

The Heavens 591

Chapter 591: Lying

Large completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm!

The moment Shang Xia completed the refinement of his extermination origins, they fused without much difficulty.

As long as he wanted to, he would step into the grand completion stage with his Four Constellation Palm as his martial intent.

When he reached the final step, Shang Xia wasn't overwhelmed by joy or emotion that was brought about by his breakthrough. Clearing his mind, he suppressed his dantian and the desire it had to take the final step.

When he entered the grand completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm, Shang Xia wished to use the Twenty Four Solar Terms he had painstakingly created, rather than his Four Constellation Palm.

Moreover, there was something more important at the moment. From what he learned in all his years of experience, Shang Xia knew that the Crimson Soul Tablet would be reacting now that he progressed up to that point.

Even though he was completely confident in his abilities to enter the grand completion stage, he wanted to take a look at the martial intent deduced by the tablet. He wondered how different it would be from the path he wished to take.

Contrary to his expectations, the Crimson Soul Tablet remained strangely quiet. It didn't deduce a rank four martial intent as he hoped.

Looking at the tablet vibrating in his sea of consciousness as it absorbed world origin, Shang Xia felt that it might be a little too busy to bother with him. There was also a possibility that deducing a rank four martial intent might be a little too intensive and it needed some time to do so.

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In the region of space that contained the Great Sun that was the source of the Manyu Continent's World's Will, new islands were making their arrival.

Unfortunately, those who just arrived were all in control of small islands.

Among them, the Changbai Island was close to 1400 miles across and they were hovering between a classification of a small or mid-sized island.

Their arrival couldn't be considered too late. They started absorbing world origin after the second time the Great Sun shrank.

Back when they just left the Manyu Continent, the Changbai Island was actually 1500 miles in diameter. However, they gave it their all when rushing towards the Great Su and lost some land in the process while suffering quite a bit of damage.

Despite what happened, they felt that everything they did was worth it. At least, that was what they thought before they recognized the Tongyou Island.

Because of where they arrived, the Great Sun stood between them and the Tongyou Island. They were slightly beneath the giant celestial body, they didn't notice the Tongyou Island the moment they arrived.

As the Great Sun continued to collapse, it no longer obstructed their view and the Changbai Island quickly discovered the existence of the Tongyou Island. Actually, they were more fixated on the light pillar above the Tongyou Island above all else and the experts from the Changbai Sect nearly tore their hair out in frustration and jealousy.

"Is that the landmass controlled by the Tongyou Institution?!" Li Yunchao of the Changbai Sect muttered in shock while staring at the island in space.

"The geography looks about right. It looks like the place the Tongyou Institution built their stronghold back on the Manyu Continent..." Su Yan'er revealed a bitter laugh while standing behind him.

"Humph, they're really lucky alright... I wonder if they have the ability to protect themselves when everything is over..." Even though he was the person in charge of the Changbai Holy Land, Li Yunchao failed to control the jealousy he felt when he looked at the Tongyou Island.

"I heard that the place Senior Yan chose to enter seclusion isn't too far from the Tongyou Stronghold back on the Manyu Continent. There should be several experts you're familiar with from the Tongyou Institution there too. Don't tell me you didn't head over to say hello?" A voice appeared behind them and it seemed to disguise her bad intentions. Pan Yunbi walked to Yan Su'er and examined her carefully.

Without a change in expression, Yan Su'er's gaze remained steady and she replied, "Of course I did."

"Huh?" Pan Yunbi didn't expect the other party to admit it so easily and a look of surprise flashed through her eyes.

Li Yunchao, who was standing in front of them, trembled slightly. It seemed as though he would turn around, but he managed to stop himself.

Spinning her eyes once, Pan Yunbi chuckled to cover up the awkwardness before she thought of how to retort. "In that case, we need Senior Yan to guide us. What did you talk about with those old friends of yours? Senior Yan has been stationed outside for quite a long time. Did you spend some time in the Tongyou Stronghold?"

Yan Su'er sighed softly in response, "I was too careless. I wanted to probe them but I was injured by the other party back then. There wasn't much to talk about as I went to look for a place to recover. I only managed to return to our island before the collapse of the Manyu Continent..."

Li Yunchao nodded his head slightly. He could tell that Yan Su'er was injured when she first returned. However, she had already suppressed her injuries then and those of weaker cultivation level would not be able to detect anything.

Pan Yunbi didn't seem satisfied with the answer and she wasn't going to let it go like that. She chuckled, "This makes me even more curious. Senior Yan, your cultivation is at the large completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm. As long as you don't venture too deep and run into the core region that is protected by their grand formation, you won't run into too much trouble. You might not be a match if Shang Bo and Yun Jing joined hands, but escaping unscathed wouldn't be a problem..."

"Yun Jing isn't a problem at all. However, I believe you're underestimating Shang Bo. He is much more terrifying than a normal expert at the grand completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm..." Yan Su'er explained.

A look of mockery appeared on Pan Yunbi's face. "Heh, don't lie. Are you telling me another Kou Chongxue is about to be born?"

"That's not impossible..." Yan Su'er declared seriously, but she remained strangely calm.

Pan Yunbi obviously didn't believe her, but Li Yunchao raised his hand to prevent her from continuing the pointless argument. He spoke up this time. "Patriarch Yan, did you see Shang Bo's martial intent? Were you injured because of that?"

Yan Su'er paused for a second, and she didn't reply immediately.

A sneer left Pan Yunbi's lips the next instant. "What's the matter? Senior Yan, is there something you can't tell us? Or did you not see Shang Bo's martial intent at all?"

"Indeed... I didn't see Shang Bo's martial intent..." Yan Su'er eventually replied.

Unable to hide her suspicion against Yan Su'er any longer, Pan Yunbi snorted in contempt, "Senior Yan, do you think we're stupid? Are you trying to say that Shang Bo is so strong that he was able to heavily injure you without unleashing his martial intent? Yan Su'er, can you find a better lie? At least try to convince us if you wish to lie about it..."

Finally, Li Yunchao, who had his hands behind his back while staring in the other direction, turned to look at Yan Su'er.

Her emotions weren't stirred at all as she addressed their concerns. "Hmph, of course, none of them can stop or injure me if I wish to leave..."

"Heh, let's see what other lies you can come up with!" Pan Yunbi interrupted.

Ignoring her, Yan Su'er continued, "However, the number of experts on the Tongyou Island whose strength had surpassed the fourth layer Martial Extermination Realm isn't limited to Shang Bo and Yun Jing. In fact, his strength is starting to catch up to the two of them. Because of his sneak attack, I was caught off guard and suffered heavy injuries!"

"This is getting more and more ridiculous! Where the hell is the Tongyou Institution going to find a third expert at the fourth layer Martial Extermination Realm?! Are you going to tell us that Liu Jitang came back to life or something?" Pan Yunbi mocked.

Despite her cries, Li Yunchao found Yan Su'er getting more and more believable.

That was because the Changbai Sect had been paying close attention to the Tongyou Institution recently. When Yan Su'er returned, he noticed that her wounds weren't caused by a spear, and it also didn't seem like Yun Jing's sword art.

If there was another expert with the strength of a fourth layer Martial Extermination Realm on the Tongyou Island, everything would make sense.

However... Was the Tongyou Institution really capable of hiding an individual with such terrifying strength?

A trace of doubt still remained in Li Yunchao's eyes when he looked at Yan Su'er. "Who are you talking about? Did the Tongyou institution recruit an aboriginal of the Manyu Continent with cultivation in the fourth layer of the Martial Extermination Realm?"

Yan Su'er shook her head and explained, "No. It's Shang Bo's grandson. His name is Shang Xia and he's the reason I was injured!"

The moment the words left her lips, Pan Yunbi pointed at her and screamed, "You liar!"

Sighing softly, Yan Su'er didn't bother explaining herself to Pan Yunbi.

Seeing as she wasn't getting a reply, Pan Yunbi became even more angry and she yelled, "Do you think the four races of the Liao Continent are the only ones with a grasp on the Tongyou Institution? Hmph, that's where you're wrong. Our Changbai Sect has been paying attention to them all along. Shang Xia indeed possesses amazing talent. However, it has only been 3 years since he entered the Martial Extermination Realm. His cultivation is at the first layer right now and despite his strength surpassing cultivators of the same level, he's far from a fourth layer cultivator. Even if he has treasures and life-saving methods bestowed to him by Kou Chongxue and Shang Bo, they can't make up for the lack of training! You're at the large completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm right now and you only need to take a single step to reach the grand completion stage. Are you telling me that a weakling at his level is able to injure you?! What a joke! That's the most ridiculous thing I've heard!"

Yan Su'er wasn't angry due to Pan Yunbi's scolding. When she was finally done, the patriarch of the Yan Race in the Azure Spiritual World finally raised her head slowly to mutter, "Have you guys ever heard of the simultaneous refinement of 4 extermination origins?"

Pan Yunbi snorted instantly. "Simultaneous refinement of 4 extermination origins? What the hell is that? Isn't that just refining multiple extermination origins at once? Yan Su'er, can you come up with a better excuse and not some nonsense like this?"

Too bad for her, Li Yunchao quickly turned around again and raised his hand to stop her from going on. His gaze was shining as he stared at Yan Su'er. "Patriarch Yan, do you mean to say that Shang Bo's grandson went down the path of simultaneous extermination origin refinement? Is that how he achieved strength like that in 3 short years?"

Yan Su'er nodded before sighing, "That's the simultaneous refinement of 4 extermination origins... It's a method that goes so far back that it far supersedes our time... However, I know that as a holy land, the higher-ups of the Changbai Sect definitely have records of this cultivation method."

When Pan Yunbi saw how Li Yunchao had fallen deep in thought, she couldn't help but ask, "How is this possible?! We have to refine extermination origins one by one and pass through god knows

how many life or death trials along the way. Any small mistake would cause us to lose control over our extermination origins and die. If one really refines 4 extermination origins simultaneously, how are they going to maintain the balance between all of them?”

“What if he refined them from the moment he stepped into the Martial Extermination Realm along with the help of an advancement medicine?” Yan Su’er said.

Pan Yunbi couldn’t wrap her head around whatever the elder was saying at the moment.

Li Yunchao, who had been silent for some time, finally spoke up, “Kou Chongxue and Shang Bo are really generous...”

Chapter 592: Martial Intent

The art of lying didn’t involve bullshitting one’s way through. Instead, the highest level of the art involved mixing in the lie with several layers of truth.

After revealing some secrets about the cultivation of the experts of the Tongyou Institution, Yan Su’er not only managed to dispel the suspicion Li Yunchao and Pan Yunbi had of her. She also managed to turn their attention somewhere else.

“Kou Chongxue and Shang Bo are really generous...”

