiarity with you. How can I not have heard of a Camp Commander of the Star Origin Guards?”

Both of them seemed to be old friends from the way they spoke to each other.

As they conversed, Lu Wuzi finally rushed over from the Bing Continent and when he arrived, his reaction was the same as the rest as he looked at Shang Xia. “True Immortal Little Shang, are you really a clone? Why does it seem like your cultivation is at the second tier of the Martial Void Realm? Can the cultivation level of clones also rise along with your own cultivation level?”

#### Chapter 1205: Xing Xingtian’s Revelation

After reaching the second tier of the Martial Void Realm, one would be able to split off a clone that contains a strand of their divine soul. The clone would possess strength at the Martial Void Realm, but that was it.

No matter how strong one became, they would be able to create more clones, but the cultivation of each clone wouldn’t change.

However... Shang Xia’s clone seemed to be different. He didn’t conceal his cultivation that was close to reaching the second tier of the Martial Void Realm, and it refreshed everything they knew about clones.

It was no wonder everyone looked at Shang Xia’s clone strangely when he first appeared.

If Lu Wuzi hadn’t asked the question and Shang Xia didn’t see how everyone reacted when he did, he would have thought that everyone had been plotting against him...

Huh?! Is that it? Is that why they were looking at me strangely? If not for the fact that I just entered the fourth tier and didn’t wish to overdo it, I would have created a clone in the second tier...

Shang Xia thought to himself.

Also, he felt that they would go crazy if they learned that he was able to create 3 clones before becoming a high-level True Immortal.

Of course, he still had to respond to Lu Wuzi’s question and he remained expressionless and he replied, “If one’s divine soul is strong enough and you can split off a greater portion, creating a second tier clone isn’t too difficult.”

Despite their many years of experience and hundreds of years of existence, they couldn’t control their expressions after hearing what he said.

Splitting off a larger portion of one’s divine soul... Why did the idea sound so crazy?

If it was truly that easy to split off one's divine soul, would clones that were only at the initial stage of the Martial Void Realm be what they usually created?

One had to know that the portion of divine soul that was split off was difficult to retrieve. Restoring one's lost divine soul was an arduous task and it would be difficult to cultivate while trying to recover. That was why after hearing Shang Xia's answer, Lu Wuzi quickly shook his head and no longer asked further. He turned to Xing Xingtian and gasped in shock, "Oh? Guards Commander Xing of the Star Origin Guards has come... Is there something you require us to do?"

Once again, another True Immortal that he never met managed to recognize him.

Xing Xingtian no longer bothered about the details and his expression returned to normal. "The reason I came was to meet True Immortal Shang and True Immortal Kou of the Tongyou Institution. Of course, I also wanted to meet the True Immortals of your Spirit Luxuriant World."

After he spoke, he turned to Shang Xia's clone and muttered, "True Immortal Shang, can you send your true body over? If it's not possible, it's also fine to send Patriarch Kou's true body over."

Shang Xia's clone maintained a smile on his face while responding, "Apologies. My true body has already left the Spirit Luxuriant World and no one knows where Patriarch Kou is. However, Patriarch Kou's clone is also in the institution and if you wish to meet him, I can call him over."

A frown appeared on Xing Xingtian's face as he mumbled, "Oh? Have you already left the Spirit Luxuriant World? If I may... Can I ask if your institution has already locked on to the position of the Star Beast Nest? Did your true body already head over?"

Shang Xia's clone didn't confirm or deny. Instead, he asked a question of his own, "True Immortal Xing, is there a reason for you to come all the way over to our Spirit Luxuriant World?"

From his response, Xing Xingtian knew that he was a step too late and he shot Shang Xia's clone a profound gaze before muttering, "It's nothing too important. Earlier, I gave the order for the Star Observatory in Star Origin City to interrupt the search for the Star Beast Nest, and I came here to explain the reason behind it."

"It's a shame I came a little too late and didn't expect your Spirit Luxuriant World to have 2 Star Observatories. I only cared about stopping the Stargazers of the Heavenly Star Palace and not your Tongyou Institution..." Xing Xingtian glanced at Yin Jingxu who had an awkward look on his face.

If not for Yin Jingxu trying to buy time while attempting to make contact with them, he might have been able to also notice the Tongyou Institution's attempt to locate the Star Beast Nest and stop them.

Alas... It was too late.

Shang Xia's clone gasped in shock while addressing Xing Xingtian again, "How important can it be for True Immortal Xing to head over personally to explain why you stopped us from locating the Star Beast Nest? It has only been several years since we experienced our last Star Beast invasion and located our first Star Beast Nest. The True Immortals of the Star Origin Guards didn't stop us back then..."

Xing Xingtian interrupted him before he could continue, “Since you managed to locate the Star Beast Nest, you should have also located several worlds along with it, right? Your Spirit Luxuriant World also managed to obtain great benefits which accelerated your growth... Am I wrong?”

Shang Xia’s clone looked at the True Immortals present before chuckling softly, “This isn’t a secret. When we brought back the continents from the world we located, we were even targeted by a malicious long-range attack that nearly took my life!”

Yang Taihe also interjected, “True Immortal Shang wasn’t lying. It was truly a dangerous situation back then. Also, those who launched the attack seemed to be extremely well-prepared... True Immortal Xing, is there a reason for you to bring that up now? Don’t tell us you were a part of those who launched the attack on us. Are you sent here on their behalf to tell us to give up on this Star Beast Nest?”

Yang Taihe clearly wanted to make use of the situation to turn the situation against Xing Xingtian. Since the interest of the Spirit Luxuriant World was at stake, everyone would have to side with Shang Xia on the matter.

Yang Taihe might have some selfish motives behind it, but no matter what, he was still protecting the bottom line of the Spirit Luxuriant World and resisting foreign interference in their actions.

Zhang Xuansheng also took a step forward to speak, “What True Immortal Yang asks is what is on our mind as well...”

With both of them speaking up, the True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World also started to agree.

Feeling the increasing animosity, Xing Xingtian didn’t get angry. Instead, he spoke calmly without aggravating the situation. “Please, all of you must have been mistaken. I didn’t come here to cause trouble. Instead, I’m here to tell all of you that along with the appearance of every Star Beast Nest, a weakness will appear in the region of space the Star Origin Dao Field and all your worlds lie in. The weakness might expose all of us and cause a large-scale invasion from other stronger worlds.”

The smile on Shang Xia’s clone’s face slowly disappeared, and it was replaced by something a little more serious. “Invasion from other stronger worlds? What stronger worlds are we talking about?”

