

The Heavens 481

Chapter 481: The Boulder That Held The Blade

Just like that, the chaotic battle that was bound to happen broke out with fierce intensity.

That was exactly what Shang Xia wanted. The messier the situation, the better!

When the 5 Martial Extermination Realm experts of the Divine Capital Sect entered the Abyssal Secret Region, they only served to add to the chaos.

As the battle raged on, the other peaks started to crumble. Even though the inheritance light balls that emerged from them weren't as plentiful as those that came from the Divine Weapon Peak, there were still quite a few. It greatly benefited those who were in the proximity.

Not too long after the members of the Divine Capital Sect entered the Abyssal Secret Region, the experts from the other continents also managed to charge their way in.

The Martial Extermination Realm experts who entered this time had no idea who had the divine weapon. With countless inheritance light balls flying all over the place, their eyes went red with greed the next moment. None of them paid attention to the youngster who had already kept the Abyssal Blade as he blended in with the others who were fighting for inheritance light balls.

Everyone seemed too busy to realize that the greater the number of people who entered the Abyssal Secret Region, the more that indicated that the secret region was about to fuse with the Azure Origin World.

Rocks and debris that rolled off the Divine Weapon Peak because of Shang Xia's slash earlier fell through the void that finally started to stabilize and they crashed into the Cloud Water Gorge below.

Looking down, the endless abyss that contained chaotic space was nowhere to be seen. The Cloud Water Gorge could clearly be seen below.

Shang Xia managed to hide in the falling debris as he shot straight down to the Cloud Water Gorge. When everyone had been busy getting their hands on inheritance light balls, Shang Xia hid his presence to the best of his abilities before making his way over to the Divine Weapon Peak.

He didn't wish to continue fighting for treasures because he was feeling a faint trace of danger that he couldn't quite put his finger on. Initially, he thought that the threat came from the experts who had surrounded the Cloud Water Gorge. However, the strange feeling in his heart didn't disappear even after those Martial Extermination Realm experts appeared in the Abyssal Secret Region. Instead, it grew even stronger.

That was why he wanted to take the chance to flee from the chaotic battle before anything unexpected happened.

Naturally, he wouldn't leave empty-handed. Other than the 2 inheritance light balls he grabbed before everyone started pouring into the secret region. He also obtained a clump of world origin around the same time. When he was making his escape, he managed to grab another ball of light that flew past him.

There might be hundreds of inheritance light balls that were flying through the Abyssal Secret Region, but they were also split into treasures of different grades. That wasn't all. Most of the treasures were flying through spatial cracks or chaotic space that existed all around them.

Other than those inheritance light balls that appeared not too far away from them, those Martial Extermination Realm experts would find it difficult to get their hands on the others.

The inheritance light balls didn't only fly upwards. Some of them tore through the confines of the Abyssal Secret Region and entered the depths of the Taihang Mountains. Of course, those constituted a minor number of the light balls that escaped. A huge portion of them was either collected or flew into chaotic space before disappearing from sight.

Those that entered chaotic space would either be destroyed by the distortion of space, or they would fly beyond the heavens. Perhaps, they might appear in some random location in the Azure Origin World to become some random expert's fortunate encounter.

No matter what, the number of inheritance light balls in the air decreased rapidly. There were close to 20 Martial Extermination Realm experts flying through the Abyssal Secret Region at the moment, but most of them managed to grab 2 to 3 light balls on average.

According to Shang Xia's plan, he would be able to leave the mess that the Abyssal Secret Region had turned into without being detected by anyone. However, someone else in the crowd had other plans.

Just as Shang Xia's figure was about to fly past a layer of storm to enter the Cloud Water Gorge, a damaged silver hammer appeared on his right and a roaring fist intent came from above.

"Where the hell do you think you're going?!"

"Leave the Abyssal Blade behind!"

Shang Xia sneered after extending his divine perception to detect the both of them. As long as he wasn't surrounded by a bunch of Martial Extermination Realm experts like before, there was no need to be afraid! Especially when it was only the two of them.

The only thing he was slightly concerned about was his consumption of inner qi. After all, it hadn't been long since he entered the Martial Extermination Realm.

Swinging his blade behind him, he shattered the fist intent instantly. However, he didn't do the same to Tao Mosheng's hammer. Instead, he gave it a palm strike of his own.

Instead of using the divine weapon, Shang Xia used the palm strike he used to shatter the protection barrier around the Jingxiu Peak. It was also the same technique he used to suppress the Abyssal Blade's weapon spirit earlier.

By the time his palm landed on the hammer, the fist intent that was destroyed by the Abyssal Blade caused a massive shockwave that made the surrounding mountain peaks crumble. With rocks falling everywhere, Shang Xia grunted softly when he felt the massive impact on his palm. He felt as though every bone in his hand was about to shatter.

At that moment, a trace of pure world origin emerged from the Crimson Soul Tablet and filled his body. He didn't actually need to refine it to transform it into his Four Constellation Qi due to its extreme purity, and it directly went to nourish his nearly dried up dantian.

A really small portion of the world origin rushed into his hand that came into contact with Tao Mosheng's silver hammer and the throbbing pain he was feeling quickly subsided.

Tao Mosheng's silver hammer wasn't the Abyssal Blade. Facing such a terrifying strike, it wobbled violently in an attempt to fly away. It was too bad Shang Xia wasn't planning to let him succeed. His divine perception emerged smashed against the hammer in a tyrannical manner.

Ordinarily, Shang Xia's divine perception wouldn't be able to break apart Tao Mosheng's connection with his silver hammer even if it was 3 times stronger than the other party's. However, Shang Xia's palm strike greatly eroded the connection Tao Mosheng had with his hammer. With the sudden intrusion of Shang Xia's divine perception, he quickly achieved the impossible.

"No!" Tao Mosheng screamed miserably and everyone could hear the pain he felt. His silver hammer far surpassed ordinary high-level weapons and with the connection between them cut, it fell powerlessly into the Cloud Water Gorge below. No one knew if he would ever be able to locate it again.

After dealing with the two clowns who were obstructing his way, Shang Xia's figure continued to rush down into the Cloud Water Gorge.

As he was making his escape, the feeling of danger he felt earlier grew ever stronger. He couldn't help but slow down. He had to ensure he could deal with any unexpected matter that might arise. When he flew past the remains of a huge boulder, Shang Xia felt a strange sense of familiarity with it.

"Huh?" he felt as though he had seen it somewhere before.

Looking a little closer, Shang Xia saw a thin line extending down the middle of the boulder and something clicked in his mind. The gap that existed in the middle of the boulder was extremely smooth and from the size...

Shang Xia looked at the Abyssal Blade in his hand and made the connection.

Is this the boulder that trapped the Abyssal Blade on the Divine Weapon Peak?!

Back when the blade emerged, a portion of the rock was damaged. However, the boulder itself remained somewhat intact. When Shang Xia first entered the Abyssal Secret Region, he observed that the boulder was as tall as an adult male and nearly 3 feet across.

Now, it was barely two thirds of what it used to be. Cracks filled one of its surfaces but even so, the stone looked pretty smooth and glossy otherwise.

If not for the fact that the boulder contained the remnant aura of the Abyssal Blade, Shang Xia would have mistaken it for an ordinary rock that fell from one of the various peaks.

It went without saying that a boulder that could trap the Abyssal Blade for countless years wouldn't be an ordinary piece of rock. Not to mention it was used as the core of the formation used to maintain the secret region...

On the off chance that it was really a piece of ordinary rock to begin with. The nourishment from the divine weapon and the formation on the Divine Weapon Peak would ensure that it turned into some sort of precious treasure.

Back when Shang Xia grabbed the Abyssal Blade, he thought of bringing the boulder away. It was unfortunate the situation back then didn't allow Shang Xia to do as he wished. Obtaining the

Abyssal Blade was already a massive blessing and he was immediately attacked on all sides the moment he did. He obviously couldn't bother himself with the boulder. There was also the fact that the boulder was too massive back then. He would have to empty out an Embroidered Cloud Case if he wanted to bring it away and that was simply not happening.

Now that the boulder was much smaller than before Shang Xia didn't have to worry about where to store it. Moreover, he felt that the essence of the boulder had been preserved perfectly.

Shang Xia swung his arms once, and the Auspicious Cloud Cape behind him covered the boulder entirely. Shang Xia casually looked down only to discover he was pretty close to entering the Cloud Water Gorge.

His taut nerves finally settled down slightly.

When he raised his head to look at the chaotic battle taking place in the skies above, all the relief he felt earlier was washed away. Something was definitely wrong...

When the hell did the skies above the Taihang Mountains become so weird?

The outline of a massive pavilion could be seen in the skies above, and it resembled an immortal realm. There was no way it was caused naturally by the fusion of the Abyssal Secret Region and the Azure Origin World.

Is that... Is that the Beyond Heavens Pavilion?!

The thought barely appeared in Shang Xia's mind when he confirmed it. There was no way it could be anything else!

The descent of the Abyssal Secret Region actually attracted the Beyond Heavens Pavilion... Shang Xia finally understood where the feeling of danger he felt came from.

It was true that a mere secret region along with its inheritance was nothing much to those ancestors in the Martial Dipper Realm. However, that only applied to ordinary inheritances. When the origin dipper emerged from the Divine Weapon Peak earlier, it alerted the Beyond Heaven Pavilion to what was happening. Its appearance caused them to suspect that there might be a rank five inheritance left behind by the Abyssal Sect. A rank five inheritance was enough to change their stance entirely.

A strange wind tore through the air as a giant palm appeared in the skies above the Cloud Water Gorge. It ignored the spatial cracks and chaos that was going on and closed its palm, grabbing more than a dozen inheritance light balls in an instant.

With the appearance of the Beyond Heavens Pavilion, Martial Dipper Realm ancestors finally made their move!

Chapter 482: Blades Drawn

Along with the appearance of the Beyond Heavens Pavilion, a Martial Dipper Realm ancestor finally made his move.

The giant palm that appeared not only ignored the spatial cracks that filled the skies. Those balls of light that were doing a good job at evading those Martial Extermination Realm experts were captured without much fanfare. Close to 30 of them were captured in one fell swoop.

Having grabbed his share of the loot, the giant palm was about to disappear when the clouds in the skies started to roll about violently. They turned into a giant heavenly river that twisted the space around it before smashing ruthlessly onto the giant palm.

Despite the shockingly powerful collision, not a single sound could be heard. There was no energy fluctuation that spread through the air either.

The huge palm in the air trembled slightly and close to a dozen balls of light fell out from it.

A long laugh tore through the skies at that moment. “Brother Xuan Shou, can’t you keep your cool like everyone else? The juniors can fight all they like. Why are you in a rush to seal their fortune?”

Another deep laughter boomed through the skies, but it eventually turned a little serious before responding, “My Zhongxuan Gate is just a tiny little faction that cannot compete with your mighty power. We don’t have much accumulations either. I was forced to show myself because those juniors in my Zhongxuan Gate couldn’t take care of themselves and failed to obtain even the slightest benefit. I am ashamed on their behalf...”

The Martial Dipper Realm ancestor who spoke first clearly didn’t expect Xuan Shou to act so shamelessly and he didn’t know how to respond.

Xuan Shou didn’t remain idle. After he spoke, his palm solidified in the air once again to make another grab for the balls of light.

Even though his palm seemed to cover the skies, he acted in moderation. He didn’t reach for areas with Martial Extermination Realm experts.

A soft sigh filled the skies once again as yet another Martial Dipper Realm ancestor spoke, “Brother Xuan Shou, you’re making things difficult for us if you keep behaving so shamelessly!”

As soon as the sentence was completed, the giant palm in the air trembled slightly. The fingers that were attached to the palm were sliced cleanly off without any warning and they dissipated quickly.

That didn’t seem to stop Xuan Shou as the fingerless palm started to shrink. It turned into a smaller palm with fingers intact before grabbing the balls of light that were scattered around.

A stream of energy emerged from the void and pierced a hole through the palm, destroying several inheritance light balls in the process. Despite their efforts, Xuan Shou’s smaller palm withdrew into the void with whatever balls of light it still held.

“Sigh... Brother Xuan Shou, what’s the point?” The third Martial Dipper Realm expert spoke again and a stream of light appeared to lock down the space Xuan Shou’s palm disappeared.

The moment the space was sealed, the heavens seemed to tremble lightly.

There seemed to be another formless exchange among the Martial Dipper Realm ancestors as the sealed space was quickly shattered.

The voice of an older lady rumbled through the air like thunder, seemingly dissatisfied with the exchange that was going on. “If you want to fight, just fight! What’s with this elaborate show you’re putting up? Jiu Ming, Jiu Sha, which one of you plans on fighting first? Come at me. This old lady will take any of you on!”

Silence filled the skies for a short moment. Eventually, the first Martial Dipper Realm ancestor who spoke forced a chuckle, “Looks like old friend Xuan Chang has arrived...”

After Ancestor Xuan Chang spoke earlier, the 2 Martial Dipper Realm ancestors from the Divine Capital Sect no longer acted however they wished. Both sides seemed to have reached an arrangement and they didn't continue their quarrel. Ancestor Xuan Shou didn't make another move to grab the inheritance light balls in the Abyssal Secret Region.

Of the 4 Martial Dipper Realm experts who appeared, Jiu Ming and Jiu Sha were from the Divine Capital Sect. However, they weren't the only Martial Dipper Realm experts there. Xuan Chang and Xuan Shou were from the Zhongxuan Gate which was basically the only superpower in their Yan Continent. Unlike the Divine Capital Sect, Xuan Chang and Xuan Shou were the only Martial Dipper Realm experts in the Zhongxuan Gate.