In order to carry out simultaneous refinement of 4 extermination origins, one would have to gather all of them before the cultivator was ready to break through.

Clearly, it was impossible for a cultivator at the Martial Intent Realm to do so while making their preparations to enter the Martial Extermination Realm.

To attempt something like that, one definitely needed the support of a faction. Moreover, not any faction would do, the faction had to be strong and possess some sort of foundation.

Even if they fulfilled all the criteria, not every faction was willing to attempt something like that for fear of the price they would have to pay.

Ignoring whether or not the Martial Intent Realm cultivator would succeed, the amount of resources required would definitely cause massive internal strife. That was because too many resources would be allocated away from the others and no one would be happy about that.

Even for peak-grade powers like the Northern Sea Mystic Sect, Divine Capital Sect, and Eternal Sect, extermination origins were precious treasures. They wouldn’t waste them willy-nilly.

That was the real reason behind Li Yunchao’s shock when he heard that someone from the Tongyou Institution really advanced by refining 4 extermination origins at once.

Pan Yunbi didn’t seem to approve of her senior brother’s shock. She sneered at the side, “Of course those bandits wouldn’t cherish the treasures they stole from others. I refuse to believe that you can’t make the connection after seeing their massive light pillar.”

Yan Su’er’s pupils shrank slightly but she maintained her attitude in front of them. No one discovered the strangeness in her eyes.

Li Yunchao’s gaze sank slightly and it became a little cloudy. “We were merely suspecting them previously, but now, I’m fairly certain. Hmph, the Nine Blossom Jade Formation Disc that was stolen by that thief Yu Cangze is definitely on the Tongyou Island.”

Pan Yunbi sucked in a cold breath and growled, “So... Yu Cangze really is a spy sent by the Tongyou Institution?”

Li Yunchao chuckled coldly as though he was mocking several people in the sect before finally muttering to himself, “That might really be the case...”

“How is that possible?! The difference between experts from the Azure Origin World and Azure Spiritual World is as clear as day. If he’s someone from the Azure Origin World, how can he remain hidden for ten years without revealing anything?” Pan Yunbi’s eyes widened in shock.

“No one said that experts from the Azure Origin World can’t cultivate the arts of our Azure Spiritual World...” Li Yunchao replied without turning to look at her. “Otherwise, why would they push for the fusion of our worlds?”

Gritting her teeth, Pan Yunbi asked, “Senior Brother... Shouldn’t we be looking for a chance to retrieve our Nine Blossom Jade Formation Disc?”

Surprisingly, Li Yunchao shook his head slightly and started to hesitate. “... We have to make proper considerations before trying anything...”

“Senior Brother, we can’t wait any longer! From the speed at which the Tongyou Island is absorbing world origin, they’ll definitely ascend to the Tongyou Paradise the moment they return!” Pan Yunbi yelled anxiously.

Finally turning around fully to look at her, Pan Yunbi finally saw the gloomy expression that hung on Li Yunchao’s face. He pronounced each word individually while addressing her. “I. Said. We. Need. Proper. Consideration.”

Despite her reluctance, Pan Yunbi seemed to have understood something. She cupped her hands and acknowledged his order before turning around to leave.

Yan Su’er stood at the side without saying anything. No one knew what she was thinking about.

...

The Crimson Soul Tablet was like a bottomless abyss as it absorbed world origin without end.

Shang Xia felt that if his physique wasn’t the limitation, the Crimson Soul Tablet would be absorbing even more world origin.

At the very least, he could tell that the tablet would be able to absorb all the extra world origin it was drawing in through the light pillar and none would be left for Chu Jia to retain in the grand formation.

Since that was the case, Shang Xia also understood that he was the one limiting the recovery speed of the Crimson Soul Tablet.

Well, it wasn’t as though he could do anything about it at the moment. The tablet and himself seem to rely on each other anyway. If one party was gone, the other wouldn’t survive.

Finally, after some time, the Crimson Soul Tablet managed to come up with something. Shang Xia could feel the great consumption of world origin it took for that to happen.

With a trace of anticipation, Shang Xia watched as the words appeared on the tablet's surface.

Martial Intent: Four Constellation Samsara Blade

Prerequisite Secret Art: Four Seasons Samsara Art

Prerequisite Martial Arts: Twenty Four Solar Term Divine Blade Art

Essential Medium: Sufficient World Origin

Auxiliary Talisman: Four Seasons Samsara Soul Locking Talisman

Essential Techniques: Spring Blade, Summer Blade, Autumn Blade, Winter Blade

Martial Intent Evaluation: Time is a Butcher's Knife

Like Shang Xia's third martial intent, the Divine Killing Spear, Shang Xia was able to use the martial art he trained to the limit as the base of his martial intent. The way he could improve his Twenty Four Solar Term Divine Blade Art to his Four Constellation Samsara Blade didn't seem too difficult. There weren't many obstructions in his way.

As such, the Crimson Soul Tablet didn't bother giving him an estimation of his success rate.

That wasn't an issue for Shang Xia at all. The reason he was waiting for the tablet to come up with his rank four martial intent was to verify his guesses. He hoped that he would be able to further perfect it and become more suitable for himself.

Even without the improvement or deduction made by the Crimson Soul Tablet, Shang Xia was confident that he would be able to successfully complete his blade art upgrade to the Four Constellation Samsara Blade.

Looking at what the Crimson Soul Tablet came up with, Shang Xia discovered that it wasn't too far off whatever he thought about. The only difference was that the Crimson Soul Tablet came up with a much more detailed list of requirements required whereas the method he thought of was suited to his needs.

From what the Crimson Soul Tablet came up with, Shang Xia felt that there were several key points he had to take note of which included the Four Seasons Samsara Talisman and the Four Seasons Blade Art.

Back when Shang Xia comprehended his Chaos Essence Lightning Palm as his first martial intent, the Crimson Soul Tablet came up with an assistive essential technique called the Heavenly Lightning Blood Controlling Art. When he comprehended his second martial intent, the Yin Yang Sword Formation, the Crimson Soul Tablet came up with the Yin Yang Sword Talisman. As for his third martial intent, the tablet came up with the Man and Heaven Synergy Chapter.

Those essential techniques were not only great at assisting him to comprehend his martial intent, but they also helped in other aspects of his cultivation. The gains of some of those techniques lasted even up till the present time.

Shang Xia's Heavenly Lightning Blood Controlling Art allowed his physique to become much stronger than cultivators of the same level. The Yin Yang Sword Talisman wasn't just constrained to his Yin Yang Sword Formation and there was no need to mention his Man and Heaven Synergy Chapter. The Man and Heaven Synergy Chapter's use and contribution to his current self were invaluable!

Leaving aside the essential techniques, the Crimson Soul Tablet could occasionally come up with some medicine he could use to ease the process. The formula of the medicine would be produced perfectly and Shang Xia would make use of them occasionally. However, they might not be that useful sometimes.

Despite that, Shang Xia would carve the recipe for those medicines into his mind. It might not be useful for him, but that couldn't be said for the others.

Now that the Crimson Soul Tablet deduced his fourth martial intent, the Four Constellation Samsara Blade, it didn't produce any medicine he could use along with it. Instead, there was something called the Four Seasons Samsara Soul Locking Talisman.

As a Talisman Grandmaster, Shang Xia was extremely interested in this rank four talisman. After looking through the process of how to craft it, Shang Xia got a pretty clear idea of what it was used for.

To put it simply, the talisman was similar to an illusory talisman that could drag one's divine perception into a land of fantasy that allows one to experience the endless cycle of the four seasons.

It could be used during one's comprehension of the Four Constellation Samsara Blade as it would allow them to interact and feel the changes of the four seasons.

There was another use of the talisman and that was to trap someone in a series of illusions. It would cause one's target to endure the endless cycle of the four seasons until their life force was eliminated.

Unfortunately, Shang Xia didn't have any suitable material on hand. Otherwise, he would start crafting the Four Seasons Samsara Soul Locking Talisman immediately.

As for the Four Seasons Blade Art, Shang Xia already had some ideas about them.

The Spring Blade could be said to be the consolidation of all 6 blade techniques that contained the spirit of spring in his Twenty Four Solar Terms.

Only after linking all 6 moves seamlessly would he be able to successfully comprehend the Spring Blade.

The same applied to the rest of the techniques.

After the completion of the Four Seasons Blade Art, he would finally be able to understand the true meaning of the Four Seasons Samsara and fuse them together to become his fourth martial intent, the Four Constellation Samsara Blade.

To put it simply, the Four Constellation Samsara Blade was built on the foundations of his Four Constellation Samsara Blade. Training in them step by step, he would be able to comprehend 4 separate blade techniques and after fusing them together, they would turn into his martial intent.

He could also tell that the Four Seasons Blade Art were techniques that were individual techniques that were of the fourth rank. Because each of the Four Seasons Blade Art was a fusion of the 6 moves that corresponded to each season, their power was comparable to an ordinary rank four martial intent!

When he was done looking through everything that was stated on the Crimson Soul Tablet, he understood that the deduction for his rank four martial intent was pretty much perfect. At the very least, it was the limit of what he could achieve.

As long as he wanted to, he could ignore the talisman and forcefully fuse all his moves together to step into the grand completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm.

Interrupted by a sudden thought, he started to hesitate. With another intention, the words on the Crimson Soul Tablet started to change again.

It didn't take long for the content to become clear again and Shang Xia could feel that the amount of world origin required for a round of deduction was also really little.

Staring at the content, they quickly burned themselves into his memory.

Martial Intent: Four Constellation Palm (Four Seasons Samsara Palm)

Prerequisite Secret Art: Four Seasons Samsara Art

Prerequisite Condition: Four Seasons Samsara Interpretation

Essential Medium: Simultaneous Refinement of the Four Seasons Extermination Origins

Auxiliary Talisman: Four Seasons Samsara Soul Locking Talisman

Essential Techniques: None

Evaluation: A Palm to Signify the Four Seasons, The Power of Four Seasons in One. Everything Withers Away.

Chapter 593: Essence Scattering, Limit of Origin

Staring at what the Crimson Soul Tablet came up with for his Four Constellation Palm, Shang Xia couldn't help but shake his head. It seemed as though he wasted a portion of world origin coming up with the deduction.

Because of how long ago he comprehended his Four Constellation palm, he managed to gain a lot of insights into it. He wanted to use the Crimson Soul Tablet to see if there were any other techniques that were related to it or if he could further improve on it.

The results were completely outside his expectations.

The Four Constellation Palm was naturally unable to compete with the Four Seasons Samsara Blade Art when it came to raw power. The only problem was that the prerequisites to comprehend it were so high that it would only bring despair if anyone else were to learn about it.