Xing Xingtian sighed softly in response, “True Immortal Shang, there’s no need to ask questions you already know the answer to. Experts like True Immortal Wen Juxiang of the Essence Hong World have always been interested in your Spirit Luxuriant World. Also, for him to disappear suddenly... Heh, there is also the Essence Ming World. Those Essence Worlds are extremely clear about the strength of our Star Origin Dao Field. There are even stronger worlds out there... The moment they discover this region of space, they will definitely launch an all-out invasion...”

After he spoke, he looked at the expressions of disbelief and continued, “I understand that all of you failed to notice any danger when you discovered your first Star Beast Nest, and managed to obtain all the treasures there easily. However, that was a mere accident. Also... How do you know if there aren’t any stronger worlds related to the world you located back then?”

Xing Xingtian knew that he wouldn’t be able to easily convince them and he added, “Don’t tell me you think you’re the only world that experienced a Star Beast Invasion or have been the only ones to look for the Star Beast Nest?”



Finally, he caught everyone's attention with that.

“Speaking of which, I believe that all of you have noticed that even with the Spirit Abundance World's enmity with you guys, they have not launched an all-out invasion even once, right?” Xing Xingtian sighed, “Do you know why the real high-level experts of their worlds have been holding back? After all... If they took part in any one of the great battles that happened, your Spirit Luxuriant World would have long since fallen...”

Liu Jingsheng pondered suddenly, “Perhaps the high-level True Immortals of their world are Elysium True Immortals and they can't interfere even if they wanted to?”

Xing Xingtian burst out laughing suddenly. “The Spirit Abundance World has 9 great Elysiums and other than the Solitary Peak Heavenly Lake whose inheritance has basically been severed, you should be able to learn about any True Immortal there who aren't high-level True Immortals. However, I believe you guys aren't foolish enough to think that high-level True Immortals in the Spirit Abundance World will just remain in their Elysiums for hundreds of years without appearing, right?”

Even Kou Chongxue would emerge from the Tongyou Elysium from time to time, and even when Shang Xia broke through to the fourth tier of the Martial Dipper Realm, he didn't wish to use too much energy contained in the Elysium. He also emerged right after he was done...

It was clear that unless one was an Elysium True Immortal, they wouldn't stay in their Elysiums for too long.

Chapter 1206: Star Beast Nest and Profit

Li Jidao mumbled softly, “Do you mean to say that high-level True Immortals would usually remain in the Star Beast Nest they found?”

Xing Xingtian replied seriously, “To be more exact, they have no choice but to guard the Star Beast Nests they have located. They are the first line of defense against those terrifyingly strong worlds out there. The moment they leave, I believe the Spirit Abundance World's position would be revealed immediately!”

Xing Xingtian glanced at Liu Jingsheng suddenly and muttered, “If I'm not mistaken, the person guarding the first Star Beast Nest should be your junior brother, Huang Jinghan...”

Liu Jingsheng grunted once before he continued, “The Star Origin Guards' information channel is impressive indeed... It's indeed as you say.”

Xing Xingtian didn't care about what Liu Jingsheng implied and he nodded slowly in response, “You guys better pray that the world you offended isn't backed by any greater powers... It's best not to allow other worlds to invade the Star Beast Nest you have taken control of. If you truly fail to keep it safe, it would be best to destroy it completely and wipe out all traces of its connection to your world. You should prevent the position of your world from being exposed while being able to retreat safely...”

A light flashed in Liu Jingsheng's eyes. It seemed as though he had taken Xing Xingtian's advice to heart.

On the contrary, Lu Wuzi was feeling the pressure as unease started to set in. According to their agreement back then, he would be taking over Huang Jinghan to guard the Star Beast Nest.

Zhang Xuansheng, who hadn't said anything for some time, suddenly asked, "Since the high-level True Immortals of the Spirit Abundance World have been standing guard in the Star Beast Nests they located to prevent being invaded by other powerful worlds, why have we discovered many of them appearing around their worlds? Aren't they afraid of being invaded now?"

Xing Xingtian glanced at Zhang Xuansheng with a face full of shock and muttered, "True Immortal Zhang, you also have very impressive information sources..."

Smiling softly, Zhang Xuansheng ignored the praise.

Xing Xingtian eventually continued, "It's not difficult for them to head back. Like I said earlier, as long as they destroy the Star Beast Nest and hide all tracks of it in space, all they would lose is a Star Beast Nest and a platform to interact with higher-level worlds."

"Since they are willing to give up on the secret region they discovered, there has to be something even more important! True Immortal Xing, I believe you should be even more well-informed than us since you have the Star Origin Dao Field behind you. Why don't you share some pointers?" Yang Taihe questioned.

"True Immortal Yang, why are you so sure they found something more tempting than keeping the Star Beast Nest and not the fact that they were unable to withstand the invasion from stronger worlds?" Xing Xingtian asked in a strange tone.

An uncertain look flashed across Yang Taihe's eyes but he maintained his composure and continued to ask, "What could cause so many high-level True Immortals of the various worlds to come back at the same time then? Could they have been invaded at the same time, or is there actually another reason that they decided to return?"

A dark light flashed through Xing Xingtian's eyes and he growled, "True Immortal Yang, I don't know what you're implying, or what rumors you heard, but what I wish to tell you is that regardless of your intentions, blindly looking for Star Beast Nests is a dangerous operation that will endanger all of us. That's all I'm going to say and you're on your own."

Shang Xia's clone hadn't said anything since he arrived and had been closely observing the conversation.

It wasn't that he didn't care about what they were talking about, but he was still just a clone. He lacked the same ability to react as well as his true body in most situations and his main task was to remember everything that happened so he could impart the memory to Shang Xia after he returned.

Also... From the looks of it, Xing Xingtian was blocked every step of the way when he tried to negotiate with the Spirit Luxuriant World.

The existence of Stargazers in the Tongyou Institution was something he already didn't expect, and news of Shang Xia entering the fourth tier of the Marital Void Realm also caught him off guard.

Of those present, no one understood the implications of a high-level True Immortal of a world better than him.

As such, before he met Shang Xia's true body, he had to adjust his attitude towards the Tongyou Institution and the Spirit Luxuriant World as a whole.

Too bad for him, he also seemed to have come a little too late as all he met was Shang Xia's clone. He knew that Shang Xia's true body had most likely already entered the Star Beast Nest and it was too late to say anything else.

Even at the end, he made a shocking discovery. The True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World were far more united than he had thought... At the very least, that was what it seemed on the surface.

To his dismay, he knew that he had no other choice than to leave the Spirit Luxuriant World. The only thing he didn't doubt was that they would heed his warning.