The exchange between the Martial Dipper Realm ancestors in the skies above not only caught Shang Xia's attention. The Martial Extermination Realm experts who were hunting down inheritance light balls earlier were terrified by the ancestors' sudden appearance. All of them seemed to forget what they had been doing just seconds ago.

This wasn't Shang Xia's first time watching an exchange between Martial Dipper Realm experts. That was why he managed to gather his thoughts before the others. He quickly made up his mind to run as far away from the Abyssal Secret Region as he could.

If even Martial Dipper Realm ancestors couldn't help but show themselves, Shang Xia refused to believe that they would allow the Martial Extermination Realm experts on the scene to continue fighting for those inheritance light balls.

It didn't matter if those Martial Dipper Realm experts came to a conclusion later to let the Martial Extermination Realm experts of their respective factions split the treasures how they saw fit. After all, those Martial Dipper Realm experts had nothing to do with his Tongyou Institution! They wouldn't allow someone like him to take part in the splitting of profits from the Abyssal Secret Region!

If he chose to stay, he would truly be tired of living. He didn't forget that he was holding on to the Abyssal Blade at the moment. Even though the divine weapon was damaged and a quarter of the blade was missing, it was still a divine weapon!

The Martial Extermination Realm experts could remain in the air, but the rocks that were falling from the skies would stop. Shang Xia used the cover of the dust and debris to make his way down to the Cloud Water Gorge.

Who would have thought that he would sense a strange fluctuation with his divine perception the moment he landed on the ground below? A ball of light flickered unsteadily amidst the dust cloud and it was so bright that nothing could hide its brilliance.

Treasure...

Shang Xia's body twitched slightly and a trace of hesitation appeared on his face.

A weird breeze shot past him when he was still thinking about what he should do and his body froze up when he felt what caused the unwanted wind.

“Huh?” A surprised cry came from deep in the dust cloud. “Holy shit! You’re a smart kid for running away before those people up there arrived. However, you have to be pretty unlucky to run into this old man...”

Martial Dipper Realm ancestor! There was a Martial Dipper Realm expert hiding in the Cloud Water Gorge the whole time and Shang Xia managed to bump into the man the moment he escaped from the Abyssal Secret Region!

Shang Xia felt a sense of extreme panic but he forced himself to maintain his unflustered expression. “This junior was a little too rude and bumped into you by accident. I hope Senior can be generous and forget about the matter. I’ll take my leave right now.”

As soon as he spoke, Shang Xia turned to leave.

“Hold it!” A neutral voice rang through the air. “Brat, hand it over.”

A bitter smile appeared on Shang Xia’s face and he tried playing dumb. “This... Senior, I don’t understand what you’re talking about... Forgive me but I have no idea what you mean. Do I have something special you want?”

“Enough. Hand the divine weapon over. Have I made myself clear?” The owner of the voice seemed to be getting a little impatient now. “Leave the blade behind and I’ll be kind enough to let you leave with your life intact!”

Shang Xia was obviously unwilling to hand the divine weapon over like that. Thoughts spun in his mind and he pushed his divine perception to the limit in an attempt to look for ways to get out of his current predicament. Finally, he noticed a faint aura close to 1000 feet away.

The moment he discovered the presence, he quickly retracted his divine perception. He didn’t dare to examine the strange presence even further in case he revealed himself to the other party.

During their conversation, Shang Xia noticed what the ball of light that caught his attention earlier was. Compared to his fear of the Martial Dipper Realm ancestor, the feeling of shock that came with his discovery felt a little stronger. The item trapped in the ball of light was an origin dipper! It was what alerted the Beyond Heavens Pavilion in the first place!

Due to the chaos that broke out not too long after, the origin dipper was nowhere to be seen. Shang Xia thought that someone had already obtained the treasure, but he didn’t expect it to have fallen into the Cloud Water Gorge.

Another serious question formed in his mind. Why wasn’t the Martial Dipper Realm expert making use of the chance to collect the origin dipper?

Thinking back to how the Martial Dipper Realm expert he ran into didn’t appear during the exchange between Xuan Chang, Xuan Shou, and the ancestors of the Divine Capital Sect, Shang Xia determined that the man was probably trying to hide his presence from them.

It seemed as though the Abyssal Secret Region was truly an attractive slice of pie. Even Martial Dipper Realm experts from other regions made their way over.

Shang Xia thought even further and discovered something weird. Even though the Martial Dipper Realm ancestors of the Zhongxuan Gate and the Divine Capital Sect exchanged several blows in the air above the Abyssal Secret Region, none of them actually showed themselves.

He realized that it was possible the Martial Dipper Realm expert who was eyeing his divine weapon didn't dare to collect the origin dipper for fear of alarming the 4 in the skies above.

That was probably also why he was hiding his presence to the best of his abilities. If not for Shang Xia's stronger than normal divine perception, he wouldn't have been able to notice the presence of the Martial Dipper Realm expert threatening him at the moment.

None of them were stupid. The presence of any Martial Dipper Realm expert in a situation like this would definitely destroy the balance of power. He would definitely offend the ancestors of the Divine Capital Sect and the Zhongxuan Gate if he was discovered.

Is this why he doesn't dare to straight up attack me and snatch my treasure?

If he attacked the moment he detected Shang Xia, the Abyssal Blade would have fallen into his hands several moments ago. He wouldn't have to waste his time conversing with Shang Xia either.

No matter what, Shang Xia was unwilling to give the divine weapon away. There was still a streak of greed in his heart and he decided to take the gamble. Waving his hand in his air, he changed his approach. "I wonder how I should address Senior?"

A sinister laughter rang in his ears the next moment and there was a trace of mockery in the Martial Dipper Realm expert's words. "What's the matter? Are you planning to look for me in the future after your cultivation catches up with mine to retrieve your divine weapon?"

Shang Xia honestly didn't care what the other party was saying. His lack of action told Shang Xia everything he needed to know.

Carefully storing the boulder that was wrapped in his cape into an Embroidered Cloud Case, Shang Xia carefully draped the cape over his shoulders before drawing his blade. Tilting it upwards, he pointed in the direction of the Martial Dipper Realm expert he had detected some time ago.

Shang Xia's attitude said everything!

"You're asking to die!" The Martial Dipper Realm expert growled, but Shang Xia seemed to hear the exasperation he was feeling.

Pouring all the inner qi he recovered a moment ago into his Abyssal Blade, he swung it ruthlessly in the direction of the Martial Dipper Realm expert!

Chapter 483: The Plot Unravels

Shang Xia actually unleashed his blade on a Martial Dipper Realm expert!

He definitely gave it his all, but in no way did Shang Xia expect to kill his target. That was because he understood that he didn't have the qualifications to harm a Martial Dipper Realm expert, even with a divine weapon in hand.

The only reason he sent out the blade strike was to give him a better chance at survival!

He wanted to attract the attention of the other Martial Dipper Realm experts and he was praying that it would be enough to scare his opponent away.

The power contained in his strike displayed his strong will to live!

Even though the power contained in his second move, Grand Ignite, was stronger than his first move, Awakening Lightning, he still chose the latter.

The rumbling of lightning tore through the lands and a massive spatial tear ran through the area Shang Xia's blade light approached. Not even the chaos that was going on above could hide the commotion Shang Xia had caused.

The attention of the Martial Dipper Realm ancestors from the two factions was quickly drawn over.

"Huh?"

"What?! Feng Yezi?!"

"God damn it! It has to be him!"

The Martial Dipper Realm ancestors communicated with each other in an instant and several horrifying pressures descended from above.

When Shang Xia unleashed his blade strike earlier, Feng Yezi knew that he wouldn't be able to retrieve the origin dipper silently under the eyes of those Martial Dipper Realm ancestors up there.

With his treasure flying away because of what Shang Xia had done, a trace of anger and embarrassment filled his heart. He wanted to deal with Shang Xia, the asshole who caused it all.

"Damn junior! How dare you plot against me!" Feng Yezi yelled while extending his withered hand that was covered in a layer of dry and dark skin. The lightning that came with Shang Xia's blade light was scattered in an instant. That wasn't all. When the blade light arrived, he casually tapped it with 3 fingers. Every time he tapped the blade light, Shang Xia could feel the actual blade trembling in his hand. Also, a portion of the power contained in his strike would disappear.

When the third tap landed on the blade light, Shang Xia felt that more than 90 percent of the energy contained in the blade light had been destroyed. The rest scattered by itself after smashing into Feng Yezi's palm.

Naturally, an exchange at that level happened in the blink of an eye.

Feng Yezi's arm didn't stop there. It continued to reach for Shang Xia. As he did that, a pouch flew out from his other sleeve and went straight for the origin dipper. His intentions were clear.

Shang Xia had once thought about the difference between himself and a Martial Dipper Realm expert. No matter how much he tried to overestimate the difference in their strength, he realized he had downplayed it now that he was facing a Martial Dipper Realm expert for real.

He released Awakening Lightning earlier with all his might. Even so, it was nullified by the other party with 3 simple taps. Also, that wasn't all. Shang Xia felt as though a huge calamity was about to befall him as Feng Yezi's hand stretched over. No matter how desperately he retreated, the arm seemed to be able to pass through space itself to appear right before him. It didn't matter how he tried to dodge as the arm was still reaching for him.

Despair started to set in Shang Xia's heart when he realized that there was no escape. However, Shang Xia wasn't one to give up all hope when the situation seemed bleak. Circulating his inner qi, he got ready to send out his final blow with his Abyssal Blade.

Before Shang Xia could gather his energy, a soft snort boomed through the air. It seemed to come from a distant land, but the voice that came soon after seemed to appear in the vicinity of the Cloud Water Gorge. "Feng Yezi, you're a Martial Dipper Realm expert at the end of the day. You failed to scam a junior and tried killing him after he saw through your act. Hmph, you're an embarrassment for those in the Martial Dipper Realm!"

A boundless divine perception descended and shattered Feng Yezi's attempt to grab Shang Xia.

At the same time, Shang Xia heard a low voice ringing beside him. "Earth Dragon's Reversal!"

The origin dipper that Feng Yezi had set his sights on disappeared the next instant.

Naturally unable to accept what had just happened, Feng Yezi slapped his pouch and a horrifying amount of energy poured out from within. A massive howl seemed to tear through space and it caused the skies above to tremble violently.

The exchange between 2 Martial Dipper Realm experts caused the space in the region to fluctuate violently. Spatial cracks appeared before reforming quickly. The origin dipper they were fighting over fell through one of them and disappeared the next instant.

"You... It's you?!" Feng Yezi roared angrily after seeing the person who came. "Don't tell me your Tongyou Institution has also been eyeing the Abyssal Sect's inheritance?"

Ji Wenlong spoke slowly in response. "I only came here to save someone."

A sneer appeared on Feng Yezi's face all of a sudden. "Heh, do you really think you're qualified to do that? You're just a newly ascended Martial Dipper Realm cultivator whose true body isn't here. Who gave you the courage to try to stop me?"

Earlier, Shang Xia thought that he would be in serious danger. He didn't think that anyone would help him at the final moment.

The instant he heard the voice earlier, he recognized the expert who had come to his rescue. Also, the moment Ji Wenlong's divine perception arrived, the feeling of suffocation he had because of Feng Yezi's aura subsided.

Several hundred feet away from Shang Xia, the heaven and earth qi started to condense to form Ji Wenlong's figure. It seemed as though it was his physical vessel for him to better unleash his divine perception.

When he arrived, the dust cloud caused by the falling rocks from the Abyssal Secret Region was blown away. The Cloud Water Gorge's appearance was finally revealed for all to see.

Ji Wenlong's voice came once again. "Feng Yezi, you acted against my Tongyou City in the past and we haven't held you accountable for it. Now, you dare to show yourself in this part of the world again. Aren't you afraid that our patriarch will personally seek you out to have a nice chat?"

A look of shock appeared on Feng Yezi's face and he swept his divine perception all around. After looking around, he heaved a sigh of relief and the suspicion he had earlier disappeared. "Haha, as

long as Kou Chongxue doesn't come personally, I have nothing to be afraid of even if you work together with everyone up there!"

Ji Wenlong gestured slightly for Shang Xia to leave, and Shang Xia was obviously unwilling to be caught between two Martial Dipper Realm experts. He started to run in another direction to leave the Cloud Water Gorge.

Not too long after he left, he felt terrifying fluctuations in space. Feng Yezi and Ji Wenlong's battle had begun!

Shang Xia understood that Ji Wenlong was probably not a match for Feng Yezi. Ji Wenlong only sent a projection over while Feng Yezi was there personally. Luckily, Ji Wenlong's main goal wasn't to defeat Feng Yezi. He was there to buy as much time as he could for Shang Xia to run away from the Cloud Water Gorge.

As he was running, Shang Xia realized that he had underestimated the strength of the shockwaves that were produced in a fight between Martial Dipper Realm experts. When he arrived at the edge of the Cloud Water Gorge, a heart-chilling blast filled the skies. A giant mushroom cloud rose into the skies as spatial cracks started to extend in all directions at a frightening speed.

Shang Xia released his extermination origins at once to defend himself against the spatial cracks that were starting to appear around him.

Surprisingly, a ball of light emerged from one of them. The item that emerged was precisely the ball of origin dipper that the two experts were fighting over earlier!

Even if Shang Xia was beaten to death, he wouldn't believe that things could be so damn coincidental.

The ball of light appeared within his reach, but only indifference remained in Shang Xia's heart. He tried to turn to run in another direction.

It was a shame Feng Yezi detected the ball of origin dipper before Shang Xia could fully turn his body.

He was still caught up in a battle with Ji Wenlong in the middle of the Cloud Water Gorge. He had the upper hand in the fight, but he clearly couldn't extract himself from the battle in a short amount of time.

"Brother Yun Lu, how long do you have to wait? I'll owe you one if you do it now!" Feng Yezi yelled in annoyance. It seemed as though he was forced to make the voice. The origin dipper was too important to him and he had to obtain it no matter what.