No matter if they were talking about the simultaneous refinement of the Four Seasons Extermination Origins or if there was no prerequisite technique to the Four Constellation Palm and one would have to comprehend it all on their own if they wanted to learn it, either criterion would bring a majority of experts to despair.

Unlike the Four Seasons Samsara Blade Art that had a way for one to progress steadily up to the point they managed to comprehend it, it was almost impossible for anyone to learn the Four Constellation Palm.

The results of deducing the Four Constellation Palm might disappoint Shang Xia, but having 2 martial intents after entering the grand completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm in the future allowed him to surpass a great majority of experts of the same level.

Moreover, after deducing 2 martial intents, Shang Xia who had just entered the large completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm decided to take the final step.

The extermination origins in his dantian had been in a state of balance all the while. Without any hint of difficulty, they fused together suddenly and an intricately formed blade light appeared on his palm. It danced about like a playful fish in water as it devoured the gentle world origin that surrounded him.

If Shang Xia willed it, the blade light that was merely an inch long would turn into a horrifying blade light that had the ability to eliminate all life.

Even though he wanted to see the power of the Four Constellation Samsara Blade and the true extent of its power, he managed to suppress his curiosity. He carefully controlled the blade light in his hand and prevented it from shooting out.

His ability to maintain the blade light without unleashing it showed the extent of control he had over his skills, and the difficulty of which might have surpassed producing the blade light itself.

One had to know that Shang Xia had barely comprehended his martial intent. Even so, he could already control it to such a terrifying extent.

After stepping into the large completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm, Shang Xia immediately progressed to the grand completion stage. Despite how quickly he did it, the progress allowed him to complete another fundamental transformation.

His physique immediately became a lot stronger due to the nourishment of his extermination origins, and his physical body could withstand a larger amount of world origin.

His dantian became even more solid than before and ignoring the fact that it could contain a large amount of inner qi at the moment, the Four Seasons Extermination Origins that resided in it also started to transform.

Shang Xia's divine perception also wasn't let off from the party. It started to expand as it was tempered by the World's Will contained in the world origin that was rushing through his body. The stronger it became, the greater the extent of connection Shang Xia had to the Crimson Soul Tablet.

With the all-rounded improvements, the amount of world origin the Crimson Soul Tablet was drawing over increased yet again.

The grand formation on the Tongyou Island was forced to operate even faster as the vortex increased in speed once again. The pillar of light that connected the Tongyou Island to the Great Sun expanded by a quarter of its original size once again.

By that time, the Tongyou Island was absorbing world origin twice as quickly as it originally was.

In other words, the suction force produced by the Crimson Soul Tablet alone was enough to rival the grand formation on the Tongyou Island!

With the sudden increase, the speed of absorption of world origin by the Tongyou Island had surpassed the 3 super islands.

Naturally, that caught the attention of the experts from the other factions out there.

If the first time the light pillar expanded brought joy and excitement to Yun Jing and the others, the subsequent few times caused their excitement to turn into endless fright.

Back when the light pillar was slightly thinner than the 3 super islands, Yun Jing and the others could only feel an endless amount of fear filling their hearts.

“Chu Jia, are you still able to hold on?” Yun Jing stared at the torrential amount of world origin pouring into the grand formation and into the formation disc. She was afraid that Chu Jia would be powerless to control the horrifying influx.

“I am. Luckily, the formation disc is of an extremely high quality. However, this is close to my limit. If the pillar of light expands again, I won’t be able to withstand the flow of world origin any longer...” Even though Chu Jia’s voice sounded strained, she was still able to keep her cool.

“Good, good...” Yun Jing’s reply hid a trace of her complex emotions. She was slightly relieved, but the worry in her heart didn’t disappear. She quickly added, “I’ll go ask that brat what he’s up to. How the hell did he cause such a huge disturbance?”

Chu Jia hastily reminded her, “Just ask him what his future plans are. You can’t ask him how he managed to achieve something like that...”

“Hehe, do you think he needs a little lass like you to protect him at this point?” Yun Jing chided.

After she spoke, she chuckled once again before extending her divine perception over to Shang Xia’s formation node.

As it approached, Yun Jing suddenly discovered that there was a formless force that stopped her from going closer. Moreover, the force didn’t affect the operation of the grand formation in the slightest.

“This kid grew stronger again!” Yun Jing gasped silently. However, she was already numb to his constant achievements.

After some time, a thought suddenly flashed in her mind and she turned to stare in the direction of Shang Xia’s formation node. A look of astonishment appeared in her eyes.

Could the kid have entered the large completion stage after he refined his extermination origins?! It has only been so long since... There’s no way, right?!

Even though it was somewhat unimaginable for someone to enter the large completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm in such a short amount of time, something told Yun Jing that Shang Xia might actually have done it.

Moreover, Shang Xia already possessed combat strength at the large completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm long before reaching the cultivation level! Now that his cultivation had reached that stage, how strong would his combat capabilities actually become?

With a multitude of thoughts running through her mind, Yun Jing quickly transmitted her concerns over to Shang Xia.

A moment later, the force that stopped her divine perception from approaching disappeared and Shang Xia reached his divine perception over and laughed, “Deputy Patriarch Yun, don’t worry. This is my limit. There will no longer be any changes!”

Yun Jing heaved a sigh of relief, but there was a trace of disappointment hidden in her reaction.

Whatever the case, the concern didn’t remain for long. She paused for a second before sighing to herself. *This kid actually completely refined his Four Seasons Extermination Origins. His grandfather is already so talented... Is he also going to be such a stunning prodigy?*

A trace of frustration and disappointment filled her heart the more she thought about it. After all, she had been training for such a long time and she had barely found her path to reach the large completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm.

With her thoughts progressing up to that point, the Great Sun suddenly darkened once more as it shrank a fourth time.

This time, the Great Sun seemed to have weakened by more than half.

It no longer regained its previous brightness and the various islands that had been lit up by the incandescent rays earlier started to become a little blurry. It was as though they were hidden in the darkness as only their light pillars could be seen in space.

Not only did the various powers feel relaxed because it was nearing the end of the absorption process. Instead, all of them gave it their all as the competition for world origin intensified once again.

When everyone was fighting for world origin, Shang Xia’s Crimson Soul Tablet felt a strange change with the Great Sun.

When Shang Xia raised his head to look at it, he noticed the dimming sun trembling lightly. There seemed to be something trapped within the source of the Manyu Continent’s World’s Will, and it was as though it would bore its way out of the Great Sun the next second.

Chapter 594: Shang Xia’s Determination

After the Great Sun shrank for a fourth time, the void became much darker than before.

The sudden change was a great opportunity for the experts on the Tongyou Island.

Because of the way they increased their absorption of world origin, everyone on the Tongyou Island had a strange feeling that everyone else had their eyes on them. With the entire area turning darker and darker, it was the best bet they had to run from the current situation.

Unfortunately, the light pillar that connected the island to the Great Sun was a clear indication as to where they were. Unless they were willing to cut off their connection immediately, they couldn’t run away without being seen.

At that moment, Shang Xia’s attention was drawn over by the strange happening within the Great Sun. He had some guesses in his heart, but he also split off a portion of his consciousness to inspect the changes that had happened to the Crimson Soul Tablet after it absorbed so much world origin.

Since he stepped into the grand completion stage, he thought that the Crimson Soul Tablet should be reacting. According to how it usually worked, the tablet should be deducing his rank five advancement formula since he had enough world origin.

With the endless amount of world origin that was pouring into it, the Crimson Soul Tablet was restoring itself constantly. Words were appearing at a frightening rate on the surface of the Crimson Soul Tablet and they kept rearranging themselves. Despite that, the rank five advancement formula was nowhere to be seen.

After experiencing what happened when his rank four martial intents appeared earlier, Shang Xia wasn't surprised by what was happening.

It was clear the deduction of a rank five advancement formula was several times more difficult than what he did previously with his martial intents. The consumption of world origin would definitely be several times larger. With the opportunity he had to constantly devour world origin, usage of world origin was not an issue.

Thinking of something, Shang Xia realized that he seemed to have forgotten something all along. It was a guide for a rank five advancement formula. As long as he had one, even an incomplete guide, it would be much better than getting the tablet to deduce everything on its own. Even an incomplete formula would be of great help.

It wasn't impossible for the Crimson Soul Tablet to come up with a complete rank five advancement formula on its own, as it was something it had done before. However, the consumption of world origin would be terrifying. It would also require a lot of time.

With the guide as a reference, all the tablet had to do was to optimize the method. The time taken would be much shorter and it would consume a lot less energy. An example of such would be when Shang Xia used his incomplete advancement medicine as a guide to produce his rank four advancement formula.

Shang Xia quickly came up with the idea to stop the Crimson Soul Tablet for the time being and return to the Azure Origin World to obtain Kou Chongxue's incomplete advancement formula before carrying out the deduction.

Before he could make up his mind, something that had been hidden deep in his mind seemed to surface. It was a secret text that was sealed in his memory a long time ago, and the seal seemed to be finally broken.

That's right! He had actually seen a rank five advancement formula before!

Back in the secret chamber in the Zhu Family Manor, there was an advancement formula carved onto Zhu Tong's stone coffin. Because of his poor cultivation back then, he wasn't able to see those words. However, they seemed to have drilled themselves into his mind and sealed themselves off.

When he entered the Martial Extermination Realm, the portion of memories actually already unsealed itself in his subconsciousness. He might have been able to read it, but he wouldn't understand what they meant.

Back then, Shang Xia already understood that those might be some special text that was created through some special art that would only react to one's divine perception. Only after his cultivation reached a certain level would the words start to make sense.

Now Since the secret text contained a rank five advancement formula, it would obviously be meant for someone at the grand completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm. There would be no point in unsealing itself only after one broke through.

Since he finally recalled its existence, it quickly appeared in his mind. The words on the Crimson Soul Tablet started to form into proper sentences and they stopped spinning around randomly.

Indeed... A rank five advancement formula appeared in Shang Xia's mind. From the main herb to the supplementary herbs, all the way to the way it would be created. There were even several points he had to take note of.

At the very least, the formula that was produced seemed like something that would exist in the Azure Origin World.

Shang Xia didn't think that there would be anything strange about an advancement formula that the Great Zhu Family had tried their best to hide for god knew how long.

The only reservation Shang Xia had was the fact that the Zhu Family Patriarch turned into a rank five undead corpse after trying to break through using the advancement formula.

Of course, a huge reason behind Zhu Tong's transformation might have something to do with the origin tide that was produced due to the collision of the Azure Origin World and the Azure Spiritual World, but that couldn't dispel the apprehension in Shang Xia's heart.

With a single thought, Shang Xia directed all the information into the Crimson Soul Tablet and it started to do its thing. The words started to flicker incessantly, rather than spinning around randomly. It was a sign that the deduction of a rank five advancement formula became much smoother than before, but it wasn't something that would be completed in a short amount of time.

