

The Heavens 1221

Chapter 1221: Five Peaks City's Teleportation Formation

Beneath the Five Peaks Ridge in the Jiao Continent...

When Shang Xia exterminated Dugu Yuanshan's soul in the past, the Five Peaks Ridge was created and it had already become a key stronghold of the Tongyou Institution in the Jiao Continent. The experts of the institution even established the Five Peaks City beneath the ridge.

Even though the Five Peaks Ridge was surrounded by a massive marsh back then, it had already been developed as many people could enter the Five Peaks City from the rest of the Jiao Continent. In recent years, the city has grown more and more bustling.

No one expected the Five Peaks City that always allowed anyone to enter and leave as they wished to seal itself off one day. They even activated the grand formation around their city and seemed to be ready for battle.

Many cultivators in the city started to discuss among themselves, and they were guessing if something big happened.

However, news quickly arrived that the Tongyou Institution's formation in the north of the city was almost complete and the formation was a Teleportation Formation that led to the Tongyou City back in the You Continent!

As soon as they heard what happened, fervent discussions broke out in the city. After the news of the Teleportation Formation was verified by the experts of the Tongyou Institution, many cultivators started gathering their friends to head over to the north of the city to take a look.

To many of the low to mid-level cultivators, teleportation was something that only existed in legends. Even Martial Extermination Realm cultivators in the Spirit Luxuriant World could only make use of spatial tunnels to travel through a short distance in the void. Only experts who have reached the Martial Dipper Realm had the ability to create spatial tunnels on their own and travel through them.

That was also why many low to mid-level cultivators had never stepped out of their continents...

Even those cultivators who loved to adventure and wanted to travel to faraway places wouldn't be able to go too far. After all, the time taken for the journey wasn't the biggest problem they would face. Instead, the journey would be fraught with dangers.

However... If a Teleportation Formation that led to other continents was truly established, the situation would change completely.

Even low-level cultivators would be able to pass through the continent easily to arrive at the You Continent!

The Tongyou Institution might have already blocked off the region where the Teleportation Formation was located, but that didn't stop cultivators from crowding around outside the cordoned region to take a look at what was happening/

As one of the super talents under the Tongyou Institution, Sun Haiwei had been stationed in the Jiao Continent to handle things there.

She was watching 2 Formation Grandmasters directing dozens of Formation Masters around as they carried out the final checks. With so much at stake, Sun Haiwei had personally taken charge of watching over the area.

With a fourth element Martial Dipper Realm expert like herself watching over the project, no one would dare to cause trouble.

It didn't take long for the Formation Grandmasters to report that the formation was ready to be activated.

Sun Haiwei nodded with a solemn expression stuck to her face and she asked, "What is the time set by those at the institution?"

"Exactly 12 noon..."

Raising her head to silently calculate the time, she eventually muttered, "Alright, let's start the preparation now!"

With 30 minutes to noon, the Formation Grandmasters placed high-grade essence crystals of the five elements carefully around the core of the formation and prepared for the activation.

Powerful spatial fluctuation eventually emerged from the middle of the formation, but it didn't cause any widespread destruction.

Along with the full activation of the Five Element Teleportation Formation, several low to mid-grade spiritual beasts stumbled onto the platform as they seemingly appeared from nowhere.

They quickly found their footing on the platform they arrived on before starting to run in various directions.

Sun Haiwei, who had long been prepared, waved her arms and sent all those spiritual beasts tumbling back onto the platform.

Nodding at the Formation Grandmasters on her side, they started another round of transfer as those beasts disappeared from the platform before reappearing in the You Continent.

Above the heavenly screen, the True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World stared at what happened in Five Peaks City.

Watching how the beasts that were sent to the Jiao Continent returning to the You Continent, Liu Jingsheng gasped in admiration, "Looks like the Teleportation Formation is properly established..."

Yang Taihe's clone mumbled from the side, "The spatial disturbance caused by the activation isn't small indeed... It basically covered the entire city. However... It is true that there are no obvious tracks left of the transfer."

As he spoke, he turned to look at Shang Xia's clone that looked extremely relaxed. He wanted to ask more, but because his question might concern high-level secrets of the institution, Yang Taihe's clone seemed a little too embarrassed to continue asking.

Naturally, he wasn't the only person who was amazed and curious at the principles behind the formation that left no trace behind.

Noticing the flabbergasted expressions on the faces of those around him, Shang Xia simply looked in the direction of Five Peaks City with a smile. He pretended not to have seen anything.

The next second, the Teleportation Formation in the Five Peaks City emitted familiar spatial fluctuations once again and people started to walk out of it.

“Oh? Senior Brother Tian, why are you here?” Sun Haiwei raised her eyebrows in shock when she saw who had come.

Tian Mengzi held a talisman in his hand and grinned, “That’s because I have his.”

He was holding a rank five Five Element Teleportation Talisman Shang Xia made. Clearly, it was so he could easily escape in case anything went wrong with the transfer.

“Did you feel anything wrong during the process?” Sun Haiwei continued to ask.

Tian Mengzi shook his head and chuckled, “Everything was fine. However, if one hadn’t reached the Martial Intent Realm, they might feel a slight sense of discomfort as they hadn’t started cultivating their souls. The discomfort they feel should be proportional to how far they travel...”

Even though Tian Mengzi stepped off the platform, the spatial fluctuations remained.

Sun Haiwei couldn’t help but ask, “Are there more people coming?”

“Since there isn’t any problem with the transfer, we would have to test out sending cultivators of different levels.”

Soon after, cultivators of the institution ranging from the Martial Extermination Realm, Martial Intent Realm, Martial Extremity Realm, and even the Martial Realm arrived on the Jiao Continent.

Sometimes, only cultivators of a single level would appear and at other times, there would be a mix.

Above the heavenly screen, Yin Jingxu’s frown grew deeper as more and more cultivators of the You Continent arrived. Eventually, he mumbled, “There’s nothing more for us to see here. Since the formation works, we will fully support the establishment of the same formation to the Star Beast Nest!”

After he spoke, he cupped his fists towards the others before taking his leave.

Some of the others started chuckling under their breaths before bidding Shang Xia’s clone farewell.

Chapter 1222: Rank Six Grand Formation

After everyone left, Shang Xia’s clone remained above the heavenly screen and continued to observe everything that was happening.

Since they established the Teleportation Formation, they haven’t stopped sending people or creatures over.

From the initial tests where individuals were slowly being sent over, to 5 man squads, all the way up to 20 men squads, to the point where 30 cultivators were sent over, no problems occurred. Only after verifying that there wouldn’t be any problem with continuous transfers did they finally stop and start to test sending goods.

As the materials and resources gathered in Five Peaks City were sent back in batches to the You Continent, the You Continent sent back talismans, weapons, medicine, and other types of resources. Once again proving the viability of sending goods over, Sun Haiwei allowed the Formation Grandmasters to announce that the Teleportation Formation would be open to everyone.

Great cheers soon broke out in the crowd.

In the eyes of some more observant people, they discovered that there were hundreds of members of the Tongyou Institution in the Five Peaks City and many more batches of resources.

Without a doubt, from how the Heavenly Star Palace had been showing signs of backing out from the Jiao Continent, the Tongyou Institution was making their preparations in case anything went wrong. They were prepared to take back control over the regions the Heavenly Star Palace would be giving up once they left.

It was also why Yin Jingxu's expression turned unsightly at the end as he hurried back to the Star Observatory.

Shang Xia's clone finally left after seeing that the operation of the Five Element Teleportation Formation didn't run into any problems. He headed straight back to the You Continent.

When he just arrived above the heavenly screen above the You Continent, he observed that some change was happening within.

In no rush to return to the institution, he simply stared at everything happening below. He discovered that the institution had disappeared from his perception and even the city looked like a mere illusion.

"This..." Seemingly realizing something, a look of joy appeared on Shang Xia's face before he descended.

Even though the Tongyou Institution had shielded itself from the perceptions of many cultivators, it didn't actually disappear. With how deeply he understood the Tongyou City and his connection with it, there was no way he would lose his way.

A ray of light descended from the heavens as Shang Xia's clone appeared back in the institution. The first thing he did was to release his divine soul and he quickly detected where many cultivators had gathered. It was one of the core nodes of the rank six grand formation in the institution, and it was where the Five Element Ring was located.

The 3 deputy patriarchs, Instructors, and teachers of the institution were also gathered there, and even many Hall Masters and deacons were gathered. It was so crowded that they nearly couldn't squeeze in.

Formation Grandmasters of the institution were moving about hastily in the formation node under Chu Jia's orders.

From what Shang Xia could feel with his divine soul, the formation node was like a massive fortress and it was basically impregnable. There were even countless layers of protection beneath the ground.

He appeared so silently and his concealment was so strong that not even Chu Jia, who was the most sensitive to changes in the surroundings, noticed him.

Slowly approaching where the 3 deputy patriarchs were, Shang Xia asked, "Didn't we just succeed in deploying the long-range Teleportation Formation to the Jiao Continent? Why have the members of the Formation Hall gathered here so suddenly?"

The 3 deputy patriarchs turned around abruptly and stared at the twisted space where he was. With their gazes on him, Shang Xia couldn't help but feel a little weak.

Eventually, Yun Jing explained, "It was such a coincidence. We just completed the deployment of the formation in the south of the city, but maybe it was because of the powerful spatial fluctuations, or maybe we came under attack, but our grand formation was activated..."