"Alright." A voice emerged from the voice and paused in the air slightly. A strange antler-like weapon appeared in the air and stabbed straight for Ji Wenlong.

Ancestor Yun Lu of the White Deer Sect finally showed himself. Another Martial Dipper Realm expert was added into the mix in the Cloud Water Gorge.

Yun Lu seemed to be waiting for a chance to attack earlier. Now that Ji Wenlong was suppressed by Feng Yezi, his stab in the back was a perfect example of a sneak attack.

Caught by surprise, Ji Wenlong's avatar which was created from heaven and earth qi had half his shoulder torn off.

Even though he managed to restore his body, Yun Lu had already gained the upper hand. The pressure he put on Ji Wenlong was much more intense than Feng Yezi.

The second Yun Lu made his move, Feng Yezi managed to shake Ji Wenlong off. His body tore through the void as he disregarded the violent spatial fluctuations.

When Feng Yezi was making his way to the origin dipper, Shang Xia hadn't run too far away. After taking a few more steps, Shang Xia discovered that the space around him was distorted. Someone was acting in the dark to force him to prance about near the origin dipper!

The moment Feng Yezi arrived, there was no way he would let Shang Xia off! The expert behind the scenes was clearly placing him in the way of danger!

Everything happened in the blink of an eye when Shang Xia was cursing the person messing with him. Feng Yezi didn't take long to arrive and he was in Shang Xia's face before anyone could react.

Shang Xia could even clearly see the indifference in Feng Yezi's eyes when he appeared. Once again, he casually swiped at Shang Xia without paying him too much attention after. He was more focused on the origin dipper that wasn't too far away.

To Feng Yezi, Shang Xia was an ant he could kill any time he wanted! His real goal was to obtain the origin dipper.

A shrill cry from a sword caused the heavens and earth to tremble and the look of indifference in Feng Yezi's eyes vanished. It was replaced with a look of utter fear.

Sword lights rained down around Shang Xia and shattered Feng Yezi's intent to kill him as the Hidden Frost Sword descended from the void.

Kou Chongxue! Kou Chongxue had arrived!

His name alone seemed to contain an endless amount of majesty, and with the arrival of the Hidden Frost Sword, the entire region fell into silence. It was as though the world itself was getting ready for his arrival.

Feng Yezi no longer cared about the origin dipper once the Hidden Frost Sword appeared. Instead, he became extremely serious and prepared for what was about to come next.

A strand of divine spirit emerged from the Hidden Frost Sword and it tore through layers upon layers of space like it was peeling back a piece of onion. A massive spatial tunnel that stretched across an unknown distance was created.

Two strong spatial fluctuations appeared in the space around them now that the Hidden Frost Sword had arrived. The divine perception of 2 Martial Dipper Realm experts descended from different directions and seemed to reach some sort of cooperation with Feng Yezi. Feng Yezi and the 2 new divine perceptions surrounded the Hidden Frost Sword.

Heaven and earth qi tore through the lands as 3 new figures appeared in the Cloud Water Gorge. One of them stood directly on the Hidden Frost Sword and it was none other than the patriarch of the Tongyou Institution, the Madman of the You Continent, Kou Chongxue!

He glanced at Feng Yezi and the other two as the corners of his lips curled upwards. “This is a lot of effort to bait me over. Don’t tell me you did all this to kill a mere avatar of mine?”

Chapter 484: Killing With a Borrowed Blade

This whole thing reeked of a trap!

It was a scheme designed to kill Kou Chongxue... Or perhaps, it would be better to call it a scheme that was aiming to annihilate one of Kou Chongxue’s avatars!

“It’s nothing much to kill an ordinary avatar. However, you’re Kou Chongxue! It won’t be easy for us to kill you anyway.” One of the 3 experts who had surrounded Kou Chongxue stated frankly, “However, killing any one of your avatars will weaken you. It’s definitely worth it.”

“Brother Xuan Lu, there’s no need to waste your breath on him.” The other Martial Dipper Realm expert sneered, “Kou Chongxue, back then, you destroyed Brother Yun Lu’s avatar. It’s time for you to pay the price!”

Since Yun Lu appeared earlier to distract Ji Wenlong and Xuan Lu explained their intentions, it wouldn’t come as a surprise that the last person who spoke was Hua Lu. She lost really badly when Kou Chongxue broke into the White Deer Paradise in the past.

The 3 Deers of the Ji Continent had gathered together, and with their lineup, they were clearly seeking revenge for what Kou Chongxue did.

Glancing at Xuan Lu who wore a solemn and cold expression before turning to Hua Lu with a look of rage on her face, Kou Chongxue didn’t think too much of it. He then looked at Feng Yezi who seemed a little anxious but helpless before chuckling in response, “Hehe, do you really think that you lot are enough to do anything to me?”

Hua Lu snorted derisively, “Stop acting like you’re in control of everything. You’ll know whether or not we’re enough to take you on once we fight!”

She didn’t wait for him to respond. A jade seal appeared in her left palm and it enlarged into the size of a small hill above her head. It came slamming down without regard for who was in the area.

With Hua Lu’s attack signaling the start of their assault, Xuan Lu pulled out a staff with a deer’s head as its handle. Feng Yezi didn’t remain idle as his signature pouch appeared in his hand.

Not a trace of fear could be seen on Kou Chongxue’s face as he swept his gaze across the 3 of them once again. He broke out in laughter, “Alright. Since everyone here is so interested in fighting me, I won’t be a spoilt sport. I’ll entertain you guys a little.”

Hua Lu didn’t seem satisfied with her attack earlier. She took off the golden hairpin in her hair and tore through the void in front of her to stab directly at Kou Chongxue’s eyes.

“Argh!” A miserable cry rang through the sky and Hua Lu’s golden hairpin trembled violently in the air.

Xuan Lu raised his head and peered through the distorted space that was caused by the clash of the aura of the 4 Martial Dipper Realm experts. He discovered Yun Lu not too far away with scary wounds covering half his body as he tried to escape from the relentless Ji Wenlong.

“How did this...”

Earlier, Yun Lu clearly had the upper hand. Especially so after his sneak attack. Xuan Lu could tell that Ji Wenlong was barely holding on, but now, the situation experienced an abrupt change.

The unexpected development caused Hua Lu and Xuan Lu to become slightly distracted. The second their mind wandered elsewhere, Kou Chongxue made his move.

“Huh? Who gave you guys the guts to be distracted when fighting with me?!” Kou Chongxue grunted once as his Hidden Frost Sword slashed outwards. He was no newbie Martial Dipper Realm expert who was seeking to break through the encirclement with that strike. Instead, his sword light emerged to block the combined attacks from the 3 of them.

Rather than dealing with their assault in the most optimal fashion, Kou Chongxue would rather use the chance to send them a message.

“Preposterous!”

Even someone as calm as Xuan Lu couldn't help but cry out in anger when he realized Kou Chongxue's intentions. His expression sank and he wanted to curse despite his deposition.

“Be careful!” The warning came from Yun Lu right after Xuan Lu yelled earlier.

Instinctively, Xuan Lu raised his staff to protect himself. After he was sure he wouldn't be struck, he tried to look where Yun Lu went. To his utter shock, he noticed a blood-red bony claw ripping through the void and Ji Wenlong's figure appearing behind Feng Yezi.

“Oh no!” With his expression changing drastically, Xuan Lu knew he wouldn't be able to warn Feng Yezi in time. Instead, he directly smashed his staff straight down at Feng Yezi.

“Xuan Lu, what the hell are you doing?!” Feng Yezi had been forced by the 3 Deers of the Ji Continent to take part in their plot against Kou Chongxue. He wasn't actually very willing to take part in the first place.

Feng Yezi was one of the rare wandering cultivators in the Azure Origin World and he didn't join any strong factions either. When the fight broke out, he wasn't just worried about Kou Chongxue. He had been keeping his guard up against Xuan Lu and Hua Lu.

Watching Xuan Lu's staff fall on his location, he quickly gave up on attacking Kou Chongxue and he beat a hasty retreat.

“Dumbass, look out behind you!” Xuan Lu broke off a part of his concentration to save Feng Yezi and took on the risk of being caught by Kou Chongxue. Who would have thought that the fool would react so wildly and run straight into Ji Wenlong?

No matter how annoyed he was feeling, Xuan Lu knew that he couldn't watch on as Feng Yezi was ambushed by Ji Wenlong. He had to help the man no matter what.

Kou Chongxue was no fool. The moment Xuan Lu went out of his way to save Feng Yezi, he increased the power of his blows. A huge portion of his strength was directed at Xuan Lu. Sword lights swarmed the old Martial Dipper Realm and it forced him to focus on protecting himself instead of others.

Luckily, Feng Yezi seemed to have sensed danger as a formless wall of wind appeared around him.

It was a shame the wind wall was like a piece of paper when stacked up against Ji Wenlong's strange claw. It was torn apart easily like it wasn't even there.

The bloodied claw didn't stop and stabbed deep into Feng Yezi's back.

"Ah!" This time, it was Feng Yezi who cried out in pain. He shot through the air in an attempt to escape.

One had to know that Ji Wenlong, Kou Chongxue, and the 3 Deers of the Ji Continent sent their avatars over to the Cloud Water Gorge. Even if they were destroyed, they would suffer a little setback in their combat abilities for a period of time. Their cultivations may be affected, but they could eventually recover from it. Feng Yezi was different. His true body was the one that came.

If he were to suffer any injuries or damage, it would be for real!

Ji Wenlong's claw not only tore open his fate dipper protection, but it also left behind several nasty wounds on his back.

Even though he was injured, Feng Yezi wasn't too concerned about the wounds on his back. He cared a little more about the strange claw Ji Wenlong was wielding.

Feng Yezi was probably at the bottom of the power pyramid in the Martial Dipper Realm, but he was a true blue Martial Dipper Realm at the end of the day.

His fate dipper materialized to form the wind wall around him and even though it wasn't completely impenetrable, it shouldn't be torn apart as easily as it was!

What the hell is that weapon in Ji Wenlong's hand?!

When Feng Yezi retreated earlier, he tried making his way over to Xuan Lu and Hua Lu in an attempt to use them as protection.

With his sneak attack attempt earlier, Ji Wenlong managed to insert himself into the battle. The battle became a 2 on 3, but Ji Wenlong and Kou Chongxue both held a divine weapon.

That was right. The strange claw in Ji Wenlong's hand was a divine weapon. That was how he managed to severely injure Yun Lu's avatar before appearing behind Feng Yezi to launch a devastating attack that ripped apart his fate dipper protection.

The plot the 3 Deers of the Ji Continent had brewed to destroy Kou Chongxue's avatar was destroyed in an instant. The situation changed and with their divine weapons, Ji Wenlong and Kou Chongxue quickly gained the upper hand.

A fight among Martial Dipper Realm experts happened too quickly. Shang Xia, who hadn't gotten too far, could only see some blurry flashes when he tried to observe the battle. He might not be able

to see much, but there was one thing he was certain of. Feng Yezi might not know what weapon Ji Wenlong was wielding, but Shang Xia immediately recognized it as the Lingxuan Space Shattering Claw that belonged to the four great races of the Liao Continent of the Azure Spiritual World!

Shang Xia was no stranger to the weapon. In fact, most disciples of the Tongyou Institution would be able to recognize it.

Even though Shang Xia didn't know what kind of agreement the higher-ups of the institution made with the four great races of the Liao Continent and the Changbai Holy Land for them to lend Ji Wenlong the divine weapon, he could clearly tell that Ji Wenlong's combat abilities had been greatly boosted by the weapon.

A strange thought appeared in Shang Xia's mind all of a sudden. He turned to stare in a certain direction and saw a heavily injured Martial Dipper Realm avatar desperately trying to absorb heaven and earth qi to replenish his energy.

No longer in a rush to leave, Shang Xia decided on something else. He actively distanced himself from the Martial Dipper Realm who were fighting, but his sights were set on the origin dipper that nearly cost him his life.

Shang Xia's actions might seem too reckless, but there was a trace of irritation biting at his heart. He would be lying if he said that he wasn't annoyed by the fact that he was used as bait earlier.

However, the person who was messing with him was definitely a Martial Dipper Realm expert and he could only admit that he was unlucky to catch the eye of such an expert.

Now that all of them were busy fighting one another, Shang Xia felt that the only way to scratch the feeling in his heart was to actually do something about the origin dipper. Otherwise, he will never be able to let out his frustrations.

An origin dipper could allow a Martial Dipper Realm expert to experience a huge increase in strength. Despite the huge battle raging on, every Martial Dipper Realm expert there had been paying attention to the ball of origin dipper. Shang Xia was naturally unable to avoid being detected by them.

However, Kou Chongxue and Ji Wenlong were the ones with the upper hand at the moment. They reacted quickly and started to draw the battle away from Shang Xia.

Understanding that a chance like that wouldn't come easily, Shang Xia pushed himself to his limit and flew straight for the origin dipper. When he approached the item, he released a ray of blade light from his Abyssal Blade powered by his Four Constellation Qi to seal it before tossing it into one of his spirit suppressing cases.

The way he stored it was something he had found out after obtaining two inheritance light balls earlier. The Abyssal Blade seemed to possess some sort of restraining power on those inheritance treasures from the Abyssal Sect. That was probably the reason why it was used to guard the secret region in the first place.

It was too bad he only discovered it after obtaining two of those inheritance light balls. As the target of the rest of the Martial Extermination Realm experts who were still fighting for the treasures up in the skies, Shang Xia didn't have a chance to continue grabbing the light balls.

Whatever the case, Shang Xia wasn't complaining about the treasures he had obtained. He seized the Abyssal Blade, the boulder that held it, an origin dipper, the Auspicious Cloud Cape, and a huge amount of world origin. It might not seem a lot when compared to the huge amount of inheritance light balls that emerged from the various peaks, but they were definitely of the highest quality among the treasures that the Abyssal Sect left behind.