Since Shang Xia had already entered the Star Beast Nest, it was too late for him to say anything else. All he could do was to leave the True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World to make the judgment by themselves. After all, the Spirit Luxuriant World already had a high-level True Immortal and would be able to tie up any loose ends if push came to shove.

...

Shang Xia didn't know Xing Xingtian's feeling after arriving in the Spirit Luxuriant World, as he had already arrived in a pretty strange looking secret region.

It looked like a fragmented world whose space had been cut up into multiple pieces, as rays of multicolored light scattered about.

It was a shame there were no Space Beasts left in the nest that could threaten him. Shang Xia estimated that every powerful beast should have already rushed out for the invasion.

That might be the case, but Shang Xia wasn't careless. He carefully stretched his divine soul deeper into the Space Beast Nest and discovered that it was starting to twist in certain regions, and some of them were even severed completely. There were also several parts in the nest where his divine soul would crash into an impassable wall.

A sense of unease suddenly filled his heart and Shang Xia quickly released his domain.

His multicolored surroundings suddenly blew apart as starlight slowly started to scatter. The true appearance of the Star Beast Nest was eventually revealed to Shang Xia.

A massive mouth that resembled the abyss seemed to appear from behind him as it tried to swallow him whole as his domain was forced to compress slightly. However, strands of sword qi that were made from Six Direction Qi quickly rushed out from his body to fill his domain. Every one of them seemed to be made up of a different element.

The giant mouth hadn't had time to close when it was shredded. Along with a pained howl, a strange Star Beast was revealed as it turned to run away.

However... How could Shang Xia allow it to escape so easily?

The sword qi he released started to gather together again, before turning into a giant revolving blade that seemed to contain the flow of time. It shot into the body of the beast at blinding speed and the beast started to crumble from the inside. It was as though the beast aged from the inside out and it eventually turned into a giant rotting corpse that was floating in the secret region.

That was a rank five Star Beast that was about to break through, which might be why it was left in the secret region. If it truly managed to break through before the invasion began, Shang Xia would have to face 3 rank six Star Beasts. Even with his strong cultivation base, he might not have been able to deal with them.

Naturally, if it was alone, there was no way it could harm Shang Xia.

As Shang Xia tried to look for the Star Core Essence of the beast, the corpse started to break down and scatter slowly across the lands.

The death of the beast that seemed to have aged countless times left barely nothing of value, and it was the reason Shang Xia barely used the Samsara Nether Blade he comprehended from the Twenty Four Solar Term Divine Blade Art.

Thankfully, it didn't harm the Star Core Essence and Shang Xia was able to obtain it. Special treasures like that naturally possessed their special characteristics.

Carefully keeping the Star Core Essence, he was able to carefully observe the Star Beast Nest that had been fully exposed.

Even though heaven and earth qi was dense, it contained a lot of impurities. Shang Xia could feel many different types of Star Extermination Origin Qi within and other types of Star Fate Dipper Qi. They were so dense that Shang Xia could easily condense a few fate dipper essences if he wished.

Of course, it wasn't time for him to do anything like it. He quickly filled the region with his divine soul to carefully inspect it.

The Star Beast Nest was several times larger than the first Star Beast Nest they found. The heaven and earth qi it contained was also a lot more dense and chaotic.

That wasn't all. There were crystalized star extermination qi, Star Dipper Stones, Star Meteor Iron, Star Dust, Starlight Flower, Star Dew, and many other high-level treasures. Even for a high-level True Immortal like Shang Xia, he was fully dazzled.

When the Spirit Luxuriant World discovered their first Star Beast Nest, Shang Xia was also the first person to rush into it. However, he didn't discover so many treasures when he entered.

One had to know that those were only treasures Shang Xia could find easily with a sweep of his divine soul. If he searched for real, he might be able to find even more impressive treasures!

"From the density of heaven and earth qi... This place is almost comparable to an Elysium!" Shang Xia couldn't help but sigh.

Of course, being impressed was one thing, but his hands that were collecting his loot never stopped. Whatever he could get his hands on were thrown into his spatial artifact.

He also discovered another exit to the Star Beast Nest, and he wanted to take a look at whatever was outside.

Chapter 1207: 1V3 Baby

Shang Xia might not have received the warning from his clone about what Xing Xingtian revealed, but that didn't stop him from being careful.

After all, when they first located their first Star Beast Nest, they clashed with the True Immortals of the Spirit Faith World and the other Azure Worlds. Shang Xia wasn't foolish enough to assume that he was safe.

After all... No one really knew what would be located around a Star Beast Nest.

He might not have heard of the Star Curtain Xing Xingtian mentioned, but he crossed paths with high-level True Immortals of the Essence Hong World and Essence Ming World. He could vaguely discern that the worlds that were connected to the Star Origin Dao Field were located in a region of hidden space.

It was precisely because of that that they were able to avoid the covetous gaze of those stronger worlds.

Through several exchanges with them, along with what he heard from Hua Jianlou, Shang Xia could tell that the sealed space they were in wouldn't be peaceful for too long.

As Shang Xia quickly retrieved the treasures in the secret region along his way, he quickly arrived at the exit and could tell that whatever lay on the other side was a region of foreign space.

Understanding that the space the Star Beast Nest was located in was a little special, he started to prepare himself for anything he might run into.

Indeed... The moment he stepped out from the Star Beast Nest, he felt immense pressure coming from every direction. It was as though he had appeared at the bottom of the ocean, and not only was the feeling suffocating, but it also felt like it was trying to crush him to nothingness.

Six Direction Qi poured out of his dantian as his domain started to push back against his surroundings. At the same time, it carved out a spatial tunnel that led deeper into the foreign space.

After leaving the region which was exerting tremendous pressure on him, the void right in front of him started to ripple. Frosty qi emerged from the source of the ripples before passing through his domain.

Even though he made all the preparations he could, everything happened too quickly and it caught him off guard.

Seeing as his domain had been broken through, the Six Direction Qi that filled it quickly reacted. A portion transformed into lightning bolts and sword qi that shredded the incoming frosty qi and another portion gathered around Shang Xia's fingertips before transforming into a spear light that shot accurately at the frosty qi.

Clang!

A crisp blast nearly shattered Shang Xia's domain, but with Shang Xia's Divine Killing Spear that was created by his Six Direction Qi, the frosty qi failed to advance any further.

The next instant, a transparent orb entered the shattered domain and slammed at Shang Xia's head with boundless might.

However... Shang Xia was no stranger to sneak attacks like that. With his domain breached, he spat out a breath of inner qi which transformed into a five colored light that greeted the orb.