Shang Xia chuckled happily, "Would that mean that our rank six grand formation is finally complete? It's a lot faster than we expected. However... Why do they look to be in such a rush?"

Yun Jing snorted at his question, "From now on, the Teleportation Formation in the south of the city will be active often. If it activates our grand formation every time, how much world origin do you think we have to waste?!"

"It doesn't seem that difficult to solve... We can just lay down a formation that prevents the spatial fluctuations from affecting the core formation node, or we can adjust the sensitivity... It doesn't seem too difficult, right?"

He might not be a Formation Grandmaster, but he at least had basic knowledge of it.

Yun Jing mumbled, "Yeah, but the main point here is that Little Chu decided to take the opportunity to retrieve the Five Element Ring and the entirety of the Formation Hall has been activated. It's to ensure that the grand formation can still operate with the five elements being balanced even after the removal of the Formation Divine Artifact."

"Why are there so many people here then?" Shang Xia's clone couldn't help but ask again.

Ji Wenlong was the person who answered his question. "Originally, Little Chu called us here to assist her in case things went wrong. Now that you're here, it looks like we don't need to do anything..."

Shang Xia's clone nodded slightly and understood what happened. He looked at Chu Jia who was hovering above the formation node to wait for the perfect moment to take action.

Almost an hour passed when she finally yelled, "Everyone, take your positions! When I give the signal, all you need to do is to pour your inner qi into the formation!"

The next second, she seemed to have noticed Shang Xia's clone and she heaved a sigh of relief silently. Her originally taut nerves relaxed a lot.

Looking down, Shang Xia's clone noticed that everything beneath him was part of the formation node, or actually, it was more appropriate to say that the entire region they were in was part of the formation node.

The next second, the dozens of Formation Masters who ran into the central area that housed the Five Element Ring came rushing out.

As soon as she saw them, Chu Jia yelled, "Begin!"

The cultivators of the Tongyou Institution immediately started pouring their inner qi into the ground below as fate dipper qi, extermination qi, and different types of energy poured into the ground below.

The sturdy formation node started to tremble all of a sudden as the shaking slowly started to spread to the rest of the institution.

“Now!” Chu Jia yelled loudly as brilliant rays of light emerged from around her and shot deep into the ground below.

It was as though something had awakened as a loud ringing sound rang in the ears of every cultivator in the city. The next moment, a large screen of five colored light shot up into the air before merging with the glow around Chu Jia.

When the light finally faded, they saw a spinning light ring around Chu Jia and they didn’t need to rack their brains to realize that it was the Five Element Ring.

Chapter 1223: Kou Chongxue’s Imminent Return

With the assistance of so many experts from the institution, Chu Jia managed to retrieve the Five Element Ring from the core of the formation!

Shang Xia’s clone, who had been standing at the side, saw what happened clearly. With the assistance of the additional energy provided by the formation, Chu Jia managed to hasten the refinement of her fate dipper essences. In fact, she completed 2 whole cycles of refinement because of the sheer quantity of excess energy.

Even though the energy that overflowed from the formation seemed like a waste, it was a heaven-sent opportunity for her!

However... Chu Jia clearly overestimated herself. She might have been able to refine 2 additional sets of fate dipper essences to what she originally planned to do, making it a total of 15 fate dipper essences, but her physical body was unable to withstand the sudden spike in energy.

Seeing how she was struggling to hold on even with the support of the Five Element Ring, Shang Xia’s clone sighed softly as powerful streams of energy rose into the air. Those streams started to split up in mid air into the different elements before fusing together once again into a majestic ray that shot into her mind. Not only did it stabilize the rapidly vibrating Five Element Ring, but it also helped to soothe the raging energy in her body to finally allow her to complete the refinement of her fate dipper essences.

The Five Element Ring used to be Shang Xia’s divine weapon and even though he gave it to Chu Jia to be modified into a Formation Divine Weapon, the artifact spirit couldn’t be more familiar with him. As such, it didn’t resist his inner qi.

The next second, Shang Xia discovered that Chu Jia seemed to have planned for a lot more than she gained with his involvement.

According to the cultivation realms of ordinary cultivators, she could be said to have already reached the fourth element of the Martial Dipper Realm. With the Five Element Ring at her command, she was in no way inferior to Ge Qingzhu or Sun Haiwei. In fact, she might have already surpassed them.

The changes that happened to Chu Jia naturally couldn’t be hidden from the higher-ups of the institution.

By the time Chu Jia descended from mid air, there were many experts who went over to offer their congratulations.

They congratulated her both for completing the final stage of deployment of the rank six grand formation around the Tongyou Institution, and at the same time, they offered their congratulations for her growth which allowed her to take another step closer to becoming a True Immortal.

The Tongyou Institution, which gained a rank six grand formation, finally made up for their final weakness which they lacked compared to the other great powers.

At the very least, from that day forth, there would no longer be a chance of foreign True Immortals infiltrating the Tongyou Elysium. Shang Xia and Kou Chongxue wouldn't have to leave a clone behind when they left the Spirit Luxuriant World.

One had to know that every clone created would weaken their true body.

Even for a monstrous expert like Shang Xia whose divine soul was far stronger than others his level, would be affected.

The experts of the institution eventually took their leave, but the Formation Masters quickly returned to the fortified core region of the rank six grand formation.

After successfully separating the Five Element Ring from the formation, massive fluctuations were created and even though it didn't cause the formation to crumble, there were many tiny flaws that were created. They had to quickly repair them and make the proper adjustments. Otherwise, there might be serious problems that would crop up in the future.

The only people who hadn't moved were Shang Xia's clone and Chu Jia who was slowly circulating her inner qi.

"Actually, there was something they hadn't noticed. The Five Element Ring also seems to have been tempered slightly and might have reached the next level after what happened here..." Shang Xia's clone chuckled. He could feel that the aura around Chu Jia was slowly stabilizing as he spoke.

The Five Element Ring was limited by the material used to make it and it wasn't really possible for it to be able to reach the next level. It was especially after it was modified to become a Formation Divine Artifact. It seemed to have already reached its limit of growth.

However... After several years of nourishment by being the foundation of the rank six grand formation, it seemed to have grown slightly. At the same time, Chu Jia grew a lot more familiar with it and was able to wield it with ease.

Glancing at him, Chu Jia mumbled, "The Five Element Ring isn't the only thing that grew because of the tempering of the five element qi. Even my physique had grown a lot stronger. If I didn't... I wouldn't have been able to complete the refinement of the last set of my fate dipper essences earlier..."

"You were too rash!" Shang Xia's clone's tone changed to one of rebuke and he sighed, "You got lucky this time. Moreover, because you received external help, you would need a lot more time to consolidate your foundations to gain a better grasp of

your inner qi. If you fail to do so, you will greatly limit your path of cultivation from now on.”

Chu Jia chuckled casually and she didn't seem to care too much. The next moment, she seemed to have thought of something and she asked, “You assisted in my refinement of the fate dippers in front of so many people... Even though you would require a large amount of energy to do something similar and the negative side effects are strong, I'm afraid many people would start to form ideas of you helping them in the same way. What do you plan to do then?”

Shang Xia's clone didn't seem to care too much and he laughed nonchalantly, “Even though this happened by accident, it's not like my true body hadn't thought of using the Five Element Qi to temper one's physical body... It's just that my true body hadn't come up with a proper system to do so while reducing the negative impacts...”

Changing the topic back to what he was originally thinking of, Shang Xia's clone mumbled, “That's why I said you were reckless. If you weren't as lucky, my interference would have caused your Five Element Origin to go out of control!”

“Alright, alright! Hmph!” Chu Jia pouted and grumbled, “Why do you keep repeating that?! Am I not fine right now?”

Shang Xia's clone shook his head slowly and chuckled under his breath. He no longer bothered about the way she improved and he asked something else, “Anyway, you don't seem to have reached the level of a rank six Formation Grandmaster yet... Are you still missing something?”

“I'm almost there. I am already able to see past the blurry screen to the next level and I am so close to breaking through...” Chu Jia smiled.

“That's great.” Shang Xia's clone wanted to say more, but he turned to look in the distance as he saw Shang Xia's clone rushing towards him.

“Huh?” Shang Xia's clone raised his eyebrow in shock before quickly taking 2 steps forward to greet Kou Chongxue's clone. “Why have you come? Did you receive news from your true body?”

Kou Chongxue's clone nodded once and exclaimed, “I feel like my true body is about to return!”

“He didn't run into any trouble there, right?” Shang Xia's clone frowned.

Shaking his head, Kou Chongxue's clone sighed, “I don't know... However, I can feel that he seems to be in a rush!”

Both of them turned solemn before Shang Xia's clone eventually muttered, “Should I inform my true body?”

After thinking about it for a few moments, Kou Chongxue's clone mumbled, “I think you should... However, since my true body is able to make it back, he shouldn't be in too much danger...”

Chapter 1224: New Talisman Inheritance

In the streams of chaotic space some distance away from the Essence Xing World, a Star Beast Nest could be seen appearing from time to time.

At the entrance to the Star Beast Nest, a clone that barely had the cultivation level of a True Immortal stood guard.

However, within the Star Beast Nest, Shang Xia wasn't the only person anymore.

Half a year ago, after the True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World decided on the overall plan to operate the Star Beast Nest, they had already sent a portion of their experts to the You Continent. After everyone gathered, they were guided by the Stargazers of the Tongyou Institution and brought to the Star Beast Nest with Shang Xia's clone's assistance.