After Shang Xia kept the origin dipper, Yun Lu, who had forcefully recovered a portion of his strength, rushed into the chaotic battle without regard for his life. "Brother Feng, I'll help you out this time!"

The words barely left his lips when he appeared before Feng Yezi to block Ji Wenlong's claw.

A trace of joy appeared in Feng Yezi's heart now that the pressure on him was gone. He turned and glared at Shang Xia before getting ready to rush over. "Junior, put that down and I'll let you live!"

Chapter 485: My PRECIOUSSS

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Ji Wenlong and Kou Chongxue both understood how far Feng Yezi was willing to go. However, they weren't the only ones. At this point, even Shang Xia understood that Feng Yezi didn't have much scruples on attacking weaker cultivators.

That was why Shang Xia only risked it all and went for the origin dipper after seeing how Feng Yezi had been suppressed by Ji Wenlong and Kou Chongxue.

With the same logic, Kou Chongxue and Ji Wenlong increased the pressure on Feng Yezi after discovering Shang Xia's actions. They wanted to prevent that shameless old fellow from going overboard in desperation.

They might have thought they had suppressed Feng Yezi well, but an even more disgusting Yun Lu leaped out of nowhere.

The Martial Dipper Realm ancestor from the White Deer Paradise was obviously planning to use himself as a sacrifice to extract Feng Yezi from the relentless attacks. He wanted to borrow Feng Yezi's shamelessness to kill Shang Xia.

After Ji Wenlong brought out the Lingxuan Space Shattering Claw and heavily injured Yun Lu earlier, the 3 Deers of the Ji Continent knew that their schemes wouldn't succeed. They suffered greatly in the hands of Kou Chongxue and Ji Wenlong soon after. When he restored a portion of his strength, Yun Lu decided that they had to at least achieve something.

At the end of the day, Yun Lu was a Martial Dipper Realm ancestor from a holy land. He had long since noticed Shang Xia's actions, but he wouldn't get around to killing a junior in the Martial Extermination Realm. Just as he was at a loss of what to do, he recalled the ultra-shameless Feng Yezi. He forcefully inserted himself into the battle and everything that happened, happened.

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"Feng Yezi, if you dare to attack a junior, I promise I'll hunt you down and kill you!" Kou Chongxue roared. It seemed as though he was truly enraged by the actions of Yun Lu and Feng Yezi this time. However, he was stuck in the battle and could only threaten Feng Yezi with his words.

As the words left his lips, a strange wind started to rise in the northern direction of the Azure Origin World. The cloud churned around violently and layers upon layers of spatial fluctuations tore through the air. The intense fluctuations even affected the Martial Dipper Realm ancestors of the Divine Capital Sect and Zhongxuan Gate in the skies above who were still dealing with the mess in the Abyssal Secret Region.

It was a sign that Kou Chongxue was truly enraged. There were even signs of him getting ready to charge over from the You Continent.

Kou Chongxue might be a powerful expert in the Martial Dipper Realm, but no matter how fast he was, he wouldn't be able to make it in time.

“This fucking asshole is really shameless!” Ji Wenlong was equally as angry. He completely ignored Xuan Lu and Hua Lu as his claw went straight for Yun Lu. He was adamant about destroying Yun Lu's avatar even if he had to suffer some injuries in the process.

Kou Chongxue acted the same. He increased the power behind every strike and displayed the true power of his sword art. He stopped both Xuan Lu and Hua Lu on his own and any Martial Dipper Realm expert who was watching the battle from the Beyond Heavens Pavilion could only gasp in amazement.

The sudden outburst from the two of them was terrifying to say the least, but they couldn't stop Feng Yezi from snatching the origin dipper from Shang Xia.

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Feng Yezi obviously heard Kou Chongxue's threat earlier, but there was one thing Kou Chongxue would never understand. That was how difficult it was to obtain resources as a wandering cultivator with no actual background!

Kou Chongxue might carry out his threat and hunt Feng Yezi down, but with the opportunity to grow stronger right in front of him, Feng Yezi decided that it was better to obtain the origin dipper before caring about anything else.

He felt that the moment he refined the origin dipper and entered the second element Martial Dipper Realm, he might be able to find a way to escape from Kou Chongxue's pursuit.

Feng Yezi wasn't just confident in his own abilities. He chose to do what he had to do because of the origin dipper in Shang Xia's hand.

Back when the origin dipper first fell into the Cloud Water Gorge, Feng Yezi sensed that it was extremely compatible with himself. In fact, it was crucial to his future cultivation.

That was the reason Feng Yezi could ignore his image as a Martial Dipper Realm expert and snatch the treasure from a junior in the Martial Extermination Realm.

Facing a Martial Dipper Realm expert, there was no way Shang Xia could actually run away!

“Fuck! This is the third time this old fart made his move on me!” Shang Xia cursed inwardly.

The first time he was attacked, Ji Wenlong arrived and extracted him from his sticky situation. Kou Chongxue appeared the next time and saved him from certain death. Now that the two of them were occupied, Shang Xia knew that he could only rely on himself.

The Abyssal Blade seemed to notice the strong emotions churning in his heart as it started to vibrate lightly. It emitted a clear hum that rose above the noise of the battle among the Martial Dipper Realm experts nearby.

“That... That’s an exceptional weapon spirit!”

“I’m afraid this weapon is no weaker than Kou Chongxue’s Hidden Frost Sword...”

“It’s a pity a quarter of the blade has been damaged and lost.”

“I wonder if he will ever be able to restore the weapon...”

“It’s extremely difficult to do so.”

The last sentence ended the exchange among the Martial Dipper Realm experts who were observing the battle. It also directly shattered their imaginations where the Abyssal Blade would be fully restored one day.

Shang Xia was obviously unable to notice the conversation that went on. However, that didn’t bother him. Even if he knew what was happening, he would choose to reveal the true abilities of the weapon. After all, he couldn’t sit around and wait for Feng Yezi to kill him!

Also, there was another thing... Feng Yezi has never once looked straight at Shang Xia.

In his eyes, Shang Xia was a mere ant who didn’t know what was good for him. He could wipe this ant off the face of existence anytime he wanted.

However, a trace of irritation was rising in his heart when he made his move for the third time. The youngster who was unusually calm was starting to get on his nerves. He didn’t possess much killing intent towards Shang Xia earlier as he only cared about getting his hands on the origin dipper. Killing Shang Xia was merely something he did along the way.

Back when Yun Lu entered the battle to give him a chance to leave, Feng Yezi knew exactly what intentions they had. They wanted to use him to get rid of Shang Xia.

That might be the case, but he was willing to let the youngster go as long as he handed over the origin dipper.

After all, there was no need for him to thoroughly offend the Tongyou Institution and Kou Chongxue.

As he flew closer and closer to Shang Xia, his intention changed. A nagging feeling told him that he had to kill the Martial Extermination Realm youngster which he failed to do twice previously. He felt that he would probably regret his decision in the future if he let the youngster live.

No... He would definitely regret his decision if he allowed the youngster to leave today!

Slapping his Storm Pouch, swords and blades made from the wind appeared and stabbed straight for Shang Xia.

Facing the attack from Feng Yezi, Shang Xia came up with a third move in a fit of desperation.

The move he came up with contained all his desire to live. It contained the power to escape death just so he could live to see another day!

With the intention in mind, Shang Xia named his newest move 'Pure Brightness'!

The wind blade and wind swords that came his way were shattered and he forcefully cleaved out a path of retreat.

Unfortunately, Shang Xia barely dealt with one attack from the Martial Dipper Realm expert. He couldn't actually do a thing to the old man.

The space surrounding Shang Xia froze and his inner qi seemed to stop flowing through his body. Shang Xia felt his body rising into the air as a palm was pressed firmly on his chest.

As Feng Yezi injected his fate dipper into Shang Xia's body, Shang Xia spat out a mouthful of blood despite not feeling any injuries.

Even if a Martial Dipper Realm expert was in his place and was caught off guard like that, they might not be able to survive Feng Yezi's strike.

With a frosty expression on his face, Feng Yezi reached for Shang Xia's chest.

As a Martial Dipper Realm expert, Feng Yezi could obviously tell where Shang Xia hid his spatial artifacts.

Lowering his head to take a look at what he was grabbing, Feng Yezi's eyelid jumped violently.

He saw the 'innards' Shang Xia spat out earlier and noticed that not a trace of blood could be seen on them. Instead, it resembled a piece of broken show-white lotus root.

The body he thought he had grabbed turned into a streak of blood-red light and shot off into the distance. Feng Yezi's hand swiped through the air while trying to grab hold of the Embroidered Cloud Case.

With his heart thumping in his chest, Feng Yezi raised his head abruptly. He looked at the streak of light that had flown out of the Cloud Water Gorge.

How the hell is he still alive?

"What type of evasion art is this?! Why does this look like a technique from those bloodline cultivators of the Azure Spiritual World?!" Feng Yezi growled. He might not know a lot about matters regarding the Azure Spiritual World, but he was no ignorant fool. He had some knowledge of the cultivators there. It was the first time he had seen an escape technique like that, but he quickly connected it to its source.

It was true that the speed given to him by the Scarlet Blood Cone would cause the majority of Martial Extermination Realm experts to despair, but Feng Yezi was no Martial Extermination Realm expert. The Scarlet Blood Cone couldn't let Shang Xia outrun an expert like that!

When all was said and done, Feng Yezi had the guts to take part in the War of the Tongyou Mysterious World back then. If he wasn't confident in his abilities, there was no way he would go ahead and piss Kou Chongxue off. He was more than capable of catching up to Shang Xia, but it seemed as though even the heavens was going against him after his repeated failure to kill the youngster.

With Kou Chongxue holding both Xuan Lu and Hua Lu back, Ji Wenlong went crazy in his assault on Yun Lu. Even though the 3 Deers of the Ji Continent managed to stop the Martial Dipper Realm experts of the Tongyou Institution from helping Shang Xia, they weren't doing that well themselves. Ji Wenlong wielded the Lingxuan Space Shattering Claw and was hell-bent on destroying Yun Lu's avatar.

One had to know that Ji Wenlong had already heavily injured the man earlier. With his injuries, Yun Lu was no match for Ji Wenlong.

Yun Lu had risked it all to give Feng Yezi an opportunity to leave the battle to obtain the origin dipper and to kill Shang Xia, but he didn't expect Feng Yezi to be such a useless fool. He couldn't kill a mere Martial Extermination Realm expert, and he even allowed the youngster to escape!

Yun Lu was figuratively about to explode with anger. However, Ji Wenlong turned the explosion into reality. With Yun Lu's mind not in the right place, Ji Wenlong took the opportunity and dug the Lingxuan Space Shattering Claw deep into Yun Lu's avatar. It destroyed whatever was left of his strength.

Ji Wenlong was no Feng Yezi. After destroying Yun Lu's avatar, he knew what was more important. He immediately joined Kou Chongxue and targeted the strongest enemy they were facing, Xuan Lu.

Kou Chongxue took the opportunity to send a terrifying sword slash away from their battlefield.

After Ji Wenlong destroyed Yun Lu's avatar earlier, he knew that he had two options. One of them was to head over to deal with Feng Yezi, but with his current cultivation level, he wouldn't be able to do much to Feng Yezi who was an experienced cultivator at the Martial Dipper Realm.

Because of the fate dipper Feng Yezi had already refined, he could move a lot faster than cultivators at the same level. Even if Ji Wenlong wasn't afraid of being done in by Feng Yezi, he might not be able to stop the man in time. The moment he allowed Feng Yezi to escape, that shameless old fellow might be able to catch up to Shang Xia.

As such, he chose the other option. With him entering the battle to exert pressure on Xuan Lu, he would give Kou Chongxue a chance to react.

Feng Yezi might be able to move quickly, but he wasn't faster than Kou Chongxue's sword!

The sword light Kou Chongxue unleashed caused Feng Yezi's expression to change drastically. That was the third move Kou Chongxue developed for his Origin Yang Sword Art, the Origin Yang Forgotten Sword!

It was something he developed after getting inspiration from his attack on the White Deer Paradise. After refining his third fate dipper, he was fully able to unleash his third strike!

The moment the sword qi emerged, it split the void down the middle. It separated space on either side and made it difficult for anything from one side to cross over to the other.

Facing such a terrifying sword strike, Feng Yezi pushed his speed to the limit as he tried to avoid getting hit. At the same time, he wanted to catch up to Shang Xia to finish what he started.

No matter how much he tried to dodge through the air, the sword qi remained locked onto his position. It wasn't aimed directly at him, but it stood firm between Feng Yezi and Shang Xia.

He could only watch as Shang Xia ran further and further, eventually disappearing from his range of detection. Not a trace of the youngster was left!

Chapter 486: Absolute Fucking Chaos

Feng Yezi was obstructed by Kou Chongxue's sword qi for a mere moment, but it was enough for him to lose track of Shang Xia.

Since he managed to achieve his goal, Kou Chongxue turned to swing his Hidden Frost Sword and took over the pressure on Ji Wenlong. He started to focus on Xuan Lu, the stronger of the 2.

Ji Wenlong unleashed his Lingxuan Space Shattering Claw and continued his barrage of attacks on Hua Lu.

With Ji Wenlong's help, Kou Chongxue was able to fully focus on suppressing Xuan Lu.

The original scheme that was aimed to destroy Kou Chongxue's avatar was completely overturned. The 3 Deers of the Ji Continent, along with Feng Yezi, not only failed to take down Kou Chongxue's clone. They suffered huge losses in the process. Their reputation was really swept down the drain at this point.