The second he spat out the ball of inner qi, Shang Xia also retrieved his Stone Rod. This time, he chose to strike first and he tapped at the chaotic void he just struggled free. In an instant, countless streams of strange qi turned into a region of chaotic space.

He unleashed his second move of his Six Harmony Rod Technique, Starry Disruption!

Panicked cries came from the chaotic space but it was distorted by the horrifically twisted space.

Shang Xia's sudden strike seemed to have disrupted the pace of their attack and their companions who were hiding in the region of chaotic space were forced to retreat.

By then, the frosty qi that was stopped by Shang Xia's spear created from his Six Direction Qi also dissipated and it revealed a short dagger. Unfortunately, only the dagger was revealed and the expert wielding it was not.

The next instant, the dagger started to struggle free from Shang Xia's Divine Killing Spear and slashed a beautiful arc through the void as spatial cracks started to spread to Shang Xia.

Unlike the expert who pressed the attack, another opponent gave up on pressuring Shang Xia as the orb above Shang Xia's head retreated. It flew into the region of chaotic space and caused it to calm down rapidly.

Following which, layers of space started to rip apart as a sorry looking female figure tumbled out to glare at Shang Xia with a look of anger and resentment.

Shang Xia didn't really care about her feelings. Facing the expert wielding the dagger, Shang Xia directed the rays of five colored light that stopped the orb earlier to sweep across the space he was in and easily closed the spatial cracks that formed.

With a beautiful twirl of his Stone Staff, he swung it in another direction.

Because of its endless might, space started to fold where his Stone Rod passed and a mighty force struck at the region of space Shang Xia had locked on to.

That was the first move of his Six Harmony Rod Technique, Harmonizing Continent!

He unleashed the power of a giant continent with a single wave of his Stone Rod!

After entering the fourth tier of the Martial Void Realm, Harmonizing Continent was countless times stronger than before!

A surprised yelp came from another location in the void as a young man was thrown out of the void in his very sorry state.

Facing Shang Xia's powerful strike, the mysterious expert didn't dare to dream of blocking it head-on. What was more, his weapon was the orb that flew off into the region of chaotic space earlier and it hadn't returned. He could only choose to flee.

A sigh eventually rang in everyone's ears and another similarly young-looking expert who had a calm appearance emerged from the void. He reached out and grabbed his dagger before appearing behind the other fleeing young cultivator. He swung his dagger and it slashed thrice at Shang Xia's rod strike.

With everything happening in an instant, every slash he made shaved away a portion of the power contained in the strike. After 3 slashes, he managed to get rid of two thirds of the energy contained in Harmonizing Continent.

Seeing as the remnant energy contained in the blow was about to arrive, he could only raise his dagger helplessly to protect himself.

The dagger was sent flying by Shang Xia's strike, and the terrifyingly strong force contained in it caused the cultivator's palm to split apart as blood filled his fingertips.

Fortunately, he got rid of a lot of energy contained in the blow and it failed to tear through his domain. Even so, the powerful force sent him flying tens of miles away.

However, Shang Xia didn't chase for the kill. After forcing an expert back and injuring another, the female cultivator who was the first to be forced out of the void regained her senses made a hand seal in the air, and aimed it at Shang Xia's back.

Seeing how Shang Xia wasn't planning to avoid it and the seal was about to land, the look of fury on her face transformed into a sinister smile.

Her gaze was quickly drawn to Shang Xia's rod which managed to stop her comrade's dagger. Standing behind Shang Xia, she could clearly see how he pulled the Stone Rod back before tapping it at the void beneath his feet.

Even though what he should be standing on should be a region of fluid space, it seemed to turn solid as it started to tremble with a single blow of Shang Xia's Stone Rod.

The female cultivator discovered that she was also affected as everything that was trembling seemed to come to a standstill, including the seal she had thrown on Shang Xia's back.

Everything might have stopped, but she could still observe what was happening. Shang Xia casually took a step to the side and avoided the seal before reappearing in front of her.

She was still unable to move when he arrived, and she discovered that she couldn't even close her eyes to avoid seeing what happened next.

Shockingly enough, Shang Xia didn't make the final move. His actions paused slightly and his gaze shifted to the side before rushing past her in a stream of light.

Only after he left did she realize that she had escaped the jaws of death. The young cultivator whose hand was bleeding was rushing over while everything happened.

As he was the furthest away at the moment, the effects of Shang Xia's blow was the weakest on him. He didn't care about the consumption of his inner qi as he struggled free from the effects of Shang Xia's fourth Strike, Void Seal, before charging over.

Everything happened so quickly, and even though Shang Xia had a chance to kill the female cultivator, he didn't wish to be tangled with the others when they arrived.

One couldn't see how Shang Xia was able to turn the tables even after being surrounded and ambushed by 3 powerful experts and think that he was able to easily gain the upper hand.

He understood that he was facing the combined forces of 2 high-level True Immortals and a third tier True Immortal, and he wouldn't be able to last for long if he used up all his energy quickly.

The moment he was surrounded, he would probably be worn down eventually.

What was more, Shang Xia didn't believe it was a coincidence he would face the combined attacks of 2 high-level True Immortals and a third tier True Immortal right after stepping out of a Star Beast Nest. How the fuck could there be such a coincidence in the world?

Knowing that he had fallen into a trap, Shang Xia naturally wouldn't remain there to fight. What he had to do was retreat to the Star Beast Nest and return to the Spirit Luxuriant World.

*Hmm... No, that wasn't right.*

*Since this is a trap, I might not be the sole target!*

After all... Using a Star Beast Nest and a giant pack of Star Beasts as bait... There was no way they were fishing for a mere fourth tier True Immortal. That would be a colossal waste of resources!

That could only mean one thing! They were after the Spirit Luxuriant World!

Since he was able to locate the Star Beast Nest with the tracks they left behind, from how familiar those True Immortals were with the Star Beast Nest, they would most likely be able to locate the Spirit Luxuriant World after they entered!

In other words, if he were to shake them off, not only did he have to quickly retreat to the Spirit Luxuriant World. He would also have to prevent them from following his tracks!

Chapter 1208: How The Fuck Does A Clone Grow Stronger?!

Even though Shang Xia had an opportunity to kill one of the hidden experts, he chose to give up on the notion decisively. He even quickly rushed behind her to use her as a human shield so that her comrade wouldn't dare to attack recklessly.

It was then that the female cultivator finally managed to struggle free from his Void Seal. Even before she could stabilize herself, she staggered around and tried to fly in pursuit of Shang Xia.

He didn't seem to care about their reaction in the slightest. He simply stepped into the void and continued to fly towards the Star Beast Nest he had come from.

The next second, Shang Xia felt a strange feeling behind him and he turned around abruptly. He reached out and grabbed at the void before feeling an intense vibration.