Because of how special the Star Beast Nest was and its significance, the first batch of experts they sent there didn't exceed 50 and all of them had cultivation in the fourth layer of the Martial Extermination Realm or higher.

Of course, they weren't there just to collect the resources produced there. They were also responsible for splitting up the allocation for the collection of resources, and modification of cultivation grounds. Some of them were also in charge of patrolling the region and observing the surroundings. There were also a portion of them who were responsible for establishing the foundations of the Five Element Teleportation Formation they had to lay.

Since the tasks they had to do were extremely tedious and labor intensive, Shang Xia wouldn't take part in it himself.

Naturally, the communication between the Star Beast Nest and the Spirit Luxuriant World couldn't be solely allocated to a high-level True Immortal like Shang Xia. As such, the Five Element Teleportation Formation seemed to be the most important thing they had to do.

Actually, the other True Immortals also needed the formation to be completed as soon as possible. They didn't want Shang Xia to be the only person who could control the Star Beast Nest even if they believed he wouldn't do anything that would put them at a disadvantage.

...

In the half a year they had been preparing, other than restoring his exhausted inner qi and divine soul, Shang Xia had been working on the Illusion Talisman.

Strictly speaking, the Illusion Talisman that Shang Xia had developed thus far could already be considered a talisman inheritance by itself. It was also the fifth rank six talisman inheritance Shang Xia knew.

However, he didn't seem to be satisfied with its modification yet.

With the influx of experts and modifications being done to the Star Beast Nest, Shang Xia was no longer using a crude platform as his crafting station. The first thing the experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World did when they arrived was to construct a simple Talisman Pagoda for him.

Even though it was far from the Talisman Pagoda of the Tongyou Institution, it was much better than nothing.

Of course, the resources used in the Star Beast Nest didn't just belong to the Tongyou Institution. The other great powers also made some contributions.

When Shang Xia finally emerged from seclusion, he was immediately greeted by Ren Huan and a Martial Dipper Realm expert from the Eternal Palace.

“Congratulations on True Immortal Shang’s emergence from seclusion!” The Martial Dipper Realm cultivator from the Eternal Palace greeted.

Shang Xia was slightly curious, and he chuckled with amusement, “How do you know you should congratulate me after I came out from seclusion this time? What if I didn’t gain anything and simply wanted to stroll around to soothe my emotions?”

The Martial Dipper Realm expert from the Eternal Palace was stumped for a second but he quickly regained his composure. “True Immortal Shang’s talent is boundless and...”

“Forget it. What do you want?” Shang Xia interrupted the other party with a wave of his hand.

The Martial Dipper Realm expert from the Eternal Palace bowed respectfully and mumbled, “True Immortal Shang, if I may ask about the Illusion Talisman...”

Shang Xia opened the entrance to the Talisman Pagoda and made a slight gesture as 2 talismans came flying out.

The Martial Dipper Realm expert from the Eternal Palace didn’t dare to be careless and look into the Talisman Pagoda when Shang Xia opened it and quickly turned away. The last thing he saw was 2 streaks of light emerging from within.

When the talismans appeared in Shang Xia’s hand, the void in the distance split open as Shang Xia’s clone that was stationed at the entrance to the Star Beast Nest in the streams of chaotic space reappeared.

Under their gazes, Shang Xia activated one of the talismans and placed it on his clone.

His clone, which originally only had the cultivation of a True Immortal who had just broken through, started to emit a powerful aura that grew at a terrifyingly strong pace.

The suddenly rising aura filled the Star Beast Nest and alerted the experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World who had been sent over. In fact, the intense fluctuations even started to spread out of the Star Beast Nest into the region of chaotic space outside.

“Second tier...” The Martial Dipper Realm expert from the Eternal Palace gasped in shock as he continued to feel the aura of Shang Xia’s clone rise.

“This... Is he about to reach the third tier?” In the next second, the Martial Dipper Realm expert from the Eternal Palace asked Ren Huan with a look of shock in his eyes.

Both of them didn’t notice the look of disappointment on Shang Xia’s face when everything was happening.

Even though the Illusion Talisman allowed his clone’s cultivation to seem a lot stronger than before, Shang Xia knew that it had already reached its limit and would not be able to make his clone look like a fourth tier True Immortal.

It was exactly as he had thought. When the aura his clone emitted reached the peak of the third tier of the Martial Void Realm, the Illusion Talisman no longer made it look stronger.

“This... It’s just lacking the very last bit... What a shame!” The Martial Dipper Realm expert from the Eternal Palace sighed.

Ren Huan didn’t say a word after glancing at the Martial Dipper Realm expert from the Eternal Palace. After all, the aura of a fourth tier True Immortal wasn’t that easy to replicate.

Even though they were just replicating it, it was still an extremely difficult task.

Shang Xia didn’t seem too bothered though. He chuckled softly, “It’s truly a shame indeed... I have 1 more Illusion Talisman here and I know you and a group of cultivators from our world are planning to head back. You can bring this back to True Immortal Yang.”

The Martial Dipper Realm expert from the Eternal Palace hesitated slightly before speaking again, “True Immortal Shang, since your Illusion Talisman can disguise a clone at the initial stage of the Martial Void Realm as a peak-level third tier True Immortal, wouldn’t that mean that an expert at the peak of the first tier or the second tier would be able to pretend to be a fourth tier True Immortal?”

Before Shang Xia could say anything, Ren Huan snorted from the side, “How can it be that easy? Do you think anyone can pretend to be a high-level True Immortal?”

Shang Xia also laughed in response. “Just report whatever you saw to True Immortal Yang. However, I gained some insights to how to replicate the energies of a high-level True Immortal. It won’t be long before I manage to succeed...”

The Martial Dipper Realm expert from the Eternal Palace nodded and seeing that Shang Xia’s expression was still one of nonchalance, he gathered his courage and asked, “May I ask... True Immortal Shang, I know that the Illusion Talisman used to be a rank five talisman. However, you took less than half a month to upgrade it to the sixth rank and replicate the aura of a second tier True Immortal. Now... Slightly more than half a year had passed and...”

Ren Huan couldn’t take it anymore and he was truly regretting bringing the Martial Dipper Realm expert from the Eternal Palace to see Shang Xia. His expression sank and he growled, “Brother Mu, you seem to have crossed the line!”

Before Cultivator Mu could say anything, Shang Xia waved his hand to dismiss Ren Huan’s concerns. He laughed, “It’s no secret. The main reason is because crafting talismans of the same level as my cultivation is a little easier. Also, our Tongyou Institution will only gain another complete inheritance if someone else manages to replicate the way I crafted this talisman to produce another. Finally... It has only been half a year. I’ll still remain in the Star Beast Nest for some time and there’s no need to rush things.” Shang Xia basically cleared up all the burning questions in Cultivator Mu’s heart without needing him to voice his concerns.

Cultivator Mu responded quickly, “Many thanks for True Immortal Shang’s clarification! Once I return, I will report this to the other True Immortals and I believe the other great powers will send huge support for you to continue modifying the Illusion Talisman.”

Shang Xia smiled nonchalantly and muttered, “Just tell them the truth of what you saw earlier.”

Shang Xia’s efforts in modifying the talisman was naturally backed by the massive support of the great powers. Without mentioning anything else, just rank six talisman paper alone was something he would never be able to gather enough of if the other great powers didn’t send help.

The annoyed Ren Huan finally sent Cultivator Mu away after that.

Before Shang Xia's clone could leave to guard the entrance again, he was stopped by Shang Xia. "Wait a second. Don't head out to the entrance first. Stay in the Star Beast Nest for some time, but don't bother concealing your cultivation!"

Shang Xia's clone naturally responded to his true body's orders. However, his clone couldn't help but gasp in shock while staring at the entrance of the Star Beast Nest. "Is there someone hiding in the region of chaotic space and spying on us?"

Shang Xia nodded. "In recent months, there have been some people observing us in the dark. Moreover, they're not part of the same batch..."

Shang Xia's clone thought for a second before raising an eyebrow curiously, "Are they from the Wanyun Association or the Qingling Palace?"

"No clue." Shang Xia shook his head and sighed.

"Looks like the news of us being here has already spread across the Essence Xing World then." Shang Xia's clone nodded, before he continued, "With my transformation, I might look like a third tier True Immortal, but it's not appropriate for me to head out. With me hiding in here and not concealing my aura, we'll be able to prevent them from making any rash moves..."

Shang Xia nodded before tilting his chin to point at the Talisman Pagoda. "There are 2 more Illusion Talismans within. Bring them on you at all times. When you feel like the effects are weakening, activate another."

Slightly taken aback, Shang Xia's clone frowned. "What's the matter? Are the members of the Essence Xing World going to come into the Star Beast Nest?"

As if on cue, a voice that could only be heard by True Immortals rang through the Star Beast Nest. "I am Shen Chongshan of the Wanyun Association of the Essence Xing World, and I am here to pay a visit... I hope True Immortal Shang can grant me an audience."

Chapter 1225: Customer +1

"True Immortal Shen?" Shang Xia's true body headed over to the entrance of the Star Beast Nest and he gasped softly, "I am Shang Xia and I wonder how you're related to True Immortal Gong Zhuo of the Wanyun Association..."