Earlier, Xuan Lu and Hua Lu couldn't do a thing to Kou Chongxue even when they joined hands. Now that Kou Chongxue was dealing with Xuan Lu alone, the usually serious and aloof leader of the 3 Deers of the Ji Continent was being suppressed to no end.

"Feng Yezi!" Hua Lu yelled.

Xuan Lu and Hua Lu were having a hard time catching their breath. If Feng Yezi came to assist them, the pressure on them would be alleviated immediately.

Most of the Martial Dipper Realm experts present sent their avatars over. Feng Yezi was the only one with his true body and the longer the battle dragged out for, the greater his advantage. Even Kou Chongxue would perish in his hands once he exhausted the energy contained in the avatar.

Despite Hua Lu's cries, Feng Yezi seemed a little lost at the moment. He stared blankly in the direction Shang Xia disappeared.

With the situation turning uglier by the second, Hua Lu couldn't help but cry out again. This time, her tone was much more gentle. "Fellow Cultivator Feng, please give us a hand now that things have progressed up to this point. Our White Deer Sect will definitely make it up to you in the future."

"Sigh..." Releasing a long sigh, Feng Yezi turned to look at the battle taking place before appearing in the skies thousands of feet above the Cloud Water Gorge.

The appearance of a Martial Dipper Realm expert in the midst of the chaotic battle taking place between Martial Extermination Realm cultivators immediately caused everyone to scatter. No one gave half a hoot about collecting the inheritance light balls anymore.

"Feng Yezi, what do you think you're doing?!" A loud voice boomed like thunder. Jiu Ming, a Martial Dipper Realm ancestor of the Divine Capital Sect roared.

Feng Yezi's actions greatly offended the Martial Dipper Realm ancestors of the Divine Capital Sect and Zhongxuan Gate.

A sneer appeared on Feng Yezi's face as he glanced at the various Martial Extermination Realm cultivators in the distance. "There's no need to fight anymore. Keeping this up will only increase the unnecessary losses of all the parties involved. Since you guys are not willing to put a stop to this, I will!"

"What exactly do you want to do?" Xuan Shou growled after noticing that things were starting to get out of control.

Feng Yezi ignored him completely. With everyone's gaze on him, Feng Yezi swung his sleeves and grabbed close to 30 inheritance light balls around him before disappearing into the void.

"Indeed... There's no need for us to prolong the battle." Kou Chongxue spoke suddenly and forced Xuan Lu back.

Seeing that Kou Chongxue had spoken, Ji Wenlong did the same and withdrew the Lingxuan Space Shattering Claw to allow Hua Lu to take a step back.

"Xuan Lu, do you still wish to continue?" Kou Chongxue asked.

Facing Kou Chongxue's superior tone, Hua Lu revealed a face full of anger. She was quickly held back by Xuan Lu who growled, "Indeed. There is no need for us to fight anymore!"

"Good." Kou Chongxue released a bout of laughter as his Hidden Frost Sword rose into the air and slashed lightly. Close to 20 inheritance light balls disappeared into the void.

Ji Wenlong did the same and casually swiped the air with his Lingxuan Space Shattering Claw. Close to 10 light balls were captured by him.

Staring coldly at Ji Wenlong, Xuan Shou's voice boomed through the skies. "Hmph, you should have used a weapon that belongs to another world. You're an embarrassment to the cultivators of our Azure Origin World!"

"Heh, you know what's truly embarrassing? You guys stood around and watched as a junior in the Martial Extermination Realm was bullied by an expert at the Martial Dipper Realm. I had to do something about it." Ji Wenlong sneered in response.

Silence filled the land and seeing as no one could retort, Ji Wenlong's avatar turned into a strand of pure energy that returned to the Lingxuan Space Shattering Claw. It ripped through the space and went up north.

Hua Lu couldn't help but mutter, "Senior Brother..."

"We're leaving too!" Xuan Lu shook his head and grabbed the air before him. As he turned to leave, a little more than 10 light balls went with him.

Hua Lu stomped her feet in anger as her jade seal grabbed several balls of light before she followed behind Xuan Lu.

Seeing as they had left, a voice rang in the minds of the experts from the Divine Capital Sect. "Alright. This will be all. You guys are on your own."

After the person had spoken, two whirlpools of heaven and earth qi appeared in mid air and grabbed close to 30 inheritance light balls before fading away.

Seeing what was going on, Xuan Chang of the Zhongxuan Gate growled a little reluctantly, “I didn’t think that Kou Chongxue would be able to butt into this matter even when he’s so far away... The 3 Deers of the Ji Continent set up such an elaborate plan, but alas... Humph!”

Xuan Shou grabbed a handful of light balls, and replied to her, “Watch your words. The Divine Capital Sect is extremely powerful. In the future, we still have to rely on the 3 Deers of the Ji Continent to withstand the pressure coming from the Si Continent.”

“Heh, after this battle, who knows how much fighting strength the 3 of them will still retain?” Xuan Chang sighed.

Glancing at her from the corner of his eye, Xuan Shou muttered, “Don’t ever underestimate the foundations of a holy land. You can evaluate Hua Lu and Yun Lu all you want, but when Xuan Lu entered the Martial Dipper Realm, he didn’t receive much assistance from the White Deer Paradise.”

Understanding the meaning behind her senior brother’s words, Xuan Chang asked in a low voice, “Senior Brother, do you mean... Xuan Lu didn’t use his full strength earlier?”

Chuckling in amusement, Xuan Shou continued, “Don’t forget, the White Deer Paradise is protected by a divine weapon. The Divine Deer Staff has always been in Xuan Lu’s possession...”

...

In the skies above the Cloud Water Gorge, the 20 plus Martial Extermination Realm experts had been fighting for quite some time earlier. They were fighting over the inheritance light balls that came from the Abyssal Sect, but after those Martial Dipper Realm experts made their move, the numerous light balls that populated the skies became a lot more scarce.

There were a little less than 300 inheritance light balls that emerged from the Abyssal Secret Region. Not counting those that flew away, those that were destroyed in the chaotic battle, or those that had already been obtained by Shang Xia and those who had been in the Abyssal Secret Region before it collapsed, more than half of those that remained were obtained by those Martial Dipper Realm experts.

The battle for the inheritance light balls wasn’t as eventful as the fight in the Cloud Water Gorge where Martial Dipper Realm experts exchanged blows, but it wasn’t exactly lacking either. Of the 5 Martial Extermination Realm experts of the Divine Capital Sect, one was killed and another was heavily injured. Even Zuo Changqing suffered some light injuries.

Chenming glanced at his surroundings and saw that the dust had settled and the Martial Dipper Realm ancestors had left. His voice trembled in indignation. “What is this?! What the hell is this?! Do the ancestors of our Divine Capital Sect even care about us? What do they take us as? Heh... Is everything we did useless?”

Zuo Changqing remained quietly at the side. He might have suffered some slight wounds, but he managed to obtain one inheritance light ball and a strand of extermination origin. His trip wasn’t fully made in vain.

However, everything that happened earlier left a bad taste in his mouth. He also felt a sense of suppression that he couldn't put into words.

The sense of suppression was what Chenming was also feeling. It was the fact that they felt so weak that they weren't able to control their own fates the moment those Martial Dipper Realm experts showed up. Luckily for Zuo Changqing, that only served to strengthen his resolve and desire to grow stronger.

Xu Chenkang's expression was as stiff as could be. Back when he brought his fellow cultivators to the Cloud Water Gorge, all of them came in high spirits. They even acted as though nothing could stand in their way. There was even a period where Xu Chenkang thought that he could use the chance to enter the Martial Dipper Realm.

Now that everything had happened, he realized how much of a clown he was to think that way.

.

"Junior Brother, hold your tongue!" Xu Chenkang managed to maintain his rationality and yelled at Chenming. He regained his composure and muttered, "Now that things have progressed to this point, there's no need for us to remain. We can talk about this after we leave."

Very quickly, Xu Chenkang brought the rest of the members of the Divine Capital Sect and left the Sixth Pass. They didn't stop as they made their way back to the Si Continent.

Not too long after they left, the experts from the other continents started to take their leave.

...

"Are you certain all of them had left?" Yin Wanxiang, the master of the Thousand Caves Peak asked Jiang Weiyun of the Flowing Cloud Lagoon.

Understanding the severity of the matter, Jiang Weiyun didn't dare to show the slightest displeasure even though Yin Wanxiang's words sounded like he was talking to a subordinate. He replied quickly and seriously, "Brother Wanxiang, there's no need to worry. All of our factions in the Sixth Pass have already sent our men out to every checkpoint possible. They might not be able to detect the auras of those Martial Extermination Realm experts, but they can observe the extermination lights that are shooting across the skies. Moreover, those guys don't seem to be hiding their tracks either."

"That's great! Brother Jiang, you've worked hard." Yin Wanxiang sounded really sincere when he thanked Jiang Weiyun.

Jiang Weiyun quickly added, "Brother Wanxiang, there's no need for such formalities. The Sixth Pass belongs to all of us. We tried doing things on our own in the past and allowed those outsiders to come and go as they wished. This time, they even stole the opportunity that was meant for us! Brother Wanxiang, if you are willing to take the lead and unify the powers of the Sixth Pass, we won't be worried about the threat of outsiders in the future. I, Jiang Weiyun, can't be happier if you agree to do so. There's no need to make things so difficult!"

"No... That will make me seem unreasonable. Brother Jiang, I understand your good intentions..." Yun Wanxiang smiled apologetically before turning to look at Gu Lingyu

who had just returned from elsewhere. "Fairy Gu, did you manage to gain something from all of that?"

"Many inheritance light balls scattered from the Abyssal Secret Region and entered the chaotic flow of space. We don't know where they went. Most of the others that remain scattered into the Sixth Pass. We don't have enough people to record where everything went and we only managed to keep track of close to ten inheritance light balls. There are a lot more out there and we will need to use a lot of effort to locate them." Gu Lingyu replied.

Nodding, Yin Wanxiang muttered, "That's good enough. I thought that we would only be able to get 5 or 6 of them at most with our primitive method. The results are a lot better than I thought."

Gu Lingyu wanted to say something else, but after glancing at someone in the distance, she decided to hold her tongue,

Yin Wanxiang turned in that direction and saw Zhonggu and Fang Ruhai. He chuckled in amusement, "Fairy Gu, feel free to speak your mind. There are no outsiders here. Everyone is a member of our Sixth Pass."

Grunting softly, Gu Lingyu continued, "The Abyssal Secret Region contained too many inheritance light balls and we won't be able to contain the news. The stronger powers might not bother us because it's a little difficult to go around digging for them, but other members of the Taihang Mountains are like ravenous hyenas who will rush over to try their luck. There might be another bloodbath in the near future..."

Yin Wanxiang smiled softly and responded, "Isn't that something we already predicted?"

Turning to look at Zhonggu and Fang Ruhai, Yin Wanxiang continued in a friendly tone, "Brother Zhonggu, Brother Fang, what do you think?"

Zhonggu turned to look at Fang Ruhai beside himself and after a moment of silence, Fang Ruhai's hoarse voice rang through the air. "We're part of the Sixth Pass at the end of the day. We won't sit by and watch as outsiders come and steal what belongs to us! The two of us and everyone we command are willing to follow Brother Wanxiang's instructions!"

"Great, great, great!" Yin Wanxiang roared with laughter. "Brother Fang, Brother Zhonggu, rest assured. We're all members of the Sixth Pass and no one will be commanding anyone around. We'll settle everything with a round of friendly discussion!"

After settling matters with the other Martial Extermination Realm experts of the Sixth Pass, Yin Wanxiang turned serious. "However, the situation is a little bit urgent at the moment. I hope you two can do what Brother Jiang is doing and prevent outsiders from prying into our business!"

Chapter 487: Nursing Wounds and Counting Gains

Back on the Yuxi Peak in the battlefield between the two worlds, Shang Xia used a new method to enter the Martial Extermination Realm. Before his breakthrough attempt, Ge Qingzhi gave him the

lotus root of the Nine Petaled Lotus that would allow him to avoid all internal injuries. Youshang also delivered the life saving treasure, the Scarlet Blood Cone some time ago.

When Shang Xia broke through to the Four Constellation Realm, he didn't use any of them!

Now that he thought about it, it seemed as though he had misjudged the reason he was given those treasures. When he tried breaking through to the Martial Extermination Realm on the Yuxi Peak, Kou Chongxue and Ji Wenlong probably already had their eyes on him! With the two of them paying attention to the breakthrough, there was no way Shang Xia would run into any danger that they couldn't just jump out and solve.

The deeper he dived into the matter, the more it seemed as though the institution had their sights on the Abyssal Secret Region a long time ago. That was probably why those exceptional treasures made their way into his hands.

Fleeing from the Cloud Water Gorge with the Scarlet Blood Cone, Shang Xia made his way to the border of the Sixth Pass before finally settling down.

Landing on a deserted mountain ridge, Shang Xia couldn't be bothered with everything that happened back at the Cloud Water Gorge. He immediately found a hidden spot to conceal his presence.

When he was finally satisfied with his hiding spot, he opened the 2 Embroidered Cloud Cases in his sleeves. He poured every single treasure that could assist with his recovery out onto the ground below.

Before he could decide which medicine he should eat first, his face flushed red. Spitting out a mouthful of blood, weakness overwhelmed him. The aura around him became several times weaker than before.

The lotus root might have allowed him to avoid a huge amount of inner injuries, but the might of a Martial Dipper Realm expert wasn't something it could completely nullify. Earlier, the lotus root took the brunt of the damage. However, Shang Xia still suffered significant injuries from the remaining power contained in Feng Yezi's blow.

When he used the Scarlet Blood Cone earlier, Shang Xia was forcefully holding himself together. In the short time it took for him to escape, his injuries became even worse.

The reason he did that was because he wanted to use the fastest speed possible to reach a safe place.