Shang Xia heaved a sigh of relief as he poured Six Direction Qi into his palm. He pushed the region of space apart and by the time he pulled his hand back, a huge orb that was emitting dense frosty light was held firmly in his palm. It belonged to the young cultivator who tried to sneak attack Shang Xia initially.

The pearl vibrated violently as it tried to struggle free from Shang Xia's grasp.

It was a shame Shang Xia wasn't going to give it a chance to do so. With Six Direction Qi pouring out from his palm, he severed the frosty qi around the orb and suppressed its spirituality.

At the same time, the 3 True Immortals who tried to sneak attack Shang Xia regrouped. When they were discussing whether they should force their way into the region of chaotic space, the young cultivator who seemed to have already suffered some injuries when Shang Xia forced him out of hiding earlier spat out a mouthful of blood.



“My... My Tribulation Pearl...”

He might not have seen what was happening, but the moment he spat blood, his comrades glanced at each other before nodding in unison. They seemed to have reached some sort of agreement before they stared into the chaotic space where Shang Xia escaped.

The female cultivator looked at the young man who was spitting blood and gently comforted him, “Eleventh Brother, the opponent is extremely strong and the situation in the region of chaotic space is unclear. You’re injured right now and we should give it up. We shall wait for the others before rushing in to locate the Star Beast Nest.”

The young cultivator who was addressed as her Eleventh Brother seemed reluctant to give chase, and he could only nod slowly in agreement as he knew how dangerous it would be.

...

Since Shang Xia had left behind a way to locate the Star Beast Nest, he wasn’t afraid of getting lost. It didn’t take long for him to return.

He could tell that things weren’t as simple as they seemed. He could choose to return immediately, but he knew that those experts would be able to locate the Star Beast Nest. When that happened, the location of the Spirit Luxuriant World would be exposed.

If he got rid of his tracks when he returned, that would be another problem altogether. They might not be able to find the Spirit Luxuriant World, but neither would they be able to find the Star Beast Nest.

The Star Beast Nest had nearly reached the level of an Elysium, and it was a blessed land that could nurture a lot of high-level treasures. If he lost it like that, it would be a real waste.

Shang Xia stood at the entrance to the Star Beast Nest and thought for a long time. He was so engrossed in thought that he didn’t even gather the rest of the treasures. Eventually, he split off another clone and mumbled, “I guess I’ll have to trouble you to make a trip back to the Spirit Luxuriant World...”

Shang Xia’s second clone nodded immediately. “Tell me anything you wish for me to do back there, but I would also require you to help me return...”

Shang Xia chuckled in response, “Naturally...”

After he spoke, Shang Xia fell silent for a moment before waving his sleeves. A mighty stream of Six Direction Qi emerged and opened a spatial tunnel that his clone swiftly entered.

When the spatial tunnel eventually closed, Shang Xia waved his hand and mumbled to himself, “I should retrieve anything of use here first... I wonder if we will be able to maintain control over this Star Beast Nest...”

He quickly headed into the nest after leaving another clone to watch over the situation outside.

...

After Xing Xingtian bid his farewell, the True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World didn’t return immediately. Even Shang Xia’s clone which had reached the peak of the first tier remained.

They were waiting for information that would soon return from Shang Xia after he ventured to the Star Beast Nest, and they were also planning to share with him what they had learned.

Regardless of whether or not they were willing to do so, or however much they were plotting against each other... They had to put on a united front at the moment. There was also the fact that Shang Xia was the only high-level True Immortal of their Spirit Luxuriant World at the moment...

It didn't take long before Shang Xia's clone that was standing with them seemed to have felt something. He turned to look in the direction of the You Continent.

The True Immortals, who were still conversing among themselves earlier, stopped and looked in the same direction.

Lu Wuzi quickly asked, "True Immortal Little Shang, is your true body back?"

Shang Xia's clone shook his head and didn't respond. Instead, he looked in another direction.

A moment later, a figure appeared in the void and rushed over to them.

"This..." Everyone saw the newcomer's appearance that was 70 to 80 percent similar to Shang Xia and knew that it was his other clone.

The only question they had was why Shang Xia didn't return and only sent a clone back.

Thinking about Xing Xingtian's warning, the True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World frowned.

Don't tell me... Xing Xingtian is right?!

Before they could voice their doubts, they were shocked by what they were seeing.

Shang Xia's clone that had just returned from the Star Beast Nest nodded at the other clone that was standing in place before fusing into each other.

His clone, which had reached the peak of the first tier of the Marital Void Realm, started to transform under their shocked gazes. Just like that, a clone at the second tier of the Martial Void Realm was produced!

One had to know that they were already shocked when they noticed the clone who had cultivation level at the peak of the first tier.

How long has it been since then?

It had barely been 2 hours, and Shang Xia not only revealed how he split off another clone but also how his clones could fuse with each other to reach the second tier of the Martial Void Realm!

There were only 10 True Immortals in the Spirit Luxuriant World, and among them, 4 of them were in the first tier of the Martial Void Realm!

Now... A clone Shang Xia created was in the second tier of the Martial Void Realm! How could that not shock them?

When they were still shocked by the transformation, Shang Xia's clone's memories fused together and he learned of what happened.

“Oh? So Camp Commander Xing of the Star Origin Guards... Never mind, let’s call him True Immortal Xing instead. He planned to stop us from exploring the Star Beast Nest but found the wrong faction and came a step too late...” Shang Xia’s clone mumbled before smiling at Yin Jingxu.

Yin Jingxu forced a chuckle as it wasn’t really his intention to delay Xing Xingtian. He just wanted to get more information, but the Stargazers of the Heavenly Star Palace truly affected the judgment of the Star Observatory in Star Origin City.

Actually, Shang Xia’s second clone learned about what happened from Xin Lu as he had already returned to the Tongyou Institution before heading over to meet with them.

Yang Taihe coughed lightly suddenly and asked, “Ahem... Since you guys already fused together, do you know everything we spoke about earlier?”

Shang Xia’s clone nodded with a smile on his face and understood what all of them had done to help him.

“That’s good then.” Yang Taihe looked at the others before he continued to ask, “I wonder what opinions you have on what Xing Xingtian told all of us?”

Shang Xia’s clone thought for a second before he continued, “I think he came up with a pretty reasonable response for the reappearance of the high-level True Immortals of the various worlds.”

After he was done, he continued to think inwardly, “I thought that the Star Origin Guards had been assassinating the high-level True Immortals of the various worlds... From the looks of it now, Hua Jianlou was sowing discord back then and wished for our Spirit Luxuriant World to form some enmity with the Star Origin Guards... Didn’t they just kill Zhuge Xiang by forming an alliance with Tong Yutang back then? Why was he so anxious to cause trouble anyway?”