When Shang Xia was still paying attention to the Crimson Soul Tablet, the words disappeared all of a sudden. The tablet trembled violently and it nearly leaped out from his sea of consciousness once again.

The feeling wasn't foreign to Shang Xia. The last time he felt the same thing was before the Manyu Continent was destroyed...

Snapping back to reality, Shang Xia raised his head and looked at the Great Sun which contained the black figures that seemed to be ready to break free.

Could it be...

Shang Xia's divine perception entered the formation node beneath his feet once again before locating Chu Jia and Yun Jing. "The source of the World's Will is about to be exhausted. We need to prepare ourselves and shift our location in case the others set their sights on us."

After the fourth expansion of the light pillar above the Tongyou Island, the speed at which they absorbed world origin wasn't slower than the 3 super islands. It was impossible to not attract the attention of others.

The experts on the island were already prepared to face the attacks from experts of other factions the moment the Great Sun was extinguished.

Once they received Shang Xia's reminder, neither Yun Jing nor Chu Jia would be dumb enough to question his reminder.

However, Chu Jia's voice rang in his mind the next moment. "How do you know the Great Sun is about to be extinguished? Is it the same intuition you had when you predicted the destruction of the Manyu Continent?"

Even though Chu Jia was asking him the question, she didn't slack off. It didn't affect her reminder to the other experts of the institution to prepare themselves. She also adjusted her control over the grand formation so that they would be ready to move.

Shang Xia knew that an island of their size couldn't move as it wished. They definitely needed some time to get things ready.

Facing Chu Jia's question, Shang Xia replied almost instantaneously. "Yeah, that's right. It's the same intuition."

As their conversation included Yun Jing, she quickly understood the meaning behind Shang Xia's words because of her wealth of experience. "You said to shift the Tongyou Island, not retreat..."

"There's something in the Great Sun and it's definitely going to emerge the moment all the world origin is absorbed." Shang Xia replied. Pausing for a second, he continued, "Something nurtured inside the source of the World's Will definitely wouldn't be ordinary."

"Are you planning to fight for it?" Yun Jing asked.

Shang Xia sounded pretty confident when he made his reply, "It's definitely an opportunity... We can seize the initiative once more!"

Yun Jing couldn't help but remind him, "The Eternal Sect, the Divine Capital Sect, and the Northern Sea Mystic Sect might not be able to accurately grasp the time the Great Sun is extinguished. The larger islands out there are also controlled by pretty impressive factions. Now, your grandfather won't be able to make a move. Even if we manage to obtain the treasure, we might not be able to take it away..."

Shang Xia's eyes widened slightly. With enough world origin, his grandfather might have started his breakthrough to the Martial Dipper Realm.

He completely forgot about that, but after some contemplation, Shang Xia muttered, "Well, we won't know if we don't try."

Yun Jing shook her head and sighed, "No. It's too dangerous. It's very likely we're attacked by multiple factions."

"I'll go fight for the treasure alone. The island can take the chance to escape from the pursuit by the various factions. You guys can just come to my rescue at the key moment." Shang Xia explained.

Even so, Yun Jing still rejected his suggestion. "How are you going to fight against the strength of a faction by yourself? Moreover, those who would be fighting in a battle of that scale would be experts in the grand completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm. You..."

.

Shang Xia chuckled softly in response, “Hehe, it’s just a bunch of experts at the grand completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm. You can rest assured, there won’t be a problem!”

“You...” Yun Jing wanted to yell at Shang Xia for being overconfident, but an absurd thought flashed through her mind. A look of disbelief appeared on her face and she started to stutter, “You... You... You already comprehended your martial intent?! How... How did you cross that step so easily?!”

Chapter 595: Fate Dipper Essence

“You... You already took that step?!” Yun Jing asked with a face full of disbelief. Complex emotions ran through her heart.

She expected Shang Xia to be able to easily fuse his extermination origins once he completed his refinement of them. He should step into the large completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm effortlessly, but that should be it.

Yun Jing had already overestimated Shang Xia’s cultivation to the absolute limit she could think of. However, reality told her that she was still underestimating the kid who was barely older than 20.

There were too many questions she wanted to ask Shang Xia at the moment, but she didn’t know how to do it.

Shang Xia’s voice rang clearly in Yun Jing’s mind as she was still confused. It also entered Chu Jia’s mind. “It’s going to happen soon. Let’s get everything ready!”

Yun Jing felt a chill running through her heart and she quickly tossed the thoughts to the back of her mind. She started to assist Chu Jia in their adjustment of the grand formation.

It was then that the light pillar above the Tongyou Island weakened by a good half.

Both Chu Jia and Yun Jing realized what had happened, and they quickly extended their divine perception over to the formation node Shang Xia used to be only to discover it was empty.

It was very possible that he had already left the Tongyou Island.

At almost the same instant Shang Xia stopped the Crimson Soul Tablet’s absorption of world origin, the Great Sun shrank for the fifth time.

This time, the shrinking didn’t take long. The entire sun extinguished itself in the middle of space as the last ray of light disappeared.

The pillars of light above the various islands started to flicker unsteadily before finally dissipating into tiny specks.

In several short moments, the region of space that contained close to 20 islands that were at least a thousand miles large fell into complete darkness. Other than several islands that weren’t well prepared and still had several traces of light causing them to stick out like sore thumbs in the dark space, the rest went completely dark.

It was the moment everything returned to a state of darkness that the well-prepared Tongyou Island made their move. They accelerated instantly to leave their original position.

Not too long after they secretly left, several streaks of light rushed towards their original position. Unfortunately for them, they failed to catch sight of the Tongyou Island.

Very quickly, those figures that were covered in light discovered each other. They understood that all of them had the same intentions, but since they didn't know who the other parties were, they decided to pull away from each other before searching for the Tongyou Island themselves. They might have done that, but they failed to find anything nonetheless.

No one knew how long more had passed, but those hidden figures started to gather together. A hoarse voice was the first to break the silence. "How did they do it?"

A soft cough rang among them before a rather sharp voice continued, "Unless they were prepared for it, it's almost impossible for a behemoth of an island that is almost 2000 miles to disappear so quickly and quietly!"

"That's not really possible, right? The island was here when the Great Sun was extinguished. Only so little time had passed and they should barely be moving." The last person who spoke sounded a little illusory. In fact, it was hard to determine who that person was.

"That is why I said that they were prepared. Didn't you notice that the light pillar above their island shrank by a huge half right before the Great Sun was extinguished?" The hoarse voice came again.

"But... How did they accurately grasp the collapse of the Great Sun?" A feminine voice interrupted them but it was a little hard to say if the speaker was actually female.

"Could it be a coincidence?"

"Heh, do you really think something as coincidental as this can exist? Would you believe it?"

"That is why there is definitely something weird on the Tongyou Island. Thinking back to how their light pillar continued to grow till it was on par with the 3 Paradises..."

"What the hell is a paradise?"

"..."

People started to leave silently until a suggestion was made. "Why don't we work together?"

As soon as that was said, people started leaving at an even faster rate.

It was true that there was something strange about the Tongyou Island. However, the stranger it became and the more it seemed like the Tongyou Island was hiding something, the more obvious it would point to the fact that they were hiding their strength. They would even possess some hidden trump cards no one was aware of.

Under such uncertain circumstances, those experts who had been through countless trials wouldn't risk it and go pull the tiger's beard.

What was more, locating the Tongyou Island in the dark and vast space was a problem in itself. Experts like themselves wouldn't be able to stay in space infinitely either.

Not too long after those people scattered, several colorful lights appeared in the spot where the Great Sun used to be. The space that was supposed to be completely dark was lit up by those strange spots of light. Soon after, a powerful wave of origin qi filled the area before a low rumble started to echo in the ears of those present.

By the time those islands that had stopped in place earlier were distracted by the change, a massive battle had already broken out where the core of the Great Sun once stood. Their attention was drawn over but that was just the start. Several islands that failed to conceal the pillars of light the moment the Great Sun was extinguished suffered attacks of varying degrees.

They were like sitting ducks as their location had been discovered by the other factions. Even though the sudden assault didn't cause a chaotic battle to break out on all those islands, it caused the atmosphere to turn a little strange.

...

Shang Xia left the Tongyou Island before the Great Sun was extinguished, and he used the cover of his Auspicious Cloud Cape to hide his tracks. He made his way over to the Great Sun and by the time it disappeared, he had already traveled thousands of miles in its direction.

He learned from Kou Chongxue that experts would only possess the qualifications to pass through the void comfortably with their physical bodies after entering the Martial Dipper Realm. They would also be able to move about space as they pleased.

The Manyu Continent might be destroyed, but the existence of the Great Sun allowed the entire region to be sealed and isolated from the sea of stars. Martial Extermination Realm experts like Shang Xia were able to travel around in 'space' while leaving the confines of their islands for some time.

However, they wouldn't be able to remain outside for too long either.

With the Great Sun gone, Shang Xia had no idea how long the region of space could be sustained.

The closer he got to where the Great Sun once was, Shang Xia could feel several hidden experts who were hiding their tracks as they raced in the same direction as him.

From the looks of it, things were as Yun Jing had said. Shang Xia wasn't the only one who could tell that the Great Sun was about to be extinguished and despite not knowing the exact time, those experts would just head over regardless. As such, the people who would be taking part in the final looting wouldn't just be from the Tongyou Institution.

No matter if it was because those factions were being careful, or if they wanted to confirm the items nurtured by the Great Sun, those factions that could tell the Great Sun was about to be extinguished sent their experts over while controlling their islands to head over.

Shang Xia heard a loud crack all of a sudden and he turned his attention to the source of the sound. A dark shadow-like cluster seemed to shatter as several dozen illusory rays emerged. They started to fly in different directions and they seemed like they wanted to enter the void to escape.

Shang Xia's luck didn't seem too bad as one of the light rays was flying not too far away from him.

Reaching out instinctively, Shang Xia wanted to grab the ray of light. Who would have thought that the illusory ray would pass through the giant palm he congealed tens of miles away? It continued to fly towards the depths of space.

“Huh?” Shang Xia felt extremely curious as he quickly extended his divine perception over to try to touch the ray of light.

When it finally arrived, he discovered that the ray of light seemed as though it didn't exist. He was unable to feel its presence despite seeing it actually be there.

What the hell is this?!

Shang Xia grew more and more curious, but he also started to worry that those streaks of light were merely bait used to draw their attention. He circulated his extermination origins as he reached out to grab it once again.

A giant palm that seemed to be made from a mass of chaos reached for the illusory ray tens of miles away from Shang Xia.