After he spat out some blood, Shang Xia quickly tossed some rank three recovery powder into his mouth. Chasing that down with a gulp of Hundred Flowers Spiritual Wine, he quickly circulated his inner qi. Now that he started to develop his rank four martial arts, his inner qi circulation was much smoother than before.

After half a day, the effects of the recovery powder were finally used up. However, it only managed to ensure that his injuries weren't getting worse.

More than 10 hours had already passed since he left the Cloud Water Gorge. Looking up at the sky, Shang Xia was greeted by a sea of sparkling stars. Looking in the direction of the Cloud Water Gorge, he discovered that the phenomenon of the Abyssal Secret Region's merger had already disappeared.

“I wonder how Third Aunt is doing...” The thought flashed across Shang Xia’s mind and he wondered to himself. It would only remain a thought as he wouldn’t be able to help much in his current condition.

Putting up a few simple warning devices in the area around the cave he was hiding in, Shang Xia eventually returned to swallow another portion of recovery medicine. Naturally, he drank some Hundred Flowers Spiritual Wine along with it. He continued to circulate his inner qi like he did earlier. This time, he had enough energy to activate his Four Seasons Extermination Origins and they slowly aided in his recovery.

Eventually, he fell into a trance as he entered a deep state of cultivation. By the time he woke up, 3 days had passed.

Using his divine perception to inspect himself, Shang Xia found that his condition was indeed improving. However, he was far from his peak condition.

Estimating the speed of his recovery, Shang Xia felt that he would need 3 to 5 months before he would return to his peak state. Moreover, that was because of the unique properties of his extermination origins, strong physique, and soul. That allowed his life force to be much stronger than cultivators of the same level, resulting in his speedy recovery.

If anyone else at the same level was in his place, recovery would be the least of their concern. They might not even be able to survive the palm strike from Feng Yezi in the first place. Even if they managed to live, there was a 70 percent chance they would be crippled anyway. Of those that could actually recover, they would probably need 3 to 5 years of constant care in order to have a chance to return to their peak state.

The time Shang Xia required could be said to be extremely short, but he still felt as though it was taking too long.

Before recovering, Shang Xia knew that he would be completely useless. He didn’t understand the situation in the Taihang Mountains at the moment, and because of that uncertainty, he didn’t dare to try contacting Shang Pei. Neither did he dare to venture around wherever he was.

No matter how unwilling and annoyed he was at the situation, Shang Xia could only return to his cave to treat his injuries.

Because of the descent of the Abyssal Secret Region in the Cloud Water Gorge, the heaven and earth qi in the Sixth Pass became a lot denser than before. It greatly aided Shang Xia’s speed of recovery.

Without interference from the outside world, Shang Xia entered seclusion and tried to heal his horrendous wounds. Every time he circulated his inner qi, he would enter a strange state of cultivation.

Not only was the state he was in great for recovery, it also allowed him to think about his self-created rank four martial arts with extreme clarity. He could observe the flow of his inner qi through his body and make adjustments that allowed him to display greater might.

After 3 to 4 sessions like that, more than ten days had passed. His injuries were finally starting to take a turn for the better. At the same time, he managed to refine his rank four martial arts a little more. At the very least, he learned how to circulate his Four Constellation Qi more effectively in his

body. He no longer needed 10 hours to complete one cycle. As a result, his training efficiency rose to a whole new level.

Back when Shang Xia started to create his own rank four martial arts, he referred to many rank four martial arts that had already been created.

Regardless of the Shang Clan or the Tongyou Institution, Shang Xia managed to gain insights from close to 10 rank four martial arts that had been recorded by the various powers.

That didn't include the guidance he was given by Shang Bo, Shang Ke, Shang Pei, Zhang Haogu, Ge Qingzhu, and other Martial Extermination Realm experts he had some relationship with.

As such, Shang Xia had a pretty good grasp on how powerful each technique was and how suited they were to their cultivators.

With everything he learned, Shang Xia tried to come up with the most ordinary technique he could after entering the Martial Extermination Realm. That might be the case, but he quickly discovered that the martial arts he created possessed a huge potential for growth!

He even had a feeling that after consolidating his foundations and securely planting his feet in the Martial Extermination Realm, he would undergo another round of transformation to grow even stronger!

However, everything would only happen in the future. He had a long way to go before that happened.

In the blink of an eye, another half a month had passed. To his surprise, he was recovering slightly faster than he had expected.

His development of his rank four martial arts had nothing to do with the accelerating rate of recovery, and neither did the medicine he was eating. Instead, he was comprehending the true meaning of samara through the cycle of the four seasons.

The progression of the four seasons through the land was eternal and through the process, life would grow and decay.

With that understanding, Shang Xia seemed to have grown closer to the world around him. He seemed to grasp onto the logic of the four seasons and how day changed to night. Even though he hadn't become one with the world, couldn't meld with the changing of the four seasons, or reach the state where he could overturn day or night, his comprehension was enough to greatly aid his speed of recovery.

After learning what he did, Shang Xia could control his extermination origins a lot better than before. He could also accurately extract the power of Spring that contained the power of life to hasten the restoration of his body.

Everything was progressing smoothly and Shang Xia continued to strengthen his dantian. His Four Constellation Qi also continued to accumulate, and that signified the recovery of his fighting strength. At long last, he finally recovered enough to protect himself even if something unexpected were to happen.

In the following days, Shang Xia could finally relax a little.

Lighting a stick of incense in his humble cave dwelling, Shang Xia finally found a moment to rest now that he managed to gather some Four Constellation Qi in his dantian. He decided to start sorting out the loot he received from the Abyssal Secret Region.

But before that, he decided to check out the Crimson Soul Tablet in his sea of consciousness.

When he first entered the Abyssal Secret Region, he received pure world origin in liquid form. That was enough for a third of the cracks on the second face of the tablet to be sealed up.

After that, Shang Xia also received a clump of world origin after slicing apart one of the inheritance light balls that flew his way.

Due to the abilities of the Crimson Soul Tablet, the world origin wasn't wasted. Shang Xia made use of a little bit while fighting, but it seemed as though the remaining amount was enough to restore the crack by the same amount as the first batch of world origin.

Obtaining both batches of world origin wasn't the only gain he made. The Crimson Soul Tablet had been slowly refining the world origin that existed naturally in the Abyssal Secret Region. Since the effects weren't as good as devouring both batches of world origin, Shang Xia didn't really take notice of it.

Only after observing the Crimson Soul Tablet again did Shang Xia discover that the second face didn't recover by a mere two-thirds. Almost four-fifths of the face had recovered and there was merely a tiny crack left.

It was something that really shocked Shang Xia.

Happy that the Crimson Soul Tablet was starting to restore itself, Shang Xia turned to look at the most precious treasure he managed to obtain from the Abyssal Secret Region, the Abyssal Blade.

A quarter of the blade might be broken, but the divine weapon still commanded a respectable level of power. Back during the chaotic battle in the Abyssal Secret Region, no one in the Martial Extermination Realm had the guts to fight Shang Xia when he wielded the divine weapon.

What was more important, Shang Xia managed to rely on the Abyssal Blade to create the first 3 moves of his rank four martial arts! Awakening Lightning, Grand Inferno, Pure Brightness... Every single move contained a frightening amount of power!

With the creation of his first 3 moves, Shang Xia already had the outline of his martial arts all laid out. He even thought of the name for it. His rank four martial arts would be called the Divine Blade of the Twenty Four Solar Terms.

Whether or not the Abyssal Blade could be fixed wasn't part of Shang Xia's consideration at the moment.

Other than the Abyssal Blade, Shang Xia also managed to obtain the rank four advancement formula, the Four Essence Abyssal Wine after saving Wei Qiongyi.

From the name itself, it was obvious the advancement formula was part of the core inheritance of the Abyssal Sect.

The next thing Shang Xia looked at was his Auspicious Cloud Cape. It could transform into the Auspicious Cloud Boat that could ferry 4 people through the air. During the chaotic battle that

happened before, Shang Xia didn't bother turning it into the boat form as it was much more convenient to use its properties as a cape.

When he was done, Shang Xia looked at the origin dipper he obtained from the jaws of death. Estimating the worth of everything he had, Shang Xia felt that the origin dipper should be the most valuable treasure right after the Abyssal Blade.

Chapter 488: Dao Comprehension Incense

Looking at the origin dipper in front of him, Shang Xia had no idea what he should do with it. He didn't know what it was exactly either.

However, from the ability it had to stir up the wind and clouds when it first appeared, to the time when it captured the attention of the Martial Dipper Realm experts in the Beyond Heavens Pavilion, along with the importance Feng Yezi placed on it, Shang Xia was afraid that the origin dipper in his hand was no ordinary treasure. At the very least, it was something of an exceptional grade.

After he used his Abyssal Blade to seal it previously, Shang Xia hadn't actually seen its true appearance. However, that didn't seem important now that the treasure actually belonged to him.

Next came the boulder that trapped the Abyssal Blade. The boulder itself took up so much space that it nearly filled up an entire Embroidered Cloud Case alone, and Shang Xia finally took it out to look at it.

There were countless cracks that filled its surface and there was nothing especially special about its appearance. It looked just like an ordinary rock that was larger than usual, but after hundreds of years of nourishment by the heaven and earth qi around it, it seemed a lot tougher than before. It contained dense heaven and earth qi, but unfortunately, it wasn't comparable to spiritual jades.

That might be how it seemed to the outside world, but Shang Xia had a sneaking suspicion that the boulder wasn't as simple as it looked.

An idea had formed in Shang Xia's mind some time ago and he had to use the boulder in order to verify his guesses.

Other than all the treasures that he had laid out earlier, there were still 2 inheritance light balls in his possession. He grabbed them early on in the battle and left soon after.

With close to 300 inheritance light balls emerging from the Abyssal Secret Region, treasures contained in them were split into different grades. One could only rely on their luck to see if the treasures they retrieved were precious or not.

Shang Xia understood that his chances of getting something good were slim to none, but his heart was bubbling with excitement because of the gambling aspect of things. He wondered if he would be able to obtain another origin dipper from either inheritance light ball in his hand.

Retrieving one of them, a four colored extermination light surrounded the light ball. It shattered the restrictions that were producing the barrier of light and the treasure inside was eventually revealed.

Shang Xia looked at the snowy white pearl that was filled with swirling mist in his hand and felt somewhat disappointed.

After playing around with the pearl in his hand, Shang Xia discovered that it could be used two different ways.

The first way was for him to wear the pearl on him at all times. It could ensure that he wouldn't lose his way even in thick fog or mists. Not even poison miasma or hallucinogenic mist would cause him to wander off track.

Its use was surprisingly similar to the Misty Palace Lantern Shang Xia obtained after killing the Martial Extermination Realm from the Divine Capital Sect back then. However, the Misty Palace Lantern still seemed slightly more superior. Other than the ability to prevent the user from losing their way, the lantern possessed offensive and defensive capabilities.

The second use of the pearl was to create a sea of fog around the cultivator who used it. The scale of the fog created would depend on the cultivation of its user. Weaker ones would only be able to summon a sea of fog a hundred feet wide. However, it was possible for it to go up to ten miles or larger.

"If I run into stronger opponents, it's possible for me to use this pearl to get away!" Shang Xia thought to himself. Understanding its uses, he quickly kept it properly.

The cave dwelling he was currently hiding in had no natural defenses. He could use the pearl to create a sea of fog around the region to give it some form of protection, but that would be a little too eye-catching. It would bring about negative results instead.

It was especially so after the appearance of the Abyssal Secret Region. The sea of clouds around the Cloud Water Gorge was cleared after god knew how many years. If another sea of fog reappeared in the Taihang Mountains, it would immediately rouse everyone's suspicion.

Now that he had the experience of breaking the restriction around the balls of light, Shang Xia's second attempt was much smoother than before.

Looking at how easily his extermination origins had destroyed the restrictions on the ball of light, Shang Xia couldn't help but think back to how he destroyed the Jingxiu Peak's protection barrier. There was also the matter of suppressing the Abyssal Blade's weapon spirit with his extermination origins. Shang Xia could basically confirm that his extermination origins were extremely effective when it came to dealing with restrictions, formations, and stuff that had to do with the spirit.

As the thought flashed through his mind, the second item was quickly revealed in his hand.

"This... Is this a stick of incense?!" Shang Xia stared at the cylindrical item that was close to a foot long with the thickness of his finger.

Flipping it around in his hand, Shang Xia eventually noticed a shallow carving on its surface. 'Dao Comprehension Incense'!

"Dao Comprehension Incense? What is this? Sounds... It sounds pretty impressive..." It was Shang Xia's first time seeing anything like it. However, he could already tell that it was a precious treasure.

He was no stranger to incense that could assist with cultivation. When he broke through to the Martial Intent Realm in the past, he used the help of the Intent Guarding Incense and after becoming a high-level Talisman Master, he would use it from time to time to calm himself down throughout the crafting process. It was also useful in replenishing his mental state.

Following the shallow carvings on the stick of incense, Shang Xia saw an even smaller row of words. “Helpful in the deduction of advancement formulas, martial arts, secret arts, and martial intent.”

Shang Xia’s eyes lit up the moment he saw what was written. This is good stuff!

However, there was still a trace of doubt in his mind. Can this thing really be so magical?

Even if it could do whatever it said it could, Shang Xia felt that there had to be a limit. It might be possible to deduce stuff of the first and second rank... If he wanted to go a little higher, the limit should be somewhere close to a rank three advancement formula or one’s third martial intent. As for those of the fourth and fifth rank... Hehehe...

If the incense is really that amazing, the number of Martial Dipper Realm experts in the Azure Origin World should be a lot more numerous than it was.

The more he thought about it, the less excited he felt about obtaining the Dao Comprehension Incense.