After his clone reached the second tier of the Martial Void Realm, its consciousness became a lot stronger than before.

#### Chapter 1209: Discussion and Dilemma

The True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World couldn’t hear his thoughts, but after hearing what he said, Yang Taihe turned serious. “Would that mean that the high-level True Immortals of the other worlds are really defending their Star Beast Nests from other worlds? Does that mean that your true body...”

Shang Xia’s clone seemed to already know what Yang Taihe and the others wanted to say and he replied, “My true body sent me back to inform everyone that he just ran into an ambush consisting of 2 high-level True Immortals and a third tier True Immortal after leaving the Star Beast Nest. He managed to return to the Star Beast Nest safely, and the 3 of them hadn’t located it yet.”

The news Shang Xia’s clone brought back was too damn shocking and everyone started discussing among themselves in hushed voices.

Zhang Xuansheng spoke suddenly, “If the experts True Immortal Shang ran into weren’t from the Spirit Abundance World, Spirit Mammoth World, Spirit Tinkle World, or Spirit Thistle World, that would really mean that we might have run into experts from another great power... Or they might have hailed from a powerful world!”

Zhang Jianzi, who had always acted as though he was invisible when he was standing beside Zhang Xuansheng, also sighed, “To send out 2 fourth tier True Immortals and a third tier True Immortals to look for a Star Beast Nest... Could Xing Xingtian really be right and we’re about to confront an Essence World?”

Liu Jingsheng glazed at Zhang Jianzi before looking back at Shang Xia’s clone. “True Immortal Little Shang, what do you plan to do next?”

Shang Xia’s clone laughed. “The Star Beast Nest is a secret region on par with an Elysium... The treasures contained within are extensive and of extremely high quality. The true body feels that it’s a pity if we give it up like that. As such, he wishes to hear your thoughts...”

After he was done, Shang Xia’s clone introduced the situation in the Star Beast Nest, especially how great it was and how many treasures he had already found.

Naturally, they were moved by what they were hearing. At the same time, they were also feeling some complex emotions.

Seeing as they were keeping silent for the moment, Shang Xia’s clone couldn’t help but chuckle, “From the looks of it, aren’t you guys going to take the risk to develop this Star Beast Nest?”

Li Jidao was the first to reply. “I need to be sure of something before I can make any divisions. If there really is an Essence World outside the Star Beast Nest, are you really confident of destroying it in case they start an invasion and wipe away all traces that will lead to our world?”

The Divine Capital Sect had always been at odds with the Tongyou Institution. Li Jidao’s attitude towards Kou Chongxue was bad, and even when Shang Xia and Kou Chongxue surpassed him, he never bothered changing his attitude toward them.

However... His tone finally seemed to thaw a little when he spoke to Shang Xia’s clone this time.

Clearly, Shang Xia’s advancement to the fourth tier of the Martial Void Realm dealt the various factions of the Spirit Luxuriant World a huge blow! In fact, the impact surpassed anything he would have expected.

After all... One’s cultivation and strength determined their status.

Shang Xia’s clone thought for a second before he replied, “My true body definitely has the ability to do that. Unless the Seventh Order Realm expert from the Essence World makes a move, otherwise, he will most definitely be able to retreat unharmed.”

“True Immortal Little Shang, will you remain in the Star Beast Nest all the time to protect it?” Li Jidao quickly followed up with another question.

After a moment of contemplation, Shang Xia’s clone mumbled, “It’s possible for me to hold the fort for 3 or so years. However, I won’t guarantee anything longer.”

Li Jidao shook his head and sighed, “That’s too short... It’s alright even if we turn the place upside down and grab everything we can before leaving. After all, long-term development is...”

All of them knew that they should be thinking about the future, but if that wasn’t possible, they could only take whatever they could and retreat to prevent themselves from being exposed.

Yang Taihe suddenly interjected, “Actually, I’m also very curious... Why would a high-level True Immortal need to be stationed in the Star Beast Nest? Even though the difference between high-level True Immortals and ourselves is large, there are definitely protection formations and the like. Destroying the Star Beast Nest as a last resort should be possible, right?”

Actually, that was also a problem that the other True Immortals wished to know. Perhaps only Shang Xia would be able to clear their doubts.

Shang Xia’s clone thought for a second before he mumbled, “There should be 2 reasons... The first is that only a high-level True Immortal would be able to fully control the Star Beast Nest... After all, the size of the nest is comparable to an Elysium, which is the same as an ordinary continent!”

None of them reacted for some time. It wasn’t because they expected as much, but they were truly shocked by the revelation. Only then did they realize that a high-level True Immortal would be able to fully control a continent!

That would mean that the life and death of all life on the continent was but a thought away...

Glancing at the True Immortals, Shang Xia’s clone expected their reactions and smiled. “Of course... It’s not as if a high-level True Immortal would try something like that unless they wish to fuse with the World’s Will...”

After he spoke, the True Immortals standing around heaved a sigh of relief. However, some of them still felt a little regretful as that would mean even if they advanced, they wouldn’t be able to do something like that.

Shang Xia’s clone continued, “Of course, a secret region is different from a continent and it isn’t governed by a World’s Will. With my true body in control of the Star Beast Nest, we won’t be afraid of any sudden invasions...”

Yang Taihe couldn’t help but ask, “What is the other reason?”

“The second reason is that a high-level True Immortal would be able to bring dozens of experts with them into the spatial tunnel in a split second while also wiping away their tracks. If any other True Immortal were to take charge of the Star Beast Nest, they might only be able to return while leaving behind obvious traces. It would be highly likely the other side would be able to follow their tracks.” Shang Xia’s clone explained.

In the end, Zhang Xuansheng couldn’t help but conclude for all of them. “So... You mean to say that in order to stand firm in the Star Beast Nest that might be under the observation of an Essence World, we will need to be capable of retreating while wiping away our tracks to prevent them from hunting us down?”

“Yeah, pretty much.” Shang Xia’s clone mumbled.

The True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World exchanged gazes but eventually, Yang Taihe was the one who spoke again. “From the looks of it, we will need to work together to deal with this...”

“Are we really going to lay down a rank six grand formation there?”

“The key to this entire matter is that we still need to station a high-level True Immortal there. Otherwise, even if we fortify the Star Beast Nest, they will definitely invade the moment they determine we won’t have a high-level True Immortal...”