The palm he unleashed this time was different from before. He wasn't prepared earlier, and the palm was really ordinary. This time, he unleashed his Four Constellation Palm without holding back.

The moment his palm slammed into the region, everything within it seemed to turn into a region of sealed space. It contained the endless cycle of the four seasons and Shang Xia controlled everything that happened within it.

The ray of light shuttled back and forth within the space contained by the palm as though nothing could stop it, but it was eventually trapped by the endless cycle. It was unable to escape the control of Shang Xia's Four Constellation Palm.

When he finally retracted his palm, the illusory ray of light had already appeared in his hand.

The light tried to fly away and Shang Xia had to continuously pour his inner qi into his hand in order to stop it from escaping. He had to maintain the endless cycle if he wished to retain the item.

The only question he had left was what item was contained in the illusory ray.

Of course, he might have to maintain the flow of his inner qi to keep the item trapped in his hand, but doing so wouldn't affect his combat strength at all. The consumption was too little to affect him.

Who would have thought that a massive battle would erupt in the distant space at that moment?

Two tyrannical auras clashed as blinding swathes of extermination light burst forth. It illuminated the region hundreds of miles around them.

“Fate dipper..”

A surprised cry came from the depths of space but the voice stopped abruptly. The person seemed to have disappeared due to the shockwave of the battle conducted by the 2 super experts.

Shang Xia felt his heart trembling once. “Fate dipper?! Could it be an Origin Dipper like the one I obtained back then? “

Shang Xia stared at the ray of light that was wriggling like a fish in his hand and shook his head. It wasn't as though he hadn't seen an Origin Dipper before.

Even though there were a lot of ways in which they could appear, and Shang Xia couldn't claim to know everything, he could tell that the streak of illusory light wasn't a complete Origin Dipper.

Thinking back to the time when the black cluster shattered and the way the illusory rays emerged...

If there really was an Origin Dipper in there...

Shang Xia stared at the light in his hand before thinking to himself, *Could this be fate dipper essence that is used to nurture Origin Dippers?!*

Even though it was a mere guess, Shang Xia had an item he could use to verify it!

Flipping his other hand, a sparking cube appeared. It looked incomparably soothing and he brought it towards the illusory ray. The ray seemed to have found its home as it shot into the cube before curling up into a ball. It no longer moved around.

Shang Xia didn't know if he was dreaming, but the fate dipper fragment in his hand shrank a little...

Chapter 596: A Blade to Enter Summer

Shang Xia felt that he would be able to seize the initiative to obtain the objects contained inside the Great Sun because he was able to accurately predict when it would be extinguished.

However, reality proved that he wasn't the only one who managed to do so. Other factions also realized what was happening and sent their experts over.

Luckily for him, his luck wasn't too bad. At the very least, he already obtained a strand of fate dipper essence before the real battle for the Origin Dipper would break out.

After absorbing the illusory ray of light into his fate dipper fragment, Shang Xia was sure that it was a strand of fate dipper essence! Due to the fact that the fate dipper fragment in his hand was of the highest quality, it would be a matter of time before the fragment in his hand turned into a complete Origin Dipper.

The only question was how long it would take for the strand of fate dipper essence to be nurtured inside the fragment.

Also, he didn't know which Origin Dipper would be produced after the process was complete.

The other question, and the most important was if he could use it when he advanced into the Martial Dipper Realm in the future.

Well, it wasn't time to think about stuff like that at the moment. The longer Shang Xia wasted, the lower the chance of him obtaining other strains of fate dipper essence.

After keeping his fate dipper fragment that absorbed the strand of fate dipper essence, he didn't hesitate and started to approach the location of the huge battle.

By the time he started to head over, the intensity of the battle had reached a whole new level. In fact, it was slowly turning into a chaotic brawl among many parties.

Shang Xia wasn't surprised at all. Factions that had the ability to send their experts over were definitely powerhouses of their respective worlds. Those experts who were present might even be potential Martial Dipper Realm candidates in the future!

It didn't matter if they were fighting over Origin Dippers or fate dipper essence. Either way, it concerned a chance to enter the Martial Dipper Realm. Regardless of which it was, those Martial Extermination Realm experts would risk their lives to get their hands on it. Not to mention the fact there wasn't just a single strand that emerged from the destroyed Great Sun earlier. There were a dozen or so strands!

Shang Xia might have increased his speed to take part in the battle, but he was no fool. He restrained his aura to the best of his abilities as he made his way over and he used his Auspicious Cloud Cape to cover his tracks.

After flying hundreds of miles, he noticed a treasure that was an odd-sized jade flying not too far away from him.

The void around the jade broke open suddenly as a silvery-white beam of light accurately struck it. The ray of light locked the jade in place.

The next moment, an eight faced sword tore through space and shattered the silvery-white light that had trapped the jade.

Despite having broken free from its entrapment, the jade no longer moved as quickly as it once was. It drifted slowly in space.

The eight faced sword flicked once, sending the jade flying to the spot where the sword tore through space.

"Hmph, dream on!" A cold snort came from nowhere and the spot where the silvery-white light broke through space and a yellow light out out from within.

The eight faced sword released a strand of sword qi that smashed into the yellow beam.

Unfortunately, the odd-shaped jade couldn't withstand the shockwave of the clash and exploded into multiple shards and flew in all directions.

The experts wielding the sword and the one who summoned the yellow light beam clearly didn't expect that to happen. They hastily sent their energy in all directions in an attempt to gather the shards.

Neither of them expected a giant palm made from a formless mass to stretch over at that instant to destroy the sword qi and yellow beam. It made a nice arc through the air and grabbed almost every shard out there. It also retracted quickly before they could react.

"Preposterous!"

"Who dares...?!"

2 angry voices rang through the area before 2 tyrannical divine perceptions swept over. Unfortunately, the person who stole the shards was nowhere to be seen.

Tens of miles away, Shang Xia stopped moving. Several shards hovered beside him and he managed to piece back close to 70 percent of the jade object that was destroyed.

Casually squeezing one of them, Shang Xia noticed that it was somewhat similar to the shards of fate dipper fragments he obtained in the past.

Seeing the shards caused Shang Xia to recall the clump of black shadow that was circular in shape back before the Great Sun was destroyed. Those illusory rays of light emerged after its collapse, and Shang Xia wondered out loud, "Could these strange jade fragments be left behind after the Great Sun was destroyed?"

Shang Xia thought deeper into it and realized that it was possible. After all, fate dipper essences and Origin Dippers were high-level treasures that might have been nurtured by it.

Of course, it also wouldn't be correct to think that the Great Sun was made up of those jade-like treasures. It could only be said that they were the debris left behind after the Great Sun was sucked dry.

Regardless, the 'debris' left behind seemed too similar to the fate dipper fragments Shang Xia obtained back then. Those strange jade-like objects also possessed a similar property to the fate dipper fragments. In other words, they had the ability to contain fate dipper essence!

Storing some fate dipper essence in them wouldn't be a problem and Shang Xia wondered if those 2 were fighting for it so that they could use it as a vessel to contain fate dipper essence.

Too bad for them, Shang Xia was the fisherman who obtained all the benefits in the end. A large portion of that jade was obtained by him.

Choosing one of the largest pieces, Shang Xia discovered that it was a little denser than the fate dipper fragment he obtained back then.

Oh right... If they're trying to get this to store a fate dipper essence, that might mean that they might actually have a strand!

The thought flashed in Shang Xia's mind and the extermination light around him lit up again as he rushed towards the chaotic brawl happening in the distance.

This time, he didn't bother concealing his tracks.

In a battle of such a scale, where there were shockwaves flying everywhere, there was no way someone could remain hidden.

Even if everything went their way and they managed to avoid all the shockwaves that would force them out of hiding, the moment they were discovered, they would immediately be surrounded and attacked on all sides due to how sneaky they were acting.

Under such circumstances, Shang Xia decided that he would rather join the battle openly.

Running head-first into the battle was one thing. Shang Xia still had another cheat code that allowed him to feel the presence of any Origin Dippers or fate dipper essence in the vicinity. That was because the Crimson Soul Tablet in his sea of consciousness was making itself useful again. It pointed out the direction of those treasures and Shang Xia didn't have to run around blind.

Avoiding a horizontal spatial tear coming his way, Shang Xia reached out to the side. He sent out a Four Constellation Palm as the power contained within transformed to that of the frost element. A freezing ice extermination appeared and it seemed to contain 4 times the power as it extinguished a

burning cloud traveling his way. It also frightened the cultivator hidden in the cloud so badly that he had to escape.

Glancing at the cultivator who wanted to sneak attack him, Shang Xia discovered that the Crimson Soul Tablet wasn't reacting at all. Realizing that there was no Origin Dipper or fate dipper essence on him, he no longer bothered with the man.

Next, Shang Xia held the Abyssal Blade in his hand as he went to intercept 2 experts. His Four Seasons Extermination Origins infused themselves into the blade and he tore through the void with a single blade. He slashed at one of them who had a golden mask and a gray beard. His target was wielding an eight faced sword that looked really familiar.

"It's you!" The golden masked cultivator recognized Shang Xia the moment he arrived. He knew that it was the person who snatched the origin jade from him.

Facing the slash coming his way, his expression changed drastically. The words that made their way to his mouth earlier couldn't emerge as he raised his eight faced sword in a state of panic. Swinging it 7 times in succession, he summoned multiple rays of sword qi.

Clang, clang, clang...

7 loud scraping sounds rang through the air along with various explosions. His sword qis were shattered when Shang Xia's Abyssal Blade came crashing down and it landed directly on his sword.

Ding!

Losing his footing in mid air, the golden masked cultivator was forced to retreat. After taking 7 steps back, he forced himself to stop moving. Moreover, he was forced to use his other hand to grip his eight faced sword to stop its violent trembling. It was only then that he managed to prevent his sword from flying off his grip.

Facing Shang Xia who was closing in rapidly, the golden masked cultivator wanted to say something. Unfortunately, blood sprayed from his lips the moment he opened his mouth to speak.

Unfortunately, Shang Xia already released Summer Origin. It was the move that was the beginning of the 6 moves of Shang Xia's Summer Blade, but it also signified the end.

With a single blade to signify the entry of Summer, Shang Xia unleashed his tyrannical blade art and heavily injured an expert at the large completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm in a single move.

Chapter 597: More Fate Dipper Essence

With a blade to enter Summer, Shang Xia heavily injured an expert at the large completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm!

"Grand completion stage!" Someone cried in a low voice amidst the chaotic battle that was happening.

In the eyes of everyone present, anyone who could heavily injure an expert at the large completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm had to be someone who comprehended their martial intent!

Shang Xia's blade was extremely profound and intense. It contained an extraordinary amount of power.

It didn't matter if they were talking about how exquisite the blade strike was or the might it contained, the move had entered the realm of a rank four martial intent.