Should I... Should I just light this up and test its effects right now?

Shang Xia reached out and tapped the tip of the incense as a trace of his Mirroring Sun Extermination Origin ran through his fingers. A spark lit up the incense as a trail of smoke filled the air. The entire cave seemed to enter a strange state of silence.

After ensuring there was no poison in the Dao Comprehension Incense, Shang Xia placed several simple restrictions at the entrance of the cave to prevent the smoke from escaping before silently returning to his cultivation.

Shang Xia didn’t realize that he entered a deep level of focus in just a short amount of time.

Back when he broke through to the Four Constellation Realm, Shang Xia had created a set of secret art that allowed him to produce Four Constellation Qi in his body. He wasn’t great at coming up with names and he simply based them off his advancement medicine, the Four Seasons Samsara Wine. In the end, he named his secret art the Four Seasons Samsara Art. After breaking through, he basically completed the deduction and use of his secret art, and now, he was merely refining it to be better than before.

Originally, Shang Xia felt that he would need to use at least 3 years to fully refine his Four Seasons Samara Art. Only then would he be able to produce Four Constellation Qi with maximum efficiency.

3 years might seem long, but that wasn’t the case at all! Cultivators at the same level would probably feel their jaws dropping to the ground if they heard that Shang Xia could accomplish such a feat in 3 short years.

The creation and refinement of even the lowest type of secret art in the Azure Origin World would probably require dozens of years! In fact, it would take them dozens of years to come up with the new secret art and dozens more years to refine and polish the method before creating a complete inheritance!

If they wanted to create higher-leveled secret arts for those in the Martial Intent Realm, Martial Extermination Realm, or even Martial Dipper Realm, dozens of years didn’t even begin to describe

the unit of time required for them to create and refine such a secret art. They could even take generations before the inheritance was complete!

The reason Shang Xia was confident he could do it in such a short amount of time was because of the slight understanding he had of the Four Constellation Realm in his previous life. The help of the Crimson Soul Tablet couldn't be ignored either. It produced a complete advancement formula, saving Shang Xia a lot of precious time.

It allowed Shang Xia to gain an initial direction of development, unlike cultivators who had to feel their way about not knowing whether they were correct or not.

The only thing Shang Xia had to do was to barge down the path that had been given to him by the Crimson Soul Tablet. He might have to refine his method while barreling down the path, but it was better than nothing. During the process, he could come up with a way such that other people could follow in his footsteps.

After entering a deep state of cultivation, Shang Xia felt his inner qi flowing much smoother than before. Any obstacles he came across were quickly dealt with. The second he discovered his inner qi not flowing as he desired, he would be able to discover the problem.

Circulating his inner qi through his body, there were bound to be forks in the path it could take. Even then, Shang Xia was able to accurately choose the correct path to take.

A miraculous feeling overwhelmed Shang Xia and every single decision he made seemed correct. Reality also proved that he was correct.

When he started cultivating previously, he would take close to 10 hours to fully complete one cycle of inner qi circulation. It eventually went down to 8 hours or so, showing signs of improvement. Every few days or so, he would become a little more familiar with the process, shortening the time taken by half an hour or so.

Now, he barely used 2 hours to complete a third of his inner qi cycle!

At this rate, Shang Xia felt that as long as he had enough Dao Comprehension Incense, he was fully confident of completing one full cycle in 6 short hours!

It seemed as though his time spent in seclusion was much more effective than all the time he used in the past!

One had to know that the refinement process of one's secret art would become more difficult near the end. It was even more terrifying if one were to understand that Shang Xia's speed of comprehension before was a lot faster than it would ordinarily be. Because of his accumulation during the various battles he took part in ever since he stepped into the Taihang Mountains, he managed to refine his secret art at a frightening speed. However, it was even faster after he lit the Dao Comprehension Incense!

Unfortunately, the stick of incense couldn't burn forever. After 2 hours, the effects disappeared. Shang Xia was forcefully torn out from the miraculous state, and the speed of his inner qi circulation returned to normal.

Even though it was still faster than it had been, the speed of his improvement was no longer as quick as before. When he ran into obstacles when circulating his inner qi, Shang Xia could no

longer act like before. He had to carefully scout out the correct path before allowing his inner qi to flow through his body.

When he finally completed the cycle, 7 hours had passed.

However, Shang Xia didn't choose to awaken immediately. Instead, he took the chance to deepen his cultivation and he only opened his eyes 3 days later. The moment he did, the world seemed a little clearer than before.

The effects of his seclusion this time could be compared to the past half a month or so!

Not only did he manage to greatly improve his secret art, his injuries also recovered at a frightening rate. He was much better than before and his previous estimate of 3 to 5 months would have to be scrapped! He had been stuck in his cave for slightly more than a month since he first arrived, but more than half his injuries were already gone!

Chapter 489: Shang Pei's Sad Plight

Even though the Dao Comprehension Incense only lasted for 2 hours, Shang Xia understood how overpowered its effects were.

Moreover, that was only a single stick of incense.

Having experienced the effects of the incense, Shang Xia knew that the incense was probably also an extremely rare treasure among the Abyssal Sect's collection.

...

Two months had passed since Shang Xia started his recuperation in the deserted mountain ridge. The 845th year of the Divine Martial Calendar had already passed and Spring of the 846th year had already arrived.

Shang Xia was completing his cultivation in his cave dwelling as four spheres of light condensed from his four extermination origins spun around him. With every breath he took, a trace of extermination qi would be refined.

Back on the Yuxi Peak, Shang Xia completed his initial refinement of each extermination origin after ingesting his Four Seasons Samsara Wine. That was how he successfully entered the Four Constellation Realm and because he lacked suitable rank four martial arts, he was unable to continue the refinement process. After all, forcefully trying to refine his extermination origins would only cause him to waste his efforts and wear down his actual foundations.

Now that his Four Seasons Samsara Art was slightly more complete, Shang Xia realized that he could use it during his cultivation while also greatly hastening the speed of his recovery.

There might be some chill left in the air, but signs of life were starting to emerge now that Winter was over. The arrival of Spring wasn't something that could be prevented.

Back then, he estimated that he would need 3 months worth of time to recover. Only two months had passed and he managed to restore himself to 80 percent of his peak state. Even though it was a little lacking, it would have to do. He might reopen his old injuries if he had to use more than 80 percent of his capabilities, but Shang Xia felt that it was enough for him to do what he had to.

After all, he didn't wish to remain in his cave dwelling any longer. He didn't know anything that was happening in the outside world, and he desperately wanted to. He needed to learn about what

happened in the Cloud Water Gorge after he had left and he wanted to know the current situation in the Tongyou Institution. Those weren't all. There was a question burning with even greater intensity in his mind and it was Shang Pei's whereabouts.

Now that he was confident he would be able to fight anyone if it came down to it, Shang Xia chose to leave the mountain ridge he had sought refuge in. Drawing the Auspicious Cloud Cape around him, he soared into the air and disappeared into the dense clouds above.

...

After leaving the Cloud Water Gorge with the members of the Youyan Stronghold, Shang Pei separated from Fifth Uncle Cen and the others and tried to return to assist Shang Xia. However, a huge explosion filled the skies and inheritance light balls came flying everywhere.

One of them landed near Shang Pei and she managed to get her hands on it very quickly. Unfortunately, there were other Martial Extermination Realm experts in her surroundings. Because of the treasure, a huge battle broke out between them. Shang Pei managed to hold on to the inheritance light ball eventually and the two of them went their separate ways.

Soon after, the huge battle broke out in the air above. When Shang Pei made up her mind to risk it all and join them, the Martial Dipper Realm ancestors from the Divine Capital Sect and Zhongxuan Gate arrived.

With their arrival, Shang Pei didn't dare to act recklessly anymore. Just as she was thinking about her next course of action, Ji Wenlong and Kou Chongxue appeared. With the 2 of them present, Shang Pei knew that joining in would only drag them down. It didn't matter if she was a part of the battle anymore.

The battle quickly unfolded. The 3 Deers of the Ji Continent worked together with Feng Yezi to fight Kou Chongxue and Ji Wenlong. A great half of the Cloud Water Gorge was destroyed by the shockwaves generated from their battle.

However, things took an unexpected turn as Feng Yezi managed to gain an opportunity to leave the battle. He shamelessly appeared to attack Shang Xia, a junior in the Martial Extermination Realm, before fucking up really badly and allowing Shang Xia to escape.

The chaos didn't last for too long after that. Kou Chongxue and Ji Wenlong brought up their intentions to end the battle and all the Martial Dipper Realm experts grabbed whatever loot they could get their hands on before leaving in disappointment. When they arrived, they thought that they would be able to gain the largest piece of the pie. Reality proved them wrong.

Things took a huge turn for Shang Pei soon after that. After the Martial Dipper Realm experts left, the Martial Extermination Realm experts of the other factions noticed her snooping around at the edge of the Cloud Water Gorge. Someone revealed that she was related to Shang Xia and a group quickly gathered together to hunt her down.

There were 2 factions who made up the group. One of them was from the Zhang Family of the Ji Continent and the other was from the Bing Continent.

It was understandable that the Zhang Family held a grudge against Shang Xia after what he did to them while passing through the Ji Continent. Shang Pei learned of the matter when Shang Xia first

met her, but she couldn't understand why Ye Yifan, the Harmonious River Master, was after her. She didn't understand what grudges she had formed with the experts of the Bing Continent.

She racked her brains trying to think of a reason why Ye Yifan was after her, but from what she could remember, his name appeared in the reports on the War of the Tongyou Mysterious World. He appeared with Yu Hanglong to take advantage of the Tongyou Institution back then.

However, both Shang Xia and Shang Pei were in the Changfeng City during the war. They shouldn't have crossed paths with the Harmonious River Master.

She wondered if Shang Xia managed to piss the guy off when he entered the Abyssal Secret Region previously.

In the 2 months that Shang Xia used to recover, Shang Pei had been chased through the Sixth Pass by a Martial Extermination Realm expert from the Zhang Family and Ye Yifan. No matter how dire the situation was, Shang Pei was unwilling to leave the Sixth Pass as she was on the lookout for Shang Xia's whereabouts.

She might be running away from the two of them, but she managed to gain a good understanding of what happened during the huge war that broke out over the Abyssal Secret Region back then. After learning that Shang Xia had gotten his hands on the broken divine weapon, she felt a sense of relief washing over her.

However, that feeling was short-lived. After she heard that he had been attacked by a Martial Dipper Realm expert and had barely escaped while holding on to his last breath, Shang Pei knew that he was probably hiding somewhere to recover. From what she deduced, he definitely suffered a huge blow to his foundations and he would need some time to heal.

Anyone with half a brain would understand that Shang Xia was in an extremely feeble state right now. The moment he was found, his fate would be sealed.

That was also the reason Shang Pei remained in the Sixth Pass. She wanted to locate Shang Xia before anyone else and escort him away from the Taihang Mountains.

She might not be a match for the 2 Martial Extermination Realm experts on her tail, but she was much more familiar with the layout of the Sixth Pass than the two of them. She made use of her connections well to avoid running into the two of them. Even so, they didn't seem like they were giving up any time soon.

One day, after exchanging some blows with Ye Yifan, Shang Pei took the chance to push him away and escape into the depths of the Sixth Pass before the expert from the Zhang Family arrived.

There were 2 other times when Ye Yifan managed to join hands with the Martial Extermination Realm expert from the Zhang Family. When that happened, Shang Pei barely managed to escape from their relentless assault.

At the crucial moment, Shang Pei ran into the territory controlled by the Five Peaks Alliance. With their protection, she finally managed to escape from the two of them.

Ye Yifan and Zhang Luofei might be extremely annoyed that they were forced to retreat, but the Five Peaks Alliance was nothing to scoff at. They held a huge amount of power and they were currently in their peak state. Ye Yifan and Zhang Luofei might not be afraid of the Five Peaks Alliance, but they couldn't do a thing to the other party either.

Luckily for them, Shang Pei still remained in the Sixth Pass and the two of them eventually caught her tracks again.

After such a long game of cat and mouse, Zhang Luofei and Ye Yifan could basically deduce that Shang Pei had lost contact with Shang Xia. From how she wasn't willing to leave the Sixth Pass, they could also tell that Shang Xia was most likely somewhere in the region.

Contacting the power that supported them, they arranged for more people to enter the Sixth Pass to look for Shang Xia. Even though they might offend Kou Chongxue, they chose to take the risk as the allure of the Abyssal Blade was too strong!

Moreover, it was ordinary for people to die out there in the barren mountain ridges or valleys of the Taihang Mountains. Even if they killed Shang Xia and took his weapon, no one would be able to pin the blame on them!

What they didn't know was that Shang Pei was merely guessing that Shang Xia was still somewhere in the Sixth Pass. She had no idea where he was!

They might not know where the other party was, but both of them actually had transmission talismans they could use to contact each other. Despite having a way to talk to the other party, Shang Pei was an experienced cultivator. No matter how anxious she was, she knew that using the transmission talisman to locate Shang Xia would only bring him trouble. She could only wait for him to contact her on his own accord.

With that thought in mind, Shang Pei ran around the Sixth Pass for two months. Unfortunately, she didn't receive a transmission from him. She was starting to suspect that Shang Xia had forgotten about her and returned to the You Continent without saying a word. Of course, there was always the possibility of something worse happening...

Shang Pei wondered if there was a need for her to continue staying in the Sixth Pass.

...

When she crossed the territory of the Five Peaks Alliance, Shang Pei's journey wasn't as smooth as before. She was stopped by Yin Wanxiang along her way.

"Yin Cave... No. I should call you Alliance Leader Yin!" Shang Pei stared at Yin Wanxiang and she sounded extremely polite. After all, they saved her from Ye Yifan and Zhang Luofei back then.