“Exactly. We have to make long-term plans if we establish ourselves in the Star Beast Nest. Of course, it would be for the best if we manage to interact with the Essence World and exchange interests. If the other party wishes to invade, we must be able to retreat unscathed. To do that, we will have to destroy the Star Beast Nest. What’s the point of developing it if we can’t even protect it?”

“How should we deal with the matter of connecting a spatial tunnel to the Star Beast Nest anyway? If we wish to develop it, we will need to maintain a fixed spatial tunnel to it...”

“...”

After several rounds of discussion, the situation fell to a deadlock and Yang Taihe took charge in the end to end the meeting. “Since we can’t think of anything good for the time being, we should just head back and discuss this with the members of our factions. After all... The more brains we have working on this the better. We might be able to find a better way to deal with this.”

It seemed as though that was all they would be able to do. After all, Shang Xia would be staying in the Star Beast Nest for the time being and there shouldn’t be any problems in the near future.

Seeing how no one rejected his idea, Yang Taihe nodded and added, “Since it’s decided, let’s meet back here in half a month.”

After he was done, he turned to Shang Xia’s clone and continued, “True Immortal Little Shang, is there anything else you wish to tell us?”

Shang Xia’s clone shook his head slowly in response. “I have nothing else. If anything comes up, my true body will inform me to notify you guys.”

...

Returning from the heavenly screen, Shang Xia quickly located the 3 deputy patriarchs who were in charge of the administration of the institution and told them everything about the Star Beast Nest and everything he experienced.

Ever since Shang Bo returned from the battle with the Star Beast pack, he entered seclusion again. As such, Yun Jing, Ji Wenlong, and Liu Zhiyuan were the only ones running the show.

After hearing Shang Xia’s experience, they quickly gathered the higher-ups of the institution for a discussion.

In the Tongyou Institution, every expert whose cultivation had reached the Martial Dipper Realm was gathered. There were also several Martial Extermination Realm experts with strong foundations and rich experiences who were called over.

After hearing the situation, Ge Qingzhu was the first to speak. “Since we have already come into contact with foreign experts outside the Star Beast Nest, why don’t we try to establish friendly

relations with them? At the very least, we should learn about the power they serve. If they are truly from an Essence World, there isn't much we can do to them... However... If they're a Spirit World like us, there's no reason for us to be afraid of them!"

"I concur." Bu Jingshuang, who had visibly aged since the last time Shang Xia saw him, spoke slowly, "Now, we have no idea how strong the other side is, and they don't know anything about us either. If I was part of the group that ambushed Little Shang and saw him fight us all off, I would definitely be afraid. Before gaining a little more information, I wouldn't make any rash moves..."

Shang Lubing thought for a moment before he added, "No matter what, we need to probe the other party. They would definitely do the same. If Little Shang remains there himself, he needs to be cautious no matter what. The Star Beast Nest might be very important to the great powers of our world, but it's not something we need to care about. Even if there are 10 Star Beast Nests, we can't risk Little Shang's life for them..."

His statement was met with unanimous agreement.

Shang Xia's clone chuckled at their response. "Many thanks to seniors' care and concern. I'll definitely relay what happened here to my true body when I return."

Yun Jing glanced at those present before she brought the topic back on track. "Alright, let's talk seriously. Back at the heavenly screen, the True Immortals heard the reason why we need to station a high-level True Immortal there. They also thought of several ideas. However... Let's try to think if there is any other way about it."

#### Chapter 1210: Solution

After the deputy patriarchs described what happened to Shang Xia and the discussion among the True Immortals above the heavenly screen, they quickly started to gather ideas.

Of course, Shang Xia's clone concealed details that should only be known to True Immortals when telling them what happened, and the deputy patriarchs also hid some more information that shouldn't be told to the rest of the Tongyou Institution when asking for their opinions.

The first person to speak after Yun Jing was done talking was Chu Jia, the Formation Hall Master, and the greatest Formation Grandmaster in the Spirit Luxuriant World. "Laying down a rank six grand formation in the Star Beast Nest seems like a waste of resources. However... A Star Beast Nest is already a considerable fortress... After all, it is able to nurture high-level treasures and if we use the already existing structure to replace a portion of the formation, it won't be too difficult to deploy a grand formation there..."

"Of course, if we can borrow the strength of our Spirit Luxuriant World, laying down a rank six grand formation would be even easier." Chu Jia also added.

Shang Xia glanced at her before looking at the person behind her.

They looked familiar, and he should have seen that person somewhere before. Racking his brains, he realized that it was the leader of the Formation Masters he saved back in the Azure Oddity World. From what he heard from Chu Jia, that person was really talented in the dao of formations and it wouldn't be long before he became a rank five Formation Grandmaster.

Naturally, every high-level Formation Master had to rely heavily on their backer.

In order to lay down a formation, not only would one need to gather various types of resources, but they would also require help in many different places. Normally, every good Formation Master would be supported by a powerful faction.

The more talented a Formation Master was, the stronger the support they would receive!

Any Formation Master who didn't receive much assistance from their faction wouldn't go far in the dao of formations.

A thought couldn't help but flash through Shang Xia's mind. Perhaps, if they were to lay down a formation in the Star Beast Nest, the Tongyou Institution would be able to produce a second rank five Formation Grandmaster!

"If we truly need a high-level True Immortal to be stationed in the Star Beast Nest, and if Hall Master Shang cannot take on the role forever..." Lou Zizhang, the Deputy Hall Master mumbled while glancing at Shang Xia's clone, "Is it possible for us to use Illusion Talismans on other True Immortals to make it seem as though they are high-level True Immortals?"

A light flashed in Yun Jing's eyes and she quickly interjected, "Do you mean that we should fake a high-level True Immortal in the Star Beast Nest? How long can an Illusion Talisman last?"

Shang Xia's clone thought for a second before he replied, "Even my true body didn't think of something like that. As for how long it would be able to last... If the person in disguise doesn't make a move, it shouldn't be a problem for it to last half a year..."

Lou Zizhang's idea seemed useful to a certain extent, and they had done something similar in the past. When they located the first Star Beast Nest and were attacked by the True Immortals of the Spirit Faith World, a Martial Dipper Realm expert of the institution once pretended to be a True Immortal to scare them from going too far.

Ji Wenlong also continued, "If it's truly possible to pretend to be a high-level True Immortal, we might be able to gain more by doing so. After all... We can show the foreign world that we have more than a single high-level True Immortal. This way, they won't be able to properly determine our strength and will be a little more wary when dealing with us."

Yun Jing nodded in agreement. "In order to do so, we need to ensure that Little Shang contacts them and settles all the details before we try anything like it. He also has to show our determination to leave nothing behind if they show any malicious intent, while also striking fear in their hearts with his overwhelming strength. After all... Only when we are of comparable strength will we be able to negotiate on equal grounds..."