He saw a figure that was neither overly fat nor thin, with a sincere expression on his face chuckling at him, "True Immortal Gong Zhuo is my martial uncle, and I specially came to meet True Immortal Shang under his instructions..."

"Oh?" The frown on Shang Xia's face grew deeper. Actually, he had been looking forward to contacting the experts of the Essence Xing World for some time. Even so, he didn't reveal too much of his emotions. "That's strange. From what I know, regardless of your strength or foundations, your Wanyun Association is in the upper echelons of strength in your Essence Xing World. It's said that your relationship with

the Dachen Dynasty is pretty good... I'm just an exiled cultivator and barely managed to establish myself in the Star Beast Nest. Is there something you require from someone like me?"

Shen Chongshan gasped silently when Shang Xia addressed himself as that. After all, it was shocking news for a high-level True Immortal to be exiled and punished to explore the sea of stars... A high-level True Immortal held great power in whatever world he was in... How powerful would a world need to be in order to punish a high-level True Immortal to leave the world and watch over a Star Beast Nest?

That would mean that the world behind him was both strict and had the ability to force a high-level True Immortal like himself to obediently listen to their orders.

How strong can they actually be?!

After he thought so much into it, Shen Chongshan didn't dare to show the slightest disrespect. He quickly put on a respectful expression. From what he could deduce from Gong Zhuo's description of Shang Xia, he could tell that his martial uncle probably failed to gain an advantage when fighting the expert before him. He lowered himself further and muttered respectfully, "Martial Uncle Gong has been praising True Immortal Shang non-stop and he holds you in extremely high regard. Once he heard that I ran into trouble, he revealed to me that you are a rank six Talisman Grandmaster with amazing technique. That is why... That is why I made the bold decision to come here to request for you to craft some talismans..."

Shang Xia could tell that Shen Chongshan was a mere second tier True Immortal, but since he was able to pass through the region of chaotic space to arrive at the Star Beast Nest, he probably had some sort of special treasure on him.

Of course, considering how long he had been staying in the streams of chaotic space, Shang Xia could also tell that Shen Chongshan was probably unable to hold on for much longer.

A smile appeared on Shang Xia's face and he turned his body to the side before muttering casually, "Right, I was too careless earlier. True Immortal Shen, please come in for a chat."

"I wouldn't dare, I wouldn't dare... True Immortal Shang, please head on in first."

Shen Chongshan responded quickly.

After entering the Star Beast Nest, Shen Chongshan discovered that Shang Xia didn't try to restrict his senses too much. He could tell that there were several dozen powerful auras in the Star Beast Nest as soon as he entered, and among them, there was an exceptionally powerful aura that had reached the peak of the third tier of the Martial Void Realm.

Seemingly discovering the change in Shen Chongshan's attitude, Shang Xia smiled and explained, "It's still a Secret Region after all and it's not good to waste resources. Even though I've been exiled, I still called upon the disciples of my sect to clean this place up... True Immortal Shen, please don't mind me..."

Shen Chongshan quickly responded, "Of course... Even our Essence Xing World modified many Star Beast Nests and made use of them..."

“Yeah, you understand how it is!” Shang Xia chuckled. Despite his nonchalant expression, he was paying attention to everything Shen Chongshan said.

A moment later, both True Immortals arrived at the elementary Talisman Pagoda in the Star Beast Nest. Along the way, Shen Chongshan managed to see everything as Shang Xia didn't bother concealing anything.

After inviting Shen Chongshan to a stone table, a young female cultivator at the Martial Extermination Realm brought tea.

She wasn't any random cultivator. She was actually Hai Yuanyuan, Shang Xia's first true disciple.

After Hai Yuanyuan left, Shen Chongshan glanced at her leaving figure and muttered in a strange voice, “I didn't think that even a servant girl of yours would have such impressive cultivation level. I can tell that her extermination origins are really special...”

Shang Xia burst out laughing the next moment. “True Immortal Shen, you have great senses. Her extermination origins are indeed special, and she isn't a servant girl. She is my first true disciple.”

“Oh, my apologies! I am so sorry... It's no wonder...” Shen Chongshan quickly responded.

Shang Xia laughed to himself and he didn't seem to be too bothered by it.

After exchanging another round of pleasantries, Shen Chongshan finally asked again, “Actually... I'm actually here to request a bunch of talismans... There aren't strict requirements on the quality, as long as they reach the minimum standard. However, it needs to be done by a certain time... Is it possible?”

Ordinarily, many of those who came to commission talismans would want talismans that could be used in a life-or-death situation. The higher the quality the better. Hearing Shen Chongshan's request, any eccentric Talisman Grandmaster would have thought that the other party was messing around with them.

As such, Shen Chongshan looked at Shang Xia with complex emotions and hoped Shang Xia wouldn't kick him out for messing around.

He didn't expect that Shang Xia wouldn't even get mad. Instead, he seemed extremely interested in the proposal.

“Oh? You need a batch of them?!”

Shen Chongshan heaved a sigh of relief as Shang Xia didn't fly into a fit of rage and he nodded hurriedly, “Yes! I need a batch of them... In fact, I need a lot of them! I require a total of 50 rank five talismans, and 20 rank six ones... However, I need them in half a year.”

“True Immortal Shen, forgive me for asking and you can choose to not answer the question, but from what I understand, your Wanyun Association is one of the greatest powers in the Essence Xing World. Do you not have Talisman Grandmasters? Even if you lack grandmasters, have you not thought about asking allies you're on

good terms with to craft those talismans? Why did you choose to ask me, a foreign cultivator?"

Shen Chongshan fell silent for a moment before sighing softly. He eventually forced a chuckle, "Actually, there's nothing for me to hide. However, there are some parts related to the secrets of my Wanyun Association and I can't get into the details. True Immortal Shang only needs to know that I was plotted against by someone else... The moment a batch of high-level talismans was purchased by experts, the Dachen Dynasty came knocking the next moment to demand contributions. My Wanyun Association wouldn't dare to commission this to other Talisman Grandmasters for fear of news leaking to other factions. I have no choice but to look for you..."

Purchased? Demanding contributions? Hehe... I don't think you got plotted against... You probably got greedy and chose to sell away those talismans... You might not have embezzled the entire sum since it belonged to your faction, but I bet you earned a bit by pocketing a good amount from your buyers...

Even though that was what he thought, he muttered curiously, "Demanding contributions? The Dachen Dynasty actually demands talismans from you guys? Do they not pay you?"

Shen Chongshan forced a chuckle. "Actually, you can see it as a form of tax. After all, isn't it ordinary for the Dachen Dynasty to collect them? However... They usually demand different things. Sometimes, they would want essence crystals. Other times, they want talismans. There are even times they would ask for cultivation resources and stuff like that. Ordinarily, we would be able to substitute what we didn't have with other resources, but this time, they're adamant about getting their hands on talismans... Sigh... I was too greedy..."

"True Immortal Shen, how do you intend to make the trade then? What requirements do you have for those talismans anyway?" Shang Xia asked.

Shen Chongshan muttered helplessly, "As long as I manage to make up for the difference, I can give you essence crystals, talisman paper, talisman ink, or whatever resources you want. As for the type of talismans... Wait! True Immortal Shang, does this mean you are willing to craft them?"

Shen Chongshan suddenly realized that Shang Xia was negotiating with him for the price and knew it was a good sign. However, he wondered if Shang Xia was really going to be able to craft such a large number of talismans in such a short amount of time.

One had to know that was a lot of rank five and six talismans!

Shang Xia chuckled slowly. "Even though half a year seems a little short, as long as I have enough talisman paper and I don't lack talisman ink, I can give it a shot."

Shen Chongshan immediately revealed a grateful look but he didn't truly understand the hidden meaning behind Shang Xia's words. He thought that Shang Xia's backing from his world was so impressive that he would be able to gather enough experts to craft the talismans required together, but that also caused his evaluation of the Essence Ping World behind Shang Xia to grow to new heights.

"True Immortal Shang, you can rest assured. Even though the rule is usually 3 talisman paper for a talisman, due to the nature of my request, I am also willing to

provide the talisman ink required and a batch of high-grade essence crystals.” Shen Chongshan quickly added.

He didn’t expect Shang Xia to shake his head slowly while indicating for him to calm down.

Eventually, Shang Xia added, “True Immortal Shen, there is no need to be in such a rush. Let’s talk about what talismans you require.”

Slightly taken aback, Shen Chongshan regained his composure and explained, “Actually, I don’t have many requirements. As long as they are talismans of the corresponding rank, it will be great. Of course, Formation Talismans don’t count. True Immortal Shang can feel free to craft anything you wish. Even if the talismans are weak, it doesn’t matter. All I need to do is to hand over enough talismans...”

Shang Xia nodded in acknowledgment, but he couldn’t help but remind Shen Chongshan, “By the way, we are from different worlds. There might only be a single dao of talismans, but there are many different ways to craft them. All of us have barely scratched the surface of talisman crafting and the systems of our worlds would be different. Talismans in your Essence Xing World are bound to be different from mine in terms of style and variety.”

Shen Chongshan could understand what Shang Xia meant this time, but Shang Xia continued, “It’s not too difficult to craft these talismans in half a year... However... True Immortal Shen, do you really think it’s alright for you to bring over a batch of talismans that is completely different from what your world has seen before?”

Falling deep into thought, Shen Chongshan eventually muttered, “True Immortal Shang... What do you mean?”