Because of that, along with the divine weapon Shang Xia had been using to unleash it, the golden masked cultivator suffered greatly in Shang Xia's hands.

What everyone didn't know was that the strike was merely one of the six contained in his Summer Blade. As one of the many moves he needed to put together to finally form his martial intent, the Four Constellation Samsara Blade Art, it was actually far from what Shang Xia would recognize as a powerful strike.

Whatever the case, Shang Xia wasn't going to let his opponent off easily. The effects of Summer Origin had barely passed when Shang Xia sent a Four Constellation Palm out with his left hand. The area struck by it instantly caved in.

The golden masked cultivator revealed a look of fright and tried to retreat rapidly. Unfortunately, Shang Xia's Four Constellation Palm's aura locked off the entire area. The sealing effect it had might not be too strong, but it was enough to ensure he wouldn't be able to escape in the face of the terrifying attack.

Since he couldn't withstand a single blade from Shang Xia earlier, he naturally wouldn't be able to receive the palm strike either.

At the critical moment, a frosty ray appeared from the void behind Shang Xia and went straight for his back.

Feeling a sense of danger approaching, the palm that was directed at the golden masked cultivator shifted and he sent it directly behind himself without even looking back.

The region of space behind Shang Xia was shattered and his attack managed to shatter the streak of silvery-gray light that was approaching.

Twisting his body and taking 2 steps to the side to prevent any other sneak attacks, Shang Xia swept his gaze behind him to see a cultivator who exuded an unruly air flying at him with a copper mirror in hand. There was a strange expression on his face as well.

"An expert from the Azure Spiritual World and the Azure Origin World... You 2 actually decided to work together?" Shang Xia asked while turning into a streak of light that flew at the golden masked cultivator.

Even though Shang Xia suspected that they probably had fate dipper essences on them, there was no need to verify his guess. Since the golden masked cultivator had already suffered serious injuries from Summer Origin earlier, there was no need to give him time to recover or to let him off.

Since Shang Xia moved, the cultivator with the copper mirror also acted.

Raising the copper mirror, light gleamed off its surface before gathering together.

The golden masked cultivator hastily turned about to run towards his ally and he seemed to have made his decision to join forces with the mirror-wielding cultivator to prevent Shang Xia from killing him.

A snort left Shang Xia's lips when he saw what they planned to do. He didn't stop them from meeting up. Instead, he slashed at the beam of light that was starting to emerge from the mirror. When that was done, Shang Xia's blade light didn't falter in the slightest as it went for the mirror wielding cultivator.

By the time he acted, the golden masked cultivator was 5 miles or so from the mirror wielding expert. Even though there was still a distance between them, it should be more than enough for them to join hands to deal with Shang Xia. They no longer flew towards each other and stopped where they were.

Even though they were working together to fight Shang Xia, who managed to profit off their conflict earlier, they knew that the other party was an expert from the other world. They wouldn't trust the other side completely.

A distance of 3 to 5 miles away from each other would allow them to fight their common enemy, and retreat in case anything went wrong.

That was also one of the reasons Shang Xia didn't stop them from rushing at each other. He didn't believe that they would be able to work together wholeheartedly.

The moment the slash went towards the mirror wielding expert, the latter raised his mirror to protect himself.

Instead of going all in on the mirror wielding expert, Shang Xia split his consciousness in two. He sent a palm strike at the golden masked cultivator.

Because of the injuries he already suffered, defending against Shang Xia's Four Constellation Palm was really taxing for him. He hoped that his ally would be able to help him, but he soon noticed that his comrade was fully focused on defending against the blade light sent his way. He didn't seem to be planning to give any assistance.

Without a choice, the golden masked cultivator could only defend desperately. He cleaved his eight faced sword viciously before him while pouring his extermination origins into it.

A great portion of the energy contained in the Four Constellation Palm was quickly eliminated, but the remaining portion ripped apart the protection barrier made by the golden masked cultivator's extermination origins. Several crackling sounds could be heard as his life saving treasures shattered to bits. Eventually, he was thrown backwards and several of his items were sent flying.

The protection barrier of an expert at the large completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm obviously couldn't be torn apart that easily. However, Shang Xia's Four Seasons Extermination Origins were just too tyrannical. It was also extremely effective when dealing with stuff like foreign extermination qi.

Earlier when Shang Xia's extermination qi invaded his body, the golden masked cultivator had to spend a great deal of effort to suppress the rampaging foreign qi in his body.

Now that he was struck again, his injuries became several times worse.

Of course, Shang Xia could tell that the golden masked cultivator wasn't as badly injured as he seemed. When he was sent flying earlier, the golden masked cultivator took the chance to escape.

Shang Xia didn't plan on hunting him down as he achieved his goal earlier after his palm landed.

When Shang Xia obtained the fate dipper fragments a long time ago, he learned that items like that couldn't be kept into spatial artifacts like Spatial Pouches or Embroidered Cloud Cases. He even went to look for Shang Bo and Yun Jing to learn from them only to discover that fate dipper fragments weren't the only things that couldn't be stored. Origin Dippers, fate dipper essence, and treasures of the like couldn't be kept in spatial artifacts.

Since that was the case, the golden masked cultivator would have to bring the fate dipper essence around. That gave Shang Xia a chance to get his hands on it.

That led to everything that happened earlier. Shang Xia's Four Constellation Palm was perfectly executed. When it struck the other party, the resulting shockwave would cause all his items to be flung in different directions. It didn't take long for Shang Xia to notice the anomaly and lock on to a jade ornament that was part of his belongings.

Moving quickly and decisively, he obtained the jade ornament in one smooth motion.

By the time the golden masked cultivator realized he had fallen into Shang Xia's trap, he knew that it would be too late to try to retrieve his jade ornament. He could only watch as the strand of fate dipper essence that was sealed in it fell into Shang Xia's hand.

Only then did he discover that he wasn't a random target chosen by the terrifying expert. From the very beginning, the attacker planned to obtain his fate dipper essence!

"My fate dipper essence!" Yelling loudly, the golden masked cultivator caused the gazes of several experts to turn over.

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The mirror wielding expert couldn't help but curse his comrade under his breath. He turned to leave.

He only agreed to join forces with the Golden Masked Cultivator in order to obtain the shards Shang Xia took from them earlier.

Who would have thought that the other party actually knew that they were in possession of fate dipper essence? He came looking for them specifically to get his hands on them, and he also possessed horrifying combat skills.

The golden masked cultivator was already forced to escape after suffering heavy injuries. If he didn't leave then, was he going to wait for Shang Xia to beat him to death? Unfortunately, his actions of turning to run told the entire world he also had fate dipper essence on him.

Now that he turned to run, Shang Xia wouldn't let him leave easily. His Abyssal Blade slashed horizontally through the air in an attempt to stop him.

Who would have thought that the mirror wielding cultivator was also a decisive person? He raised the copper mirror in his hand and decided to block Shang Xia's blade strike head-on!

A heart wrenching scraping sound ripped through the area and the copper mirror was presented with a deep scar. Despite that, the cultivator managed to leave the range of Shang Xia's blade light and he hurriedly grabbed his mirror before making his escape.

Seeing as there was no use giving chase, Shang Xia turned around to leave. Pushing his extermination origins to the limit, he wanted to leave the chaotic battlefield immediately.

It wouldn't be as easy as he had thought. Since the golden masked cultivator's scream earlier, everyone knew that Shang Xia had a strand of fate dipper essence on him. They wouldn't let him go easily.

Before he made it several miles out, a pair of frosty lights appeared on his left and right, stopping him from going any further.

The moment they appeared, a frosty intent spread through the lands and froze the region they were in. With multiple layers of space frozen, it became hard to take a single step.

Shang Xia was forced to stop for a moment as he released a loud grunt while cleaving his Abyssal Blade in front of him.

Back when Shang Xia heavily injured the golden masked cultivator with a single blade strike, he already displayed his combat capabilities and everyone knew he was leagues ahead of cultivators at the large completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm.

Under such circumstances, 2 experts at the large completion stage who hadn't worked together before decided to form an alliance to attempt to get their hands on Shang Xia's fate dipper essence.

After observing his blade strike earlier, all of them thought that that was Shang Xia's martial intent. In order to deal with the tyrannical blade strike, the 2 of them decided to hold him back with all their might. The moment they managed to force him to stay, there would definitely be several greedy bastards who would work together to deal with the threat.

They planned hard and well, but they overlooked one very important factor.

Shang Xia's Summer Origin was a move that concluded his Summer Blade, and it had power comparable to a rank four martial intent. However, that was merely a single move out of the Four Seasons Blade Arts. There were at least 3 strikes that contained the same amount of power, if not more!

Above those blade strikes, Shang Xia also had the Four Constellation Samsara Blade that he developed himself. That was his actual martial intent, and it was countless times more terrifying than what he unleashed earlier.

Facing the 2 of them, Shang Xia slashed downwards, shattering the region of frozen space. His Abyssal Blade went through the area like a hot knife through butter and easily nullified the threat.

Two loud metallic rings tore through the space, and 2 weapons were swept away.

This time, Shang Xia didn't unleash Summer Origin like before. Instead, he used Spring Origin, a move in his Spring Blade!

Spring Origin might not be as tyrannical as Summer Origin, but it allowed Shang Xia to easily get rid of their obstruction.

The ease with which it dealt with the frozen space was the best case scenario in Shang Xia's mind.

Because of a single blade strike, he caused the 2 large completion stage experts to suffer a huge loss. At the same time, he struck fear into the hearts of the rest which made them hesitate to make their move on him.

Chapter 598: Fucking Cheater

As an expert who arrived before many others, Shang Xia had seen that only slightly more than a dozen illusory rays of light emerged after the collapse of the Great Sun. There wouldn't be more than 20 of them, and from the looks of it, most of them were fate dipper essences.

With 2 of them in his possession, Shang Xia felt that even if someone managed to obtain an Origin Dipper, they wouldn't be much luckier than him.

Moreover, it wasn't as though obtaining an Origin Dipper would be so easy. Those that emerged from the Great Sun might not even be found!

Because of the many run-ins Shang Xia had with fate dippers and the help he received from Kou Chongxue, he was no stranger to it. Not to mention the fact that he tested his strength against Kou Chongxue's fate dipper clone back in the Changfeng City when he was in the Martial Intent Realm, he knew a lot about it. He knew that fate dippers had their own spirituality and finding one would be difficult. There was also the matter of getting their hands on it after locating one, and that wasn't going to be a walk in the park either.

Now that Shang Xia's possession of a fate dipper essence had been leaked by the golden masked cultivator, many experts quickly set their sights on him.