Yin Wanxiang's aura was a lot different than it was 2 months ago. At the moment, he exuded an air of majesty. Even though he was a little short, Shang Pei felt a sense of oppression coming from the alliance leader.

Restraining her shock, Shang Pei quickly addressed Yin Wanxiang. "Congratulations, Alliance Leader Yin, for advancing in your cultivation once again. Looks like it won't be long before a Martial Dipper Realm expert is born in the alliance."

Yin Wanxiang's face twitched slightly before a smile started to form. He spoke slowly, "Looks like my control over my extermination origins hasn't reached an acceptable standard. Lady Hai managed to see through my cultivation instantly."

Yin Wanxiang could basically confirm that Shang Pei came from the Shang Clan of the You Continent after everything he had experienced. He also knew that she had some sort of special connection to the Tongyou Institution. However, he still didn't know her actual name and her true relationship with Shang Xia. As such, he still retained his old way of addressing her as Youyan Chief. Of course, there were times when he would also call her 'Lady Hai'."

Shang Pei stared at Yin Wanxiang and understood that he definitely managed to obtain an opportunity from the inheritance the Abyssal Sect left behind. Even though there was a trace of envy in her heart, she started to raise her guard.

No matter what, she was facing a fourth layer Martial Extermination Realm expert!

Composing herself, Shang Pei muttered, "I have to thank Alliance Leader Yin for the assistance back then. Although, I don't know why you're stopping me here today..."

Chuckling softly, Yin Wanxiang explained, "Lady Hai, are you interested in setting up your own faction in the Sixth Pass?"

Chapter 490: Five Peaks Alliance

"Lady Hai, are you interested in setting up your own faction in the Sixth Pass?"

Shang Pei stared at Yin Wanxiang in shock after hearing his invitation.

"Alliance Leader Yin, are you joking? If I truly establish my power and join the alliance, wouldn't you guys have to change the name of your alliance to the Six Peaks Alliance?" Shang Pei seemed a little dumbstruck by his suggestion.

Yin Wanxiang stared at her with an incomparably serious look on his face. "The Six Peaks Alliance doesn't sound that bad. If you can join us, we'll become a lot stronger than before.

Seeing that Yin Wanxiang wasn't joking, Shang Pei started to turn serious. "Alliance Leader Yin, I believe you should know that I am related to the powers of the You Continent, right?"

Yin Wanxiang continued indifferently, "So what about it? We're not in conflict with the You Continent. Moreover, I believe that your identity hasn't been revealed by anyone."

Hearing what he said, Shang Pei finally understood that Yin Wanxiang was actually sincere in his invitation. His invitation for her to enter the Five Peaks Alliance was definitely genuine, but she felt that he was probably using her as a way to form some sort of relationship with the Tongyou Institution.

After thinking for some time, Shang Pei replied. "Establishing a power here and joining the Five Peaks Alliance isn't a small matter. Alliance Leader Yin, please give me some time to think about it."

Nodding slightly, Yin Wanxiang muttered, "Of course. Today, our Five Peaks Alliance has already extended our control to more than 100 mountain peaks. Lady Hai, feel free to seek refuge in any one of them. I believe those outsiders won't be gutsy enough to force their way into our territory."

"Alliance Leader Yin, I am grateful for your kindness. However, I believe that you can guess my intentions for staying in the Sixth Pass. I am still looking for someone and I've bothered you enough. I don't think I should remain here and cause more trouble

for your Five Peaks Alliance..." Shang Pei rejected his goodwill nonetheless. After she spoke, she cupped her fists towards Yin Wanxiang before turning to leave.

Seemingly having thought of something, She turned back to Yin Wanxiang and asked, "I would like to extend my thanks to your Five Peaks Alliance for the help and protection all this while. Regardless of whether I form my own faction in the Sixth Pass or not, I will definitely repay the favor in the future!"

A smile appeared on Yin Wanxiang's face. Before she could turn around again, Yin Wanxiang started to speak. "Since that's the case, I'll tell you something that might help you a little. Even though it hadn't been verified, there were rumors going around that Ye Yifan, the Harmonious River Master, is a nominal disciple of the Martial Dipper Realm expert, Feng Yezi. Ancestor Feng Yezi has never admitted their master-disciple relationship to the world, but..."

A look of understanding appeared on Shang Pei's face all of a sudden and a layer of fog seemed to lift before her eyes. Chuckling softly, she mentioned, "Alliance Leader Yin, you have great information sources alright. You even managed to find out something like that. I truly admire your sources!"

"With the chaotic situation all around us, having good intelligence is the key to survival. Lady Hai, I had to do what I had to to survive. I must have embarrassed myself..." Yin Wanxiang sighed.

Falling into silence, Yin Wanxiang no longer said anything else as Shang Pei turned to leave. No one knew what he was thinking about.

Sometime after Shang Pei left, a figure appeared behind Yin Wanxiang and asked, "Brother Wanxiang, are you just going to let her leave?"

"Brother Fang, what do you mean?" Yin Wanxiang asked without turning his head.

Staying quiet for a little while, Fang Ruhai eventually spoke up. "She should be looking for Young Master Shang Xia from the Shang Clan of the You Continent, right?"

A frown appeared on Yin Wanxiang's face and he muttered, "Brother Fang, we're on the same boat now. We'll prosper and suffer together. There's no need to hide anything from each other. Just speak your mind."

Despite being hurried by Yin Wanxiang, Fang Ruhai continued to remain silent. However, Yin Wanxiang was in no rush as he silently awaited Fang Ruhai to continue talking.

Finally unable to keep it in, Fang Ruhai growled, "Brother Wanxiang, aren't you thinking of using her to locate Young Master Shang so you can obtain his Abyssal Blade?!"

Turning to stare at Fang Ruhai, Yin Wanxiang snapped, "Brother Fang, why would you think of something like that?!"

"Am I wrong? Don't tell me you're really trying to make our Five Peaks Alliance into the Six Peaks Alliance." Fang Ruhai grumbled unwillingly.

"Why not?" Yin Wanxiang returned his question with one of his own. He paused for a second before speaking seriously. "The Abyssal Blade isn't something you or I can

covet. I hope Brother Fang can give up on whatever scheme you're thinking of in case you drag all of us into another disaster."

"What's the problem?! Shang Xia barely entered the Martial Extermination Realm. Even if he has a divine weapon, why can't we force him to give it up?" Waiting a little, Fang Ruhai continued, "Brother Wanxiang, you have already refined your fourth extermination origin. With the inheritance of the Abyssal Sect, all of us experienced a huge increase in strength. Even the great families of the Ji Continent aren't necessarily stronger than us. Why can't we covet a divine weapon for ourselves?! What's more, it's just a damaged one!"

Yin Wanxiang glared at Fang Ruhai and his tone turned cold. "If Kou Chongxue is supporting you silently, there's no need to mention a damaged divine weapon. You can swing about 2 divine weapons and everyone can only be envious of you."

Thinking he understood what Yin Wanxiang meant, Fang Ruhai continued, "Brother Wanxiang, do you mean that our Five Peaks Alliance can't possess a divine weapon because we lack a Martial Dipper Realm expert? Brother Wanxiang, you cannot forget. Shang Xia has a piece of origin dipper on him! Are you really willing to give up on a chance like that?"

Yin Wanxiang's calm expression finally fluctuated slightly. However, he released a huge sigh eventually. "Brother Fang, you don't understand anything! Listen to my advice. Do not get yourself involved in this matter. Otherwise, even if we use the entirety of the power our Five Peaks Alliance possesses, we won't be able to save you."

Maybe it was because of how serious Yin Wanxiang was, Fang Ruhai finally fell silent.

"Then why did you choose the Tongyou Institution?" Another voice came from the side.

Turning to stare in the direction of the voice, Yin Wanxiang raised a single eyebrow in surprise. He was greeted with the sight of Jiang Weiyun stepping out from the void.

"What about it?" Yin Wanxiang asked.

Chuckling softly, Jiang Weiyun explained, "Brother Wanxiang, you seem like you're planning to befriend the Tongyou Institution. Our Five Peaks Alliance might have established ourselves and we can exert our dominance over various powers, but we haven't found a suitable backer. With our current strength, won't it be better for us to lean towards the Divine Capital Sect, White Deer Sect, or Zhongxuan Gate? Aren't those better choices than the Tongyou Institution? Why are we choosing a power so far away? Moreover, what's the point of showing our goodwill to Kou Chongxue? From what we saw, neither the Divine Capital Sect or the Zhongxuan Gate likes him. He even directly offended the White Deer Sect and the conflict between them doesn't seem to be resolving itself anytime soon. If we choose to befriend the Tongyou Institution, they won't be very happy with us either."

Shooting Jiang Weiyun a deep stare, a light sigh eventually left Yin Wanxiang's lips. "Brother Jiang, Brother Fang, it's easier to add flowers to a brocade than it is to provide help in someone's hour of need. We should try to show our goodwill to the Tongyou Institution and help them precisely

because they seem to be in a bad situation. Our help will seem a lot more precious then. What's more, the reason we established the Five Peaks Alliance is so that we can control our fate. The Sixth Pass of our Taihang Mountains is currently a battlefield where those powers you mentioned are using to fight against each other. If we choose to stand with any one of them, we'll be essentially declaring war on the rest!"

"Brother Wanxiang, do you mean... Do you mean that we're holding off helping those fighting in the region because they're not offering us enough benefits?" Jiang Weiyun gasped.

"Something like that." Yin Wanxiang regained his composure before replying.

Having understood his intentions, Jiang Weiyun and Fang Ruhai turned to leave.

Looking at their leaving figures, Yin Wanxiang sighed to himself, "It's difficult to make strategic decisions with such far-reaching consequences... This is truly a heavy burden we have to bear..."

...

After leaving the territory of the Five Peaks Alliance, Shang Pei found a secluded land to recover her inner qi.

She had been hunted down for a long time and she was exhausted both physically and mentally. She needed some time to recover, but she didn't know how long she had before Ye Yifan and Zhang Luofei caught up.

It didn't take long before a disturbance appeared. She couldn't help but stop circulating her inner qi.

Luckily, it wasn't because of Zhang Luofei or Ye Yifan. She felt a piece of talisman trembling in her sleeves and a trace of light quickly enveloped it.

With a look of excitement on her face, she rose into the air once again as she extended her divine perception as far as she could.

It didn't take too long for her to discover something. Sparing through the air, she saw a ray of light flying at her. She reached out to grab it and the ray of light turned into a transmission talisman that lay quietly in her hand. She skimmed its contents and saw several secret codes that she had mentioned to Shang Xia before. For the first time in 2 months, Shang Pei placed down the worries in her heart.

Unfortunately, the feeling of respite didn't last long. Because she was looking for the talisman, she released her divine perception without inhibition. She didn't try hiding her presence at all and it was easy for anyone tens of miles away to discover her existence.

She understood the situation she was in because of her outburst earlier and quickly restrained her divine perception. She knew she had to leave her current location as soon as possible.

As she made her way away, the look of worry that had been stuck on her face for the past 2 months was gone.

Hurrying in the northern direction, Shang Pei tried to conceal her presence the best she could. Even so, she knew that Ye Yifan and Zhang Luofei would be catching up to her soon.

She was right. After hundreds of miles of travel, Shang Pei saw 2 streaks of light flying at her from both her left and right. It wouldn't take long before they would appear in her path.

The situation seemed very different from what Shang Pei was used to.

In the past, one of them would locate her before the other, and they would try to stall her as long as they could while waiting for the other to arrive. This time, it seemed as though they had located her at the same time!

Could the transmission talisman be fake?

However, she quickly tossed the doubt out of her mind. Since the secret code in the transmission was correct, there was no way it was fake.

Whatever the case, the pressing matter was to break through their encirclement. If she failed to do so, the message she received in the transmission symbol earlier would be useless.

"Lady Hai, where do you think you're going?" Zhang Luofei's figure tore through the skies in a streak of frosty light.

"Youyan Chief, why are you going north? Aren't you waiting for Young Master Shang Xia? I also heard that you received some news of him." Ye Yifan yelled as soon as he arrived. A river of heaven and earth qi seemed to extend far behind him as he flew through the air.

If Shang Xia were to see him, he would recognize that Ye Yifan was the Martial Extermination Realm expert in the Abyssal Secret Region who fought with his fists.

"Hey, you freaks, why the hell are you sticking to me like that? Don't tell me that took a fancy to me!" Shang Pei tactically changed the topic. At the end of the day, she was part of the bandit group that wreaked havoc on the Ji Continent for so long. Her manner of speech was extremely shameless and if they were planning to fight with words, she would be able to come up with so much bullshit that they would question their existence. "Heh, why are you guys in such a hurry? Even if you're interested in me, we should be going at it one by one, right? From how anxious you're acting right now, are you planning to make this into a threesome?!"

Because Shang Pei had escaped from the two of them countless times before, they were extremely enraged and embarrassed by her actions. That was why they decided to appear together to stop her for good. They thought that victory was at hand and they wanted to use the opportunity of taking down Shang Pei to establish their prestige in the Sixth Pass of the Taihang Mountains. When they just appeared, they spoke extremely loudly to attract as much attention as they could. When Martial Extermination Realm experts used their inner qi to yell, their voices would probably reach hundreds of miles away.

Who would have thought that Shang Pei would immediately twist their words and make them seem so shameless?

Regardless if it was Zhang Luofei or Ye Yifan, they came from prestigious backgrounds. When had they ever had to deal with someone who screamed and twisted their words to such a frightening extent?

It was too late for regrets as their conversation quickly traveled through the Sixth Pass. No one knew how many cultivators in the Sixth Pass heard what they said, but those who could remain in the Sixth Pass weren't great people anyway. The juicy conversation among the Martial Extermination Realm experts hit all the right spots and it was quickly spread through the lands.