Finally revealing his true intentions, Shang Xia grinned, “The best way is for me to understand the way your Essence Xing World craft talismans before giving it a shot!”

Chapter 1226: Yuanyuan’s Request

In the Star Beast Nest located in the chaotic space around the Essence Xing World...

After several days, Shen Chongshan paid Shang Xia another visit. However, he seemed to be a lot more sincere this time.

“70 sheets of rank five talisman paper, 20 sheets of rank six talisman paper... A rank six talisman inkstick and a set of already prepared ink. 3 rank five inksticks and 4 bottles of prepared ink... There are even 7 Soul Calming Incense, 4 rank five talisman inheritances, and 1 rank six talisman inheritance...”

Shen Chongshan handed everything over with a solemn expression. Only after he confirmed everything did he continue, “Of course, this is just the first batch of resources. I will bring them over after the next batch is prepared.”

Shang Xia didn’t say anything else. Most of his attention was placed on the talisman inheritances as from it, he could probably develop new talismans with the knowledge he gained.

“Why does the Wanyun Association seem more like a conglomerate?” Shang Xia asked casually while browsing through the inheritances.

With an expressionless face, Shen Chongshan muttered, “Well, I’m only in charge of the Wanyun Association’s interaction with the various powers... Anyway, why would you ask that?”

Shang Xia chuckled in response, “Oh, I was just messing around. Anyway, the inheritances here don’t seem to be related to each other. They shouldn’t be part of a series... However, from the strength of your Wanyun Association, it doesn’t seem like you should be lacking in inheritances...”

Shen Chongshan shook his head in response. “This is exactly a complete talisman inheritance set... True Immortal Shang, I do not quite agree with your conjecture.”

Shang Xia chuckled softly and muttered, “Like I said, I was guessing. Why are you taking it so seriously?”

Shooting Shang Xia a deep gaze, Shen Chongshan mumbled, “True Immortal Shang, I will have to trust in your skills now. Of course, it doesn’t matter if you mix in a few talismans not related to these in the mix. After all... It’s not like my Essence Xing World lacks channels to other worlds.”

After he spoke, Shen Chongshan turned to leave. Of course, he glanced in a certain direction of the Star Beast Nest before he departed as he detected another second tier True Immortal.

“From the looks of it, the Essence Ping World seems to take the development of this Star Beast Nest very seriously. Hmm... This is strange. How can an Essence World care so much about a mere nest? No... They should be interested in what I have to offer!”

“Yes... I might be the bridge between both worlds and can become a trusted connection between us! I’m afraid this has a lot more implications than I thought. About Martial Uncle Gong...” Shen Chongshan muttered to himself as he flew out of the Star Beast Nest.

Looking at Shen Chongshan whose emotions were complex as he left, Shang Xia carefully savored a cup of tea.

Not too long later, Hai Yuanyuan brought a middle-aged expert with a solemn expression on his face over.

Shang Xia quickly cupped his fists in greeting. “Congratulations, Senior Huang, for taking the final step! Our world gained another second tier True Immortal!”

The person who came was precisely Huang Jinghan who had been managing the first Star Beast Nest.

What Shang Xia didn’t expect was that not too long after Huang Jinghan was replaced by Lu Wuzi, he managed to break through the bottleneck. Clearly, his foundations were deep...

Huang Jinghan chuckled in response. “Hah... Others might be able to congratulate me like that, but compared to you, I am truly ashamed of my progress...”

Both of them burst out laughing the next moment.

Inviting Huang Jinghan to take a seat, Hai Yuanyuan immediately served another pot of tea.

Huang Jinghan immediately started with a sigh, “Even though I had been developing the other Star Beast Nest, it’s nothing compared to this! I heard that when you first ran into the Star Beast Pack, it consisted of 2 rank six Star Beasts and tens of other high-level ones?”

Shang Xia shook his head in amusement. “Actually, there was another high-level Star Beast breaking through to the sixth rank when I came here. I was caught off guard and if not for the fact that I entered the fourth tier of the Martial Void Realm, I might have suffered from the sneak attack it attempted.”

Huang Jinghan waved his hands casually in response. “True Immortal Little Shang, you’re too humble! How can an evolving Star Beast harm you?”

He was no fool. Even when they first ran into the first Star Beast Pack, the monster before him was only a second tier True Immortal then. Even so, he beat up a rank six Star Beast so badly it had to run back to its nest. He was also brought back by the Star Beast before returning with its corpse... Why the hell would he be afraid of a Star Beast that hadn’t fully advanced?

After exchanging a little more pleasantries, Huang Jinghan finally asked about the reason Shang Xia invited him over.

“The reason I called you over is because I wish for you to replace me for some time...” Shang Xia explained.

Huang Jinghan was shocked by his sudden revelation. However, he quickly regained his composure and laughed, “I won’t ask where you’re planning to go or what you’re planning to do then. All I want to know is that if you’re really confident I will be able to guard the place well? After all... I just stepped into the second tier of the Martial Void Realm.”

Shang Xia turned serious and explained, “I understand the risks, but I really do have to leave for a period of time. I can only hope for you to stand guard here for some time. I should be back in a month at the latest. The Wanyun Association requested for me to craft a batch of talismans and I should be able to use the excuse that I’m in seclusion to prepare for that. With the situation unclear, they shouldn’t try anything funny.”

Huang Jinghan listened to Shang Xia before asking, “Can your Illusion Talisman replicate the aura of a high-level True Immortal?”

Shang Xia understood his concerns and shook his head slowly to explain, “The difference between the aura of a third tier and fourth tier True Immortal is too large. I won’t be able to complete the modification in a short amount of time and it doesn’t matter if a second or third tier True Immortal uses it. It will only be able to make you look like you’re at the peak of the third tier of the Martial Void Realm. However, you will be able to transform your aura to make it look like you’re a different person every time...”

Huang Jinghan nodded with a trace of self-depreciation and muttered, “In that case, I can only take the risk and stay here. Even if I have nothing else to rely on, using the Illusion Talisman to pretend like I’m at the peak of the third tier should also be useful.”

“Naturally.” Shang Xia didn’t hesitate to agree.

After Huang Jinghan left, Hai Yuanyuan approached Shang Xia and sighed, “He might be able to guess what you’re going to do...”

“Oh? What am I going to do?” Shang Xia couldn’t help but laugh.

Hai Yuanyuan frowned. “For you to be in such a rush... I’m afraid only matters related to the patriarch will be able to get you so worked up. Did Patriarch Kou run into any trouble?”

Shang Xia grinned in response. “Damn lass, you’re not even that old, but your brain seems to be able to come up with a bunch of weird plans. Are you trying to bait me into giving you more information? Hehe... If you have so much time to come up with strange plans like this, why don’t you use your excess energy to cultivate?”

Hai Yuanyuan growled, “I am cultivating! I refined my extermination origins simultaneously and in your terms, my extermination origins are the Polar Extermination Origins. If I wish to gather more extermination qi, I will have to do so from the 4 extreme ends of the world. However, such a large secret region should also contain some extermination qi of the 4 extreme poles. I don’t have to fight with anyone for them here...”

Shang Xia was struck speechless by her reason for heading over to the Star Beast Nest and he couldn’t help but sigh with exasperation, “What the hell? Doesn’t it seem like you’re cheating...”

“Of course not! No one dares to take the same path as you and naturally, none of them will try to snatch the extermination qi I need!” Hai Yuanyuan pouted.

Helpless, Shang Xia could only sigh, “Alright, alright, I guess you will be responsible for showing off the might of this cultivation system then. In the future, you can go ahead and be the founding ancestor.”

“Relax. I won’t forget you when the time comes! Even if I’m the founding ancestor, I’ll place you at a position higher than mine...” Hai Yuanyuan giggled.

With his eyelids twitching slightly, Shang Xia snorted, “Hmph, you’re asking for a beating, you disrespectful fool.”

Hai Yuanyuan was naturally not afraid of Shang Xia, but she quickly started yelling, “Wait, wait, don’t hit me! I have a real request!”

“What makes you think I’ll agree to help?” Shang Xia tilted his head to the side and mumbled.

Still giggling, Hai Yuanyuan ran over to Shang Xia and grabbed his arm before swinging it around. She suddenly started to whine, “Uncle...”

“Stop, stop, stop! Don’t start now; just tell me what you want. Sigh... Where did that quiet and cute little girl who would start drooling when she sees food in the stalls along the street go...?” Shang Xia sighed.

Pouting, Hai Yuanyuan eventually shot him a wide grin. “I’m about to complete the refinement of my extermination origins to reach the peak of the Four Constellation Realm! I should start to prepare to enter the Five Element Realm... Can you... Can you ask your biggest fan, that Formation Grandmaster, to help me out?”

“What?! What the hell do you know?!” Shang Xia snapped suddenly.

“Hehe... Do you really think everyone is dumb?” Hai Yuanyuan pressed her lips together and whispered. Noticing Shang Xia staring at her, her eyes spun before her smile returned. “Can’t you help me out here?! I’m not familiar with Hall Master Chu. I have to trouble you to ask on my behalf...”

“No wait...” Shang Xia frowned as he turned slightly to the side. “Why do you need her help when preparing to enter the Five Element Realm? Why don’t you ask me instead?”

Shang Xia was the cultivator who established the cultivation system. Even though Chu Jia successfully entered the Five Element Realm, she merely changed the way she cultivated mid way. She couldn’t be considered a true disciple of Shang Xia’s cultivation system, unlike Hai Yuanyuan!