Luckily for him, he heavily injured the golden masked cultivator before scaring off the mirror wielding expert. Next, he used a single strike to destroy the obstruction made by 2 experts at the large completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm. His combat strength frightened many experts who were planning to make their move.

Of course, Shang Xia didn't plan on leaving even though he blew away the obstruction. After traveling some distance out, he draped his Auspicious Cloud Cape behind his back and his figure started to fade away.

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The jade ornament he obtained from the golden masked cultivator was an item that could only store fate dipper essence temporarily and there was a massive crack spanning half the item. He knew that it wouldn't be long before the strand of fate dipper essence would escape.

Since he left the battle, he had some time to gather his thoughts and he made sense of how the battle started.

Fate dipper essence was difficult to come by, and those who obtained it couldn't hide it in their spatial artifacts. Those who didn't get any didn't want to leave empty handed. Not knowing who managed to get their hands on fate dipper essence, they could only attack indiscriminately.

Like what happened with the golden masked cultivator, he managed to obtain a strand of fate dipper essence through sheer luck. He was able to seal it for the time being with the jade ornament he obtained, but once it shattered, the fate dipper essence would be revealed to the world. Other experts would discover it then and fight him for it.

After realizing what was probably happening, Shang Xia also figured out something else. Those people who were planning to trap him there might not just be aiming for the fate dipper essence he obtained. They probably also wanted to obtain the jade ornament that could store fate dipper essence!

By the time he arranged his thoughts, the ornament in his hand reached its limit. A soft crack could be heard as it shattered. A dark gold smoke gathered together and became an illusory ray of light that tried to fly away from Shang Xia's grasp.

Too bad for the fate dipper essence, Shang Xia was well prepared. Before it emerged from the jade ornament, Shang Xia already released his extermination origins in his palm. The endless cycle of the four seasons became a cage that trapped the fate dipper essence.

No matter how it smashed about, the illusory ray of light was unable to leave his palm.

A soft smile appeared on Shang Xia's face as the giant fragment of jade he obtained earlier appeared in his other hand.

Slowly bringing it closer to his other palm, the fate dipper essence seemed to have found its calling. It drilled into the jade fragment and started to calm down.

Back when the first strand of fate dipper essence entered the fate dipper fragment, it caused the fragment to shrink significantly. However, he experienced something different now. Shang Xia could feel the piece of jade in his hand dimming at a rapid pace.

It seemed as though the jade fragment that he obtained back then worked differently from a fate dipper fragment, but it could be used all the same.

From what happened to the jade ornament, Shang Xia could tell that the fate dipper essence wouldn't be trapped for long in the jade fragment he used. Staring at the darkening jade fragment, he couldn't help but balk in his heart. Even if it was really possible for the item in his hand to become a fate dipper, who would dare to use it?

Examining it again, Shang Xia felt that the piece of jade fragment had turned too damn dark. He even wondered if the fate dipper essence had self-destructed inside.

Carefully looking at it, he discovered that there were some points of similarity between the jade fragment and his fate dipper fragment. His conclusion was that the quality of the jade fragment was just... Was just too damn shit compared to the fate dipper fragment.

After storing both strands of fate dipper essence, Shang Xia didn't worry about them any longer. He started to pour his divine perception into his Crimson Soul Tablet. He wanted to see if he could feel the presence of an Origin Dipper or other strands of fate dipper essences.

Pinching his glabella with his forefinger and thumb, he stared at the region of space where the chaotic battle royale was taking place before muttering to himself, *I refuse to believe that all the treasures are concentrated in that spot. There has to be some that managed to escape!*

The thumping of the Crimson Soul Tablet gave Shang Xia an obvious answer. The region where the battle was taking place contained the greatest number of treasures. However, since he just escaped, Shang Xia didn't plan on rushing back into the chaos.

Moreover, he already revealed his strength earlier. The golden masked cultivator also ratted him out and everyone learned that he had fate dipper essence on him. If he returned, many people would band together to fight him.

Shang Xia might have absolute confidence in himself, but he wasn't crazy enough that he felt that he would be able to ignore an alliance of multiple strong experts.

After thumping several times without Shang Xia's reaction, the Crimson Soul Tablet seemed to have realized something. It pointed in another direction and started to thump, but the feeling was much weaker than before.

This time, Shang Xia reacted. His expression changed slightly as he wrapped the Auspicious Cloud Cape tightly around himself before flying in that direction.

Shang Xia seemed to have grasped the reaction of the tablet well. Even though it was thumping, it didn't truly wish to leap out from his sea of consciousness. Instead, it was merely conveying its thoughts to Shang Xia.

He didn't have to fly for long before he noticed a change in his surroundings. The void before him extended greatly and he seemed to be peering into a formless abyss. The opening of the abyss seemed like a giant mouth that was ready to swallow him up at any time.

With his sharp divine perception, Shang Xia naturally discovered the anomaly before him. He stopped dead in his tracks while examining the region of space around him with his divine perception.

"Huh?" A surprised cry came from an indistinct direction and the abyss in front of Shang Xia seemed to come alive. It resembled the mouth of a celestial beast as it tried to swallow Shang Xia.

At the same time, the space around Shang Xia turned incomparably solid. Even his divine perception had been slightly affected.

With a cold snort, Shang Xia didn't seem to care that the space around him was locked. He stretched his left hand out casually and the entire area started to tremble. Closing his fist, the sealed space around him shattered completely.

A ray of light flashed in the distance for a split second before it concealed itself.

Chuckling coldly, Shang Xia swung his blade in front of him. The giant abyss ripped apart easily, revealing the dark space behind and a figure who had a look of shock on his face.

"It's you!" Shang Xia's pupils constricted slightly after noticing who it was, but he immediately raised his guard.

"Since you know who I am, it looks like I wasn't mistaken about you. You're that person who gathered the cluster of land fragments to obstruct my Northern Sea Island. Hmph, you're good alright!" Chen Yuanzi took a single step towards Shang Xia and passed through the space Shang Xia's blade light was traveling through. Even though Shang Xia ripped the strange abyss apart, he couldn't harm Chen Yuanzi in the slightest.

Without any warning, Shang Xia retreated. He pulled apart the distance between them before grunting, “As an expert at the grand completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm from the Northern Sea Mystic Sect, are you really surprised I know who you are?”

Back when Shang Xia risked it all to nearly tip the Northern Sea Island, he was able to escape before they saw his face. He felt that there was no way they could recognize his appearance.

When he entered the chaotic battle earlier to fight for fate dipper essence, he also concealed his appearance. Everything he did concerned a chance to enter the Martial Dipper Realm. He wouldn't reveal his identity easily.

By the time Shang Xia retreated, the abyss that was ripped apart by him earlier started to move. They transformed into 2 belts of fractured space that converged at his original position.

Chen Yuanzi ignored the spatial fractures as he made his way closer to Shang Xia. A cold sneer left his lips. “Sneaky asshole, do you think you will be able to hide forever just by concealing your appearance? Don't you know that I have already locked onto your aura? I will recognize you no matter how you try to change your identity!”

Through his words, Shang Xia could basically confirm that Chen Yuanzi knew that he was the culprit back then. However, that was all he knew. He didn't know Shang Xia's identity or background!

Realizing that point, Shang Xia no longer retreated.

The twisted space started to press against him, but pressing his hand before him, he immediately quelled the chaos.

Shang Xia also approached Chen Yuanzi while speaking calmly, “Actually, I am really curious. Since you're able to locate me, you should have noticed the battle earlier. You should know that I'm similarly at the grand completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm. Even though I haven't entered my current realm for long and my techniques aren't super refined, I will still be able to come and go as I wish. What's the point of trying to stop me here?”

As soon as the words left his lips, Shang Xia pounced with explosive speed. His Abyssal Blade came slashing down at Chen Yuanzi's head.

It was his first time utilizing Autumn Blade, and he unleashed Autumn Origin. It was the beginning of all his moves that were in the Autumn Blade series, but it also contained the essence of the other strikes.

Autumn Origin didn't care about one's prestige, cultivation realm, or technique. It only focused on the outcome of the strike.

Right before the blade light was completely formed, Shang Xia felt an intense palpitation in his glabella.

Chen Yuanzi, who was standing opposite him, seemed to completely ignore Shang Xia's blade strike. A strange smile appeared on his face and he sneered, “Did I say I was the only one here?”

The void behind Chen Yuanzi started to turn a lot denser as the silhouette grew clearer and clearer. Eventually, a colossal existence made its appearance.

... Northern Sea Island!

Shang Xia was stunned speechless. Stopping his strike halfway, he ignored the backlash as he turned to run.

Chapter 599: Mutual Destruction

Was this a fucking joke?!

Originally, they were supposed to fight one on one. Shang Xia could accept it if the other side was a sore loser and called a few of their friends over. Who the fuck calls over their entire faction because of a little conflict?! It didn't just stop there. As if calling for backup wasn't enough, they had to move their entire base of operation over.

They were clearly cheating!

No matter how strong the thumping of the Crimson Soul Tablet was in his sea of consciousness, Shang Xia couldn't be bothered with it at the moment. He was only concerned about making his escape. If he was even slightly slower, he was probably going to die without a complete corpse.

Chen Yuanzi didn't expect Shang Xia to react so decisively. He also didn't think that Shang Xia would be able to move so quickly. He couldn't act to stop the other party and Shang Xia almost disappeared from his range of sight the next moment.

"Shit! The damn brat hid his strength!" With Chen Yuanzi's experience, how could he not see that Shang Xia's escape art was extremely special? He could also tell that Shang Xia's extermination origins possessed extraordinary power.

That was precisely the reason why his expression became really ugly. He also heaved a sigh of relief that the Northern Sea Island appeared as quickly as it did. Otherwise, he might have been played by the other party after underestimating his strength. If that were to happen, he would embarrass himself greatly. It would be like an 80 year old grandmother being outplayed by a little child.

Of course, if it was that easy for someone to escape the Northern Sea Island, they wouldn't be ranked the top power in the Azure Spiritual World.

As Shang Xia was making his escape, he unintentionally glanced at the chaotic battle that was happening. He discovered that those experts who were fighting earlier started to scatter the moment the Northern Sea Island appeared.

Even though those cultivators weren't exactly the Martial Dipper Realm candidates of their respective powers, they were second only to experts who had entered the grand completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm.

Not only did they possess extraordinary combat strength, but they also had a heightened awareness. The moment they realized something was wrong, they started to flee in all directions. That would ensure that they wouldn't be captured in one fell swoop.

Unfortunately, they were up against the Northern Sea Mystic Sect. A massive vortex appeared above the island once again and a terrifying suction force twisted the space around them. Even Shang Xia, who had run close to 1000 miles out, discovered that he was being pulled back by the suction force.