The next second, Liu Zhiyuan also spoke up, "We don't have too many Free True Immortals in our Spirit Luxuriant World, right? Other than the True Immortals of our institution, the others are all in the first tier of the Martial Void Realm..."

That also seemed to be a problem. The Spirit Luxuriant World's foundation was far too shallow.



Shang Xia's clone chimed in suddenly, "Huang Jinghan should be breaking through to the second tier soon. If he's able to complete the process in his time in the first Star Beast Nest, that would be for the best. If required, I can also help to stay in the Star Beast Nest in my true body's stead."

Huang Jinghan breaking through was a piece of important news to the Spirit Luxuriant World as it would directly affect the highest-level combat strength of the world.

Shang Xia told the deputy patriarchs of the news before and this time, he was informing the rest of the higher-ups of the institution. It would allow them to gain a better understanding of the situation of the Spirit Luxuriant World.

A commotion broke out as expected among them, but they eventually stared at Shang Xia's clone in shock. Only then did they realize that Shang Xia's clone also had a cultivation level at the second tier of the Martial Void Realm.

Shang Xia's clone had experienced the surprise and confusion from the True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World, and the curious gazes of the upper echelons of the Tongyou Institution were nothing to him at the moment.

Liu Zhiyuan continued suddenly, "If the patriarch was here... Things will be a lot easier."

That might be what the rest of the experts of the institution were thinking at the moment, and their main purpose would be to learn any news of their patriarch

Shang Xia's clone immediately retorted, "No, we cannot interrupt what he's doing at the moment. He's up to something important at the moment and there's no need for him to return!"

Actually, the deputy patriarchs knew a little about what Kou Chongxue was up to. After all, it would be impossible to conceal what was happening in the Tongyou Elysium from them.

However, Shang Xia was the only one who knew exactly what Kou Chongxue was up to. Even the deputy patriarchs only had a vague idea and could only guess blindly.

"So... That begs the next question. After Little Shang leaves, how should those within the Star Beast Nest evacuate if foreign experts attack and catch us off guard..." Yun Jing no longer continued to speak about matters regarding Kou Chongxue's return and brought them back on track. "I'm afraid that's the most difficult part of what we need to do!"

If Shang Xia remained in the Star Beast Nest, he would definitely be able to send their core members into the spatial tunnel before he returned personally while wiping away all traces of their existence so that they couldn't be tracked.

Even if they could solve the problem of there being a high-level True Immortal by making one appear with an Illusion Talisman, it wouldn't be easy to reproduce the abilities of one.

Ge Qingzhu eventually suggested, "The Star Beast Nest is massive and according to Hall Master Shang, it's as large as an Elysium. That would mean that the most important problem we have to deal with is how we can gather everyone together in case anything happens."

“Martial Dipper Realm cultivators can pass through the secret region as they please, but it won't be easy for cultivators in the Martial Extermination Realm...” Dou Zhong mumbled at the side.

Martial Dipper Realm cultivators in the Spirit Luxuriant World might be in great numbers at the moment, but they were still core members of the various powers. No matter how important a secret region was, there was no way a faction would send all their Martial Dipper Realm experts over to take charge of it.

They would have to send cultivators in the Martial Extermination Realm, and even Martial Intent Realm to manage the secret region.

Lou Zizhang glanced at Shang Xia's clone again and asked, “If all of us bring an Escape Talisman... They might be able to move extremely quickly!”

He wasn't making things difficult for the Talisman Hall on purpose. If everyone who went to the Star Beast Nest really carried an Escape Talisman, that would be a massive opportunity for the Talisman Hall as the demand for talismans would skyrocket. After all, there would be people going to the Star Beast Nest from time to time, and talismans would lose their effects after a few years. The Talisman Hall would receive a never-ending contract to craft Escape Talismans in that case.

Sun Haiwei shot the Deputy Talisman Hall Master a glance at his response. Even though he was a little bit of an ass-kisser, one had to say that he had a part to play in the constant progress of the Talisman Hall. After all, they were still able to operate normally with Shang Xia dealing with matters outside, and their efficiency usually never dropped.

Of course, being an impressive Deputy Hall Master was one thing, but they still had to look at the problem objectively. Sun Haiwei quickly interjected, “Even with an Escape Talisman, they won't be able to travel fast enough. It would be best if they had a way to travel through the space of the Star Beast Nest to quickly arrive at the gathering point.”

Lou Zizhang's expression sank immediately. If we're talking about teleportation, rank four talismans would barely be able to make it happen... However, if we try to use rank five Teleportation Talismans... It's too much to give everyone heading there a rank five Teleportation Talisman!”

Being a colossal waste was one thing, but the other was that even if Shang Xia personally crafted rank five Teleportation Talismans, he would need a long time to complete them all! Any other Talisman Grandmasters would take even longer, and god knew how many resources would go to waste.

They would also need to replenish the talisman from time to time, and no one was able to invest all their time in crafting rank five Teleportation Talismans.

Because of that, everyone was stuck in a dilemma as no one knew how to proceed.

Seeing as no one was speaking, Yun Jing chuckled, “There's no need to be discouraged. Maintaining the Star Beast Nest isn't just the responsibility of our institution. If we can't think of anything for the time being, that doesn't mean that the other great powers are equally clueless.”

She couldn't help but burst out laughing the next moment, "They can't expect our Tongyou Institution to solve all the problems, right? In that case, we should just manage the Star Beast Nest ourselves... Why do we need to share it with them?"

The experts of the Tongyou Institution heaved a sigh of relief at her response.

Ji Wenlong also snickered at the side, "We can't underestimate the other great powers. There are also many factions that possess their own Holy Lands that have histories far longer than us. There's no need to mention the Northern Sea Mystic Sect, Eternal Palace, and Divine Capital Sect. God knows how much more information they're hiding and haven't shared with us. This difficult problem we're facing might just be solved if they share a secret art or two..."

"Alright, let's talk about the next problem then. Wiping away all traces when escaping is another important point we need to take care of... In fact, it's the most important problem we have to solve. If we are unable to clear our tracks, our Spirit Luxuriant World might be exposed to the enemy and fall into great danger. If we can't think of a solution to this problem, there is no way anyone will agree to the development of the Star Beast Nest." Yun Jing continued on to the next topic of interest.

Once again, everyone fell silent.

... Before the deputy patriarchs could comfort them and leave it up to the rest of the great powers to think of a solution, Chu Jia broke the silence. "Perhaps... Perhaps, our Formation Hall has a way to erase our tracks when we retreat!"