Glancing at him, Hai Yuanyuan sighed helplessly, “My Polar Extermination Origin is extremely compatible with the dao of space. I might be at the Four Constellation Realm, but my comprehension of the dao of space has already surpassed several Martial Dipper Realm experts... In order to prepare to enter the Five Element Realm, I have to continue working on the dao of space! Hall Master Chu created the Five Element Formation System and something related to the Five Element Teleportation Formation might also be the best chance for me to gather my fate dipper essences...”

Shang Xia burst out laughing suddenly. “You’re only at the large completion stage of the Four Constellation Realm, and you haven’t comprehended your martial intent. Even so, you already started to think about the Five Element Realm... How did I find a disciple like you who wants to fly before you learn how to run?! I...”

Hai Yuanyuan turned and started to run away after realizing that Shang Xia was about to start his long-winded lectures.

Looking at her departing figure, Shang Xia seemed to fall deep into his thoughts as he muttered to himself, “The dao of space... From the looks of it, she has already started to walk down her own cultivation path.”

Chapter 1227: Shang Bo Emerging From Seclusion

A formless ray of light passed through the vast sea of stars with guidance from the Star Observatory before passing through the heavenly screen. It quickly arrived at the Star Observatory in the Tongyou Elysium.

As soon as Shang Xia emerged, he stared at Yuan Qiuyuan, Xin Lu, and Yan Ming. He wasted no time and asked, “What’s the matter? Did we receive news of the patriarch?”

Yuan Qiuyuan stepped forward and replied, “We have not accurately located his tracks in the sea of stars, but his clone said that his true body is really close. However, he has been flying around as though he is lost... That is why we reported the situation.”

Shang Xia nodded and looked at Kou Chongxue’s clone who had just arrived at the Star Observatory.

Clearly, Kou Chongxue’s clone detected his return and rushed over to speak to him.

“Do you know the approximate location of your true body?” Shang Xia asked.

Kou Chongxue’s clone shook his head and mumbled softly, “He has been getting closer and closer, but I failed to locate traces of him in recent times. It’s as though he has been flying back and forth non-stop...”

Shang Xia couldn’t help but continue asking, “Who else knows about your true body’s return?”

“The first person I told was you and Little Chu. After that, I informed the deputy patriarchs, Shang Lubing, and Bu Jingshuang. Other than that, no one else knows what is going on. I believe none of them present would leak news of my true body’s return either.”

Shang Xia nodded to indicate his understanding before he continued, “Other than getting lost in the sea of stars, your true body might be running from someone... The people hunting him down might possess extremely strong backing and he might be afraid to lure his opponents over for fear of bringing a terrifying opponent for the Spirit Luxuriant World.

Standing at the side, Xin Lu wondered out loud, “Didn’t the patriarch head to the Spirit Faith World? How dangerous can they be after they are defeated?”

Shang Xia shook his head and didn’t say anything. However, a worry started to fill his heart.

Could the Spirit Faith World and those Azure Worlds be backed by...

Sweeping his gaze across those present, he finally stared at Kou Chongxue’s clone. “I’ll head over personally. When the time comes, you need to come with me. In order to lock on to the patriarch’s position, we will also require the assistance of all of you.” Shang Xia then turned to Xin Lu and the rest.

With her eyes widening slightly, Xin Lu mumbled, “If we have the help of the other Star Observatory, it will be a lot easier to locate the patriarch.”

Yan Ming raised an eyebrow and muttered, “Are you referring to the Star Observatory in the Star Origin Dao Field?”

“What if we had the help of the Heavenly Star Palace?” Xin Lu shook her head and sighed.

Everyone turned to Shang Xia the very next moment, only to see him shake his head. “No. We cannot reveal our intentions at this moment.”

Kou Chongxue’s clone also nodded after a short hesitation to agree with Shang Xia.

Looking at Yan Ming, Shang Xia chuckled, “Oh? By the way, did you finally emerge from seclusion? From the looks of it, everything went smoothly...”

“At the very least, I’m not lacking too far behind them now. It’s just a pity I failed to become a Stargazer despite my increased cultivation realm...” Yan Ming smiled.

...

Leaving the Tongyou Elysium, Shang Xia went to look for Chu Jia and raised his request immediately, "I need to borrow the Five Element Ring for a period of time."

She didn't hesitate to retrieve the Five Element Ring, but as she handed it to him, she couldn't help but ask, "What do you need it for?"

"Just as precaution... Also, I have a request for you..." Shang Xia thought about it before asking.

Chu Jia seemed slightly taken aback. "What do you need?"

"Are you able to create a piece of Five Element Jade like before with the Five Element Formation?" Shang Xia thought about it for a second before asking.

Raising an eyebrow, Chu Jia snorted softly, "You're making preparations for her daughter to enter the Five Element Realm, aren't you?"

"Hehe..." Shang Xia didn't stare her in the eyes and he mumbled, "Looks like I can't hide anything from you, can I?"

Chu Jia immediately rolled her eyes at him before sighing, "I'll give it a shot. However, I'll say this right now... I might not be able to succeed."

"As long as you give it a shot... Otherwise, I'll create a piece of Five Element Jade even if I have to exhaust a good portion of my Six Direction Origin." Shang Xia chuckled softly.

Before he could leave, Chu Jia reached out to stop him and growled, "Are you going to do something dangerous right now?"

Shang Xia's expression didn't change, but he gasped in astonishment, "Why would you think so?"

Pouting slightly, Chu Jia seemed too lazy to answer his question. She simply tossed a small triangular flag at him and sighed, "With this, you will be able to quickly deploy a simple Five Element Confinement Formation. It's especially useful for someone like you who doesn't know shit about formations."

Shang Xia snickered under his breath and kept the treasure well. He waved goodbye before heading over to look for the deputy patriarchs. However, he didn't expect to see his grandfather when he arrived.

With the powerful aura around Shang Bo, it was clear that he had advanced into the fourth element of the Martial Dipper Realm.

"Grandpa, you finally emerged from seclusion!" Shang Xia gasped the moment they met.

However, he could tell that Shang Bo's aura was fluctuating a little too unsteadily and it was clear his breakthrough wasn't too successful. His Dipper Origin should have suffered some damage.

Shang Bo didn't seem to care much about the hidden injuries he suffered during his breakthrough though. He had a face full of smiles when he saw Shang Xia again and he laughed, "We were just talking about you!"

Shang Xia looked at the deputy patriarchs with a strange gaze before laughing along, "What about me?"

Yun Jing continued, "True Immortal Liu of the Yuanchen Sect sent a transmission to ask why you summoned True Immortal Huang to the second Star Beast Nest and when he would be able to return."

Ji Wenlong snorted, "Looks like True Immortal Liu is really concerned about his junior brother who has also reached the second tier of the Martial Void Realm."

"Other than our True Immortals who have already far surpassed the rest... Huang Jinghan is the only second tier Free True Immortal in our Spirit Luxuriant World. Liu Jingsheng is naturally concerned for him." Liu Zhiyuan laughed at the side.

Shang Bo continued, "Even though it hasn't been long since I emerged from seclusion, from what I have heard, is it possible the other powers are planning to send Huang Jinghan to contact the Spirit Thistle World?"

All 4 deputy patriarchs looked at Shang Xia in unison the next moment.

Raising an eyebrow, Shang Xia gasped, "Why are you looking at me?"

"The Spirit Thistle World has intentions of contacting us and we also have plans to ally with them. Both sides have intentions to work together but because Patriarch Kou went out and you found the second Star Beast Nest, along with the fact that the other strong True Immortals cannot leave our world... They needed to think of a plan." Yun Jing started the explanation.

Ji Wenlong continued where she left off. "Huang Jinghan managed to step into the second tier with much difficulty and our world finally has someone else capable of representing the rest of us. However, you called him over to the second Star Beast Nest as soon as he consolidated his foundations. Now, every great power out there thinks that you are intentionally stalling contact with the Spirit Thistle World and might be intentionally sabotaging the alliance."

Shang Xia didn't even bother getting angry and he snorted coldly, "This is a whole load of bullshit."

Suddenly, Liu Zhiyuan seemed to recall Shang Xia had a purpose when he came looking for them.

"I suspect that Patriarch Kou isn't running around in the sea of stars because he's lost... He is most likely being hunted down and chose not to return immediately because he's afraid of drawing trouble to our world..." Shang Xia said the next second.

Chapter 1228: Kou Chongxue's Return

Shang Xia quickly broke down the reason he thought that way to the deputy patriarchs.

Eventually, Shang Bo frowned and asked, "Since that is the case, what do you plan to do?"

“I’m going to head over personally.” Shang Xia laughed.

Yun Jing interjected immediately after hearing what he was planning to do. “Are you going alone?! If we can’t determine who is hunting him down, if...”

Shang Xia explained soon after, “If the expert hunting Patriarch Kou down is extremely powerful, he would have been killed a long time ago. Since he was able to hold on for so long, that would mean that even though his opponent is stronger than him, he isn’t fully suppressed. That is how Patriarch Kou got the chance to run.”

Even so, Yun Jing was still concerned. “If the other side is also plotting against us and waiting for someone to head over to rescue him, what do we do then? Why don’t we ask the other True Immortals for help...”

Shang Xia chuckled in a hoarse voice, “You are being blinded by this. With Patriarch Kou’s smarts, how will he not know that he’s walking into a trap? Also...”