“Not good!” Shang Xia’s heart sank. He pushed his extermination origins to their limit but he discovered that he wasn’t advancing. He still felt that he was being pulled back towards the Northern Sea Island.

There might not be any reference point where they were to verify his guess, but the feeling was strong enough.

“Northern Sea Mystic Sect, what the hell do you think you’re doing?! Do you really think my Triple Frost Palace will let you off... Ah!”

Many figures tried to struggle free, but they were being pulled towards the island no matter how hard they tried. They screamed and cursed, but before they could finish their threats, they lost control of their body and were dragged into the vortex.

Shang Xia sealed off the space around him with his Four Constellation Palm in order to resist the suction force of the vortex. However, he couldn’t even heave a sigh of relief when he discovered the entire region of sealed space was starting to move in the direction of the Northern Sea Island.

The second that happened, Shang Xia realized that he messed up. He had trapped himself!

He quickly raised his Abyssal Blade to shatter the seal around himself and after escaping, he sent a slash behind himself. The terrifying blade light started to freeze the space behind him to create a formless spatial barrier that prevented him from being sucked away.

The move he unleashed was Winter Origin, a move in his Winter Blade series.

With the suction force temporarily resisted, Shang Xia hastily ran in the opposite direction.

When he turned his head to take a look at the Northern Sea Island behind him, he saw several figures covered in extermination light spinning around in the vortex above the Northern Sea Island.

The Northern Sea Mystic Sect is crazy!

Shang Xia thought to himself.

The battle for Origin Dippers and fate dipper essences involved tons of experts from various powers whose strength were second only to Martial Dipper Realm candidates. In the future, they will probably reach that level.

Now, the Northern Sea Island planned to capture them all at once. Could they be ready to take on the wrath of all those factions themselves?

The thought barely flashed through Shang Xia’s mind when a sharp whistle came from the other direction.

Before he could turn to look, a loud thump and he managed to detect space crumbling everywhere around him.

Oh no!

Raising his head to observe what was happening, Shang Xia saw a silver light entering the void he froze. When it reappeared, it landed beside Chen Yuanzi who was staring at him with a look of mockery.

The massive suction force appeared once again, and it started to twist the space around him. Shang Xia started to move in the direction of the Northern Sea Island.

Instead of panicking, Shang Xia felt strangely calm. The distance between him and Chen Yuanzi was drawing closer and closer and Shang Xia's gaze was stuck to the silver shuttle that Chen Yuanzi was playing with.

Shang Xia growled, "Is the Northern Sea Mystic Sect planning to wage war against the various powers of both worlds?"

Remaining in his spot, Chen Yuanzi was waiting for Shang Xia to be pulled over. At the same time, he was enjoying the feeling of his opponent being dragged over to himself, powerless. He didn't even forget to explain to Shang Xia in the meantime, "We're just inviting them over to our island as guests. As long as they can prove they don't have any Origin Dippers or fate dipper essences on them, or if they hand them over to pay their toll, we'll definitely let them go. We might even give them rich rewards for their troubles."

A sneer left Shang Xia's lips. "What type of rewards can be worth a chance to enter the Martial Extermination Realm?"

"Treasures always belonged to the strong." Chen Yuanzi smiled.

Hearing his reply, a wide smile appeared on Shang Xia's face.

Chen Yuanzi didn't seem concerned at Shang Xia's reaction and he continued to laugh, "It's a shame you won't get such great treatment. Not only do I wish to obtain the fate dipper essence you have, but you're going to pay for your sins for delaying our journey to arrive at the source of the World's Will. Even the power behind you won't be able to get away. My Northern Sea Mystic Sect will definitely target them when we're done here. However..." He took a step forward after remaining motionless for so long. "... Before all of that, this old man is really curious. I wonder what you actually look like."

When the words left his lips, Chen Yuanzi reached out for Shang Xia's face.

"I got it!" Shang Xia yelled suddenly. The look of excitement on his face didn't reflect the situation he was in.

Chen Yuanzi was slightly taken aback by Shang Xia's lack of fear. His movements slowed for a second but he eventually released a bout of laughter, "There's no use for these little tricks. You're wasting your time."

"I believe the Eternal Sect and the Divine Capital Sect have already arrived, right?"

Shang Xia really surprised Chen Yuanzi with his sudden question.

Taking the chance, he followed up, "If the 3 of you didn't come to an agreement, you guys wouldn't dare to offend the other powers and try to restrain so many Martial Extermination Realm experts."

Snorting coldly, Chen Yuanzi responded, "So what if they have? This old man will let you in on the secret. Because of my suggestion, all 3 super islands came to an agreement. My Northern Sea Island

just moved a little earlier than them. Like we always say, you snooze, you lose. They can't blame us for acting a little faster."

"What a nice plan!" Shang Xia clapped and continued, "Since you did this, your sect will definitely receive more Origin Dippers and fate dipper essence than the rest. You can even use them to share the pressure of the rest of the factions. What a great move. I truly admire you guys for that..."

Seeing as Shang Xia was about to arrive in front of him, Chen Yuanzi mocked, "Don't bother trying to drag things out. I know that you're still hiding your strength. You might be able to withstand one of my strikes and drag me down to hell with you. It's a pity..."

The look on Shang Xia's face stiffened, but he quickly revealed another smile. "Have you thought about something? Even if the Divine Capital Sect and Eternal Sect arrive a little later, as long as all of us haven't entered your island, they'll still possess the qualifications to try to drag us over."

"Huh?" Realizing something was amiss, Chen Yuanzi didn't bother trying to look at Shang Xia's true appearance. Instead, he reached out and sent a full-powered strike at Shang Xia's face.

Roaring with laughter, Shang Xia's body which was stuck due to the suction force earlier moved. He pushed his arm outwards and met Chen Yuanzi's palm with one of his own.

Chen Yuanzi's expression changed. He retreated several steps back and the space beneath his feet shattered with every step he took.

Shang Xia, who found it difficult to get rid of the suction force earlier, managed to use the impact from their attacks to resist it for the time being.

At the same time, he sent a slash in the direction of the vortex above the Northern Sea Island. Even though it couldn't stop the force from sucking him towards it, he could weaken it slightly.

Realizing that he managed to obtain a small window to escape, he pushed his extermination origins to the limit as he ran in the other direction.

"Dream on!" Chen Yuanzi screamed as he tossed the silver shuttle in his hand in an attempt to send Shang Xia to hell.

Without even thinking, Shang Xia sent a slash over at the space beside him.

A sneer appeared on Chen Yuanzi's lips. His silver shuttle had the ability to fuse with the void. How could it be so easy for someone to hit it?

Unfortunately, the loud clang that rang in his ears the next second proved him wrong. The silver shuttle was forced out from the void and Chen Yuanzi felt his face heating up. Shang Xia's blow on his silver shuttle was like a sharp slap to his face.

With rage boiling in his heart, he couldn't even bother with how Shang Xia managed to strike his silver shuttle. He formed many seals with his hand and tried to lock Shang Xia down with his extermination origins.

“Martial intent!” Shang Xia’s expression changed when he realized what Chen Yuanzi was trying to do. He couldn’t be bothered with the suction force for the time being as he gripped his Abyssal Blade with both hands and pulled upwards.

No huge disturbance happened, and there was no heaven-shattering explosion. However, their exchange was completed in the next instant.

With several gurgling sounds, Shang Xia spat out a mouthful of blood. He was sent flying powerlessly through the air and he was quickly sucked over to the Northern Sea Island.

On the other side, Chen Yuanzi remained motionless. His hands were still stuck in the position of the last seal he made, but a thin line quickly appeared on his palm. They started to extend through his fingers, and eventually, the flesh around his wound started to break down. It was as though everything around it aged by dozens of years as his arm quickly withered. They resembled wilted tree branches.

Chapter 600: But Wait... There’s More

As the strongest faction in the Azure Spiritual World, the Northern Sea Mystic Sect totally had the ability to send 2 experts at the grand completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm to attempt to break through to the Martial Dipper Realm.

Like Zhui Fengzi, Chen Yuanzi was one of the candidates who was supposed to make the attempt.

Because of Shang Xia’s antics, the Northern Sea Island suffered huge losses and Chen Yuanzi lost his temper trying to locate him. In the end, he gave up the chance to break through.

That was the reason why a peak-tier expert like himself was in charge of snatching Origin Dippers and fate dipper essence that others might have obtained.

Of course, Chen Yuanzi only gave up his chance to break through using the Manyu Continent’s world origin. It didn’t mean that he would never be able to break through again.

On the contrary, his foundations, accumulations, contributions, and experience were of the highest level in the Northern Sea Mystic Sect. Even though he had given up his chance this time, he was still a very viable candidate to break through with the next opportunity.

Because of the bigger picture, Chen Yuanzi chose to give up the chance to break through. The Northern Sea Island also suffered huge losses and they needed a super expert like Chen Yuanzi to stabilize the situation.

After his experience, Chen Yuanzi’s foundations would become even more solid and he would be more prepared to charge into the Martial Dipper Realm in the future. It could be said that his chances of success if he tried to advance would greatly increase.

Unfortunately, with Shang Xia crippling both his palms, his dreams of ever advancing were destroyed.

It wasn’t scary if his palms were severed. It wasn’t as though there weren’t Martial Dipper Realm experts with handicaps. However, Shang Xia didn’t just cut his palms off. He damaged Chen Yuanzi’s source qi directly. The moment the source qi of an expert at the grand completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm was damaged, it was most likely irreversible. When that happened, their chances of entering the Martial Dipper Realm in the future were as good as gone.

After Chen Yuanzi's hands were severed, Shang Xia's Four Constellation Qi entered his wounds.

It wasn't as though Chen Yuanzi didn't try to resist the foreign extermination qi. He discovered that even if he roused all his strength, he couldn't do much! He would need a long time if he wished to expel them from his body.

During the entire process, the foreign extermination qi didn't stop corroding his body. The lower part of his arms was starting to wither as though they had been through the passage of time. It didn't take long before his arms looked like withered tree branches.

The rate of corrosion became worse as time passed. It extended up his arm and started to reach for his shoulders.

Helpless, Chen Yuanzi could only use his source qi in his dantian to try to force the foreign extermination qi out of this body. With its appearance, he quickly managed to suppress it. However, it also started to be damaged by Shang Xia's extermination qi.

Shang Xia's blade didn't just injure Chen Yuanzi. The despair it brought caused infinitely more damage to Chen Yuanzi than what it achieved physically.

With a single blade, Shang Xia's Four Constellation Samsara Divine Blade Art ate at his opponent's life force and severed his future!

The martial intent he comprehended didn't just allow him to release a tyrannical blade art. The blade intent it contained was extremely sinister and ferocious. If one had to grade his martial intent, it would be absolutely superior to most!

Shang Xia never thought that the strike he unleashed earlier severed