Pausing slightly, Shang Xia’s tone changed, “I won’t bring Patriarch Kou back directly anyway. I will be looking for his traces in the sea of stars to look at what is happening. If there is any danger, I won’t drag our Spirit Luxuriant World into it.”

After he was done speaking, he bid them farewell and turned to leave.

His return was also a secret and other than Huang Jinghan and those he had met in the institution, even the other higher-ups of the institution didn’t know where he was.

If he revealed himself, he would definitely raise massive waves in the Spirit Luxuriant World.

Whatever it was, there was no point in calling the other True Immortals for help. With Yang Taihe and Zhang Xuansheng unable to leave the Spirit Luxuriant World, and others like Lu Wuzi and Yin Jingxu being completely useless, Shang Xia found no need to tell them. If they were to try to assist, they wouldn’t be of any help and he would still owe them a favor.

Leaving behind a clone to guard the Star Observatory in the Tongyou Elysium and to act as a bridge of communication, he prepared to lock on to an approximate location of where Kou Chongxue could be.

The reason why the Star Observatory might be able to lock on to him but his clone wasn’t might be related to some sort of spatial barriers or obstacles. However, Shang Xia didn’t care too much about those.

Grabbing Kou Chongxue’s clone, Shang Xia decided to head over. He knew that even if his clone couldn’t sense his true body, Kou Chongxue would definitely be able to sense that his clone was getting closer. He would also understand that someone was there to help and when the time came, they could only see how well they worked together.

After Shang Xia left the heavenly screen, he concealed himself and the clone before traveling hundreds of thousands of miles before creating spatial tunnels in the void to rush to the location pointed out by the Star Observatory.

Shuttling through space, Shang Xia eventually arrived 3,000,000 miles away from the Spirit Luxuriant World.

The void wasn't stable at all as chaotic streams swept about. The further they went, the stronger those chaotic streams would be and things would become more dangerous.

The only reason he was able to get so far was because he was a high-level True Immortal. If anyone else were to try, they would be forced to retreat before they got within 1,000,000 miles.

From what the Spirit Luxuriant World had explored so far, the moment a Star Ship left 1,000,000 miles of their world, they would usually run into powerful chaotic streams.

If there was no guide, even if they were True Immortals, they would lose themselves in the void and might even meet their demise.

Looking from afar, a world seemed to be the yolk of an egg that was wrapped in streams of chaotic space that happened a million or so miles away.

"How are you? Can you still hold on?" Shang Xia asked Kou Chongxue's clone.

From the time they left the Spirit Luxuriant World, Shang Xia might have been traveling with Kou Chongxue's clone, but he didn't provide any help.

Even though Kou Chongxue's clone was still moving along with Shang Xia, his aura was becoming unsteady and his inner qi starting to leak.

Despite its current state, Kou Chongxue's clone didn't ask Shang Xia for help. He was clear that if they ran into any enemies, Shang Xia needed to be able to use the full extent of his abilities.

"I can." Kou Chongxue's clone replied, "Even though I am affected by the chaotic streams of space, the connection between my true body and myself is strengthened. If he isn't running about in a panic, he should have discovered that I am close."

Shang Xia nodded once before asking, "Are you able to determine where he is?"

Unfortunately, Kou Chongxue's clone shook his head and sighed, "It's too chaotic here and we can only tell an approximate location. We can't be sure..."

"If we have a Grand Stargazer, things would be so much easier..." Shang Xia mumbled to himself.

After he spoke, he sent a trace of Six Direction Qi into Kou Chongxue's clone to help stop the leaking of inner qi.

Traveling hundreds of thousands of miles deeper into the chaotic streams of space, Kou Chongxue's clone yelled suddenly, "Wait, stop! Stop!"

Shang Xia also discovered that something was wrong and he slammed his Stone Rod into the void beneath his feet as soon as he stopped.

Buzz...

The chaotic streams stabilized instantly.

Behind Shang Xia, Kou Chongxue's clone seemed to be trying to form some sort of connection.

After stabilizing the space around them, Shang Xia was able to more accurately discern what was around them. He felt trace fluctuations coming from a certain direction, and all of the fluctuations seemed to be strangely in order.

What is this place?!

How could there be orderly spatial fluctuations in the streams of chaotic space?

Whatever it was, Shang Xia could clearly feel their presence.

It became clear those spatial fluctuations were created by someone and with the exception of Kou Chongxue who could feel the presence of his clone, Shang Xia couldn't think of anything else.

No longer stopping the flow of chaotic space around him, Shang Xia quickly released his domain and wrapped Kou Chongxue's clone up in it before concealing his aura to rush in the direction of the source of spatial fluctuations.

Once again, they traveled close to 1,000,000 miles. Along their way, the spatial fluctuations disappeared, but the connection between Kou Chongxue's clone and his true body grew stronger.

Without stopping, Shang Xia moved while being guided by Kou Chongxue's clone.

When they traveled another 100,000 miles, a massive blast seemed to come from the distance. Shang Xia and Kou Chongxue's clone seemed to be wrapped up in the blast.

Tossing out the Five Element Ring, Shang Xia stabilized the space beneath his feet and a small region around himself. At the same time, he placed the Five Element Confinement Formation Flag in the distance before disappearing from where he stood.

"Are we not helping my true body?" Kou Chongxue's clone asked after being brought away. There was a look of concern in his eyes.

Shang Xia looked into the depths of the streams of chaotic space and replied without turning back, "Since Patriarch Kou is able to feel your presence, he should know that I am also here. We were traveling towards him earlier, but we stopped suddenly and stopped moving. He should be able to guess that we laid down a trap here and he should be drawing his opponent over shortly..."

"Is this how well you 2 work together normally?" Kou Chongxue's clone mumbled.

Chuckling, Shang Xia didn't respond. Instead, he tossed several high-grade essence crystals to activate the formation.

As the spatial disturbance got stronger and stronger, Shang Xia could tell that Kou Chongxue and his opponent were getting closer.

The next second, the streams of chaotic space seemed to be torn open as a figure tumbled out and released 3 powerful golden rays of sword qi before running away.

"You're not getting away!" A voice came from the depths of space but it was distorted and seemed a little strange.

As soon as he spoke, a powerful white ball of light that looked really familiar easily got rid of the sword qi.

At the same time, 3 figures emerged from the void and raced to surround the fleeing figure.

It was a shame 1 of them stepped into the Five Element Containment Formation Shang Xia had laid down with the help of the formation flag.

It activated instantly, and with Shang Xia's powerful Six Direction Qi and the abilities of the Five Element Ring, rings of five colored light emerged and trapped the cultivator.

With his eyes widening slightly, Shang Xia didn't hesitate and swung his Stone Rod down at the trapped figure.

Chapter 1229: Catch!

There were actually 3 True Immortals hunting Kou Chongxue down!

They seemed to be extremely careful. Even though they held the absolute advantage, they didn't hold back.

Even when they emerged from the void earlier, they would rather slow down slightly to surround him and not try to race after Kou Chongxue in unison.

Now that the formation had activated, Shang Xia couldn't hold back. He trapped one of the True Immortals and sent his Stone Rod crashing down on them.

The Stone Rod where Shang Xia had been storing energy for quite some time was swung at full speed, and Shang Xia unleashed his first move of his Six Harmony Rod Technique, Harmonizing Continent!

There was no real technique behind the strike other than the fact that it contained a horrifying amount of energy. Moreover, as Shang Xia's cultivation realm grew, the power contained in it grew proportionally.

Being caught off guard, there was no way the foreign expert could dodge and he could only welcome his demise.

With Shang Xia's Stone Rod smashing his domain part like tofu, any defensive artifact he brought out also crumbled. Rays of lights scattered about but it failed to stop Shang Xia's Stone Rod in the slightest.

Despite his desperate struggles to get free the moment he was bound, he only managed to shatter a single ring of light. 2 others remained.

Biting his tongue, the foreign cultivator spat out a burst of essence qi along with his blood. The fresh red blood sprayed at Shang Xia in a desperate attempt to live.

Unfortunately, it failed to even pierce his domain.

"High-level...?" Even though he couldn't speak freely without his tongue, he was able to transmit his final thoughts to his companions.

Pfft...

The foreign expert was sent flying, and before he got far, his body exploded. His life force was completely wiped out.

A third tier True Immortal from an Essence World was killed by Shang Xia without the slightest ability to resist.

At the same time Shang Xia trapped one of the foreign experts chasing after Kou Chongxue, Kou Chongxue turned around suddenly but didn't head over to regroup. Instead, he rushed at one of the experts chasing him.

Kou Chongxue's clone, who had been protected by Shang Xia earlier, rushed out from his domain. He didn't plan to attack anyone. Instead, he rushed to meet up with his true body.

When Shang Xia's Stone Rod landed on the third tier True Immortal, Kou Chongxue's clone arrived beside him.

Fusing with his clone, Kou Chongxue managed to regain a bit of energy he had exhausted after being hunted down for so long. Even with the warning from their companion's dying breath, the other 2 were a little too slow to react.

With renewed vigor, Kou Chongxue released a powerful sword qi that rushed at Lan Zhengfeng, the third tier True Immortal from the Spirit Faith World. Since he had dealt with his opponent, Shang Xia's Stone Rod tapped the Five Element Ring before him lightly as the Formation Divine Artifact raced towards the other foreign expert.

However, the speed at which Shang Xia sent the divine artifact over was slightly slower than the other side's reaction time and the third expert seemed to realize what happened and he turned to flee.

As the Five Element Ring flew into the streams of chaos, multiple rays of five colored lights emerged. It managed to come into contact with the fleeing expert, but it didn't trap him completely.

The third expert forced the light that was trying to drag him back away before rushing into the void.

When Shang Xia finally turned his attention to Lan Zhengfeng who was locked in combat with Kou Chongxue, he seemed to have thought of something and he realized he couldn't allow the third expert to escape so easily.

Feeling about with his divine soul, he thrust his Stone Rod into the void before him and unleashed his third move, Void Emptiness.

Not only was he using his Stone Rod, he had also sent his Five Element Ring after his enemy.

The Stone Rod tore through the void, and its trajectory was quickly covered up by the streams of chaotic space that closed up the spatial crack it created.

Even though his divine soul was disrupted by the streams of chaotic space, Shang Xia still heard a twisted miserable scream.

Without a change in expression, Shang Xia rushed through the void where the streams of twisted space failed to affect his domain.

The next second, he paused slightly as he suddenly felt the connection between his Stone Rod and Five Element Ring disappear for a second.

The space before him started to twist as cracks started to form in the void. He saw the third tier True Immortal rushing at him with a sinister smile on his face despite having lost an arm.

Shockingly enough, Shang Xia could feel the aura around the other party steadily growing to the fourth tier of the Martial Void Realm.

Everything happened too quickly, and Shang Xia didn't expect the other party to possess abilities like that.

With the connection to his weapons severed, Shang Xia had to fight barehanded. With the foreign expert using some sort of secret art to reach the level of a fourth tier True Immortal, it was the best time to try to take Shang Xia down!

His only choice was to look for a chance to live by risking it all!

Despite being locked on by the murderous gaze, Shang Xia didn't panic in the slightest.

Forming a seal with both his hands, he unleashed the Twin Fusion Imprint he learned from the Spirit Faith World in the past.

The moment it was unleashed, the space before him started to split apart. As the expert passed through the fragmented region, he felt his body growing weaker.

He only sustained his cultivation realm with some sort of secret art in the first place and Shang Xia didn't even have to fight back. All he needed to do was to stall for some time before the other side would lose all their combat capabilities.

As he was holding his opponent back, Shang Xia heard a distorted cry coming from the side, "Grab my sword!"

Shang Xia felt the void beside him tear apart, and a bronze-colored sword emerged. Shang Xia reached out and grabbed it.

"Oh... I haven't used my sword art in a while..." A light flashed in Shang Xia's eyes, but he looked at the cultivator rushing at him as his expression changed into one of mockery.

Chapter 1230: Remnant Talisman

In the chaotic stream, Kou Chongxue's imposing figure stood tall but his pale face showed that he wasn't feeling as relaxed as he looked.

His gaze was locked on to a massive battle that was happening not too far away from him.

To describe it a little more accurately, it wasn't a massive battle. It was a huge commotion, with one side completely suppressing the other.

Unleashing his Seven Laceration Sword which he hadn't used in many years, he felt a sense of unfamiliarity, but it was nothing he couldn't get used to.

Shang Xia's Seven Laceration Sword was clearly no longer limited to the Yin Yang Qi he used in the past. It had already reached a state far higher than it was before. He easily released powerful sword qi in his domain and before the other side knew what was happening, he was faced with a horrifying offensive. However, even in his sorry state, he didn't realize that his end had arrived.

Perhaps Shang Xia had enough of playing around with his sword art and wanted to end things quickly, or the other side had already exhausted all their inner qi, but Shang Xia swung his sword decisively and severed the foreign cultivator's other arm.

It might be due to his injuries, or the fact that he was exhausted, the cultivator who barely managed to regain consciousness for a split second due to the pain descended into madness again. Fear clouded his eyes as he tried to turn to flee.

Unfortunately, with his severed arms and his empty Void Origin, even if he wanted to run, he didn't have the ability to do so.

Shang Xia waved the sword in his hand once more.

"Please, spare..." Before he could finish, his head was separated from his body.

Shang Xia shook his head slowly before reaching out to grab several items that were thrown out at the point of his death.

Thinking about how the person who died was a third tier True Immortal, Shang Xia wanted to approach his body to look for more treasures, but there didn't seem to be anything left.

"There's no need to look anymore. You destroyed everything." Kou Chongxue's voice rang in his ears suddenly. Before he knew it, the patriarch had arrived at his side.

Shang Xia carefully handed the sword over as the Hidden Frost Sword released cheerful cries as it was returned to its owner.

"Did Lan Zhengfeng not die?" Shang Xia looked at Kou Chongxue with a trace of shock.

Even though both of them looked relatively far, and chaotic streams made it difficult for Shang Xia to realize what was happening, but for Kou Chongxue to race over so quickly, Shang Xia didn't believe he had time to kill Lan Zhengfeng who was also a third tier True Immortal.

"He escaped." Kou Chongxue sighed helplessly. "It's not easy to kill an expert of the same level. Moreover, I have long since used up all my energy running away from them. It's really fortunate I managed to scare him away..."

Shang Xia naturally didn't believe Kou Chongxue had really run out of energy. However, it wasn't like Kou Chongxue was in the best of states either.

After thinking for a moment, Shang Xia muttered, "Are the other 2 True Immortals from the Essence Ming World?"

"How do you know?! Oh... You fought with an expert from the Essence Ming World before, right?" Kou Chongxue raised an eyebrow in shock.

Shang Xia nodded in response. "It's fine for Lan Zhengfeng to escape. The True Immortals of the Essence Ming World were killed, but he managed to return safely. Even if we use our butts to think, he won't be able to live comfortably after he returns. Even in an Essence World, third tier True Immortals aren't chess pieces they can give up randomly."

"Oh, right. How did the Spirit Faith World hook up with the Essence Ming World anyway?" Shang Xia asked.

With a helpless sigh, Kou Chongxue started to explain, "They're not actually working together. The Spirit Faith World had been the subordinate of the Essence Ming World all along. Actually, I caused this. I was planning to scout out the foundations of the Spirit Faith World in secret, but I exposed my tracks accidentally. If you came later, I might not have been able to hold on..."

After he spoke, Kou Chongxue revealed a rare trace of fear. It was clear he had been pushed to his limits from being hunted down by them.

Shang Xia thought for a second and started to speak again, "In that case, the Spirit Faith World would have found their backers... They would likely begin an expedition against our world, right? This is bad..."

He also realized something and his expression changed slightly, "Wait. Doesn't this mean that the Star Beast Nest around the Spirit Faith World would be exposed? Lu Wuzi won't be able to hold them off! Lan Zhengfeng will definitely tell them about the existence of the Star Beast Nest..."

"That shouldn't be likely... The Star Beast Nest would move about in the void and it won't be easy to locate it..." Kou Chongxue muttered.

With a sigh, Shang Xia shook his head and explained, "Ordinary cultivators might not be able to locate the Star Beast Nest, but it's extremely easy for a Stargazer to do so. What's more... The Essence Ming World might even have Grand Stargazers!"

"What are we waiting for?! Hurry up and head back to our world. We need to come up with a plan quickly!" Kou Chongxue's eyes widened in shock and he gasped.

Who would have thought that Shang Xia would start laughing suddenly? "What's the rush? Even if Lan Zhengfeng wishes to leave this region, he would have to pay a huge price. However... We're just several million miles away from our world."

"Oh right, I forgot... When did you break through to the fourth tier?! You even surpassed me to become a high-level True Immortal..." Kou Chongxue stared at Shang Xia with confusion and asked.

Shang Xia grinned before he explained, "It should be related to the opportunity I received in the Essence Ping World. However, I only managed to break through recently... Right, even though your aura is a little unsteady now, you can't fool me... You should have found opportunities of your own, right?"

Thinking about it, Shang Xia discovered that whatever Kou Chongxue said about accidentally exposing his tracks was completely bullshit. He probably discovered the connection between the Spirit Faith World and Essence Ming World and snatched their opportunity, leading to the chase...

"Haha..." Kou Chongxue chuckled softly. "Whatever it is, I can't compare myself to you!"

Shang Xia suddenly grunted once before turning to look at the third tier True Immortal he had slain. Actually... He was looking at the headless corpse.

There was a dull yellow talisman that would crumble with a single breeze, and Shang Xia quickly stabilized the void in the region.

“This talisman has lost its effects, but it should be why he was able to raise his cultivation level for a short period of time to the fourth tier of the Martial Void Realm, right? Can you take it off?” Kou Chongxue glanced at the corpse before asking Shang Xia. He might not be a Talisman Master, but from how seriously Shang Xia was acting, he understood that the talisman held great implications.

A talisman that could allow a third tier True Immortal to possess the strength of a fourth tier True Immortal for a short while... Even he understood how important something like that was!

Shang Xia shook his head and mumbled, “I can’t take it off the corpse, and I won’t dare to anyway. The moment I touch it, it’s going to crumble...”

“What will you do then?” Kou Chongxue frowned.

With a sudden stroke of inspiration, Shang Xia turned to Kou Chongxue and spoke, “Patriarch Kou, please look for my weapons. If I’m not mistaken, some strange seal should have been placed on them in order to block the connection to me. I’ll try to comprehend whatever I can from this talisman before it is completely destroyed. I can only trouble you to retrieve them for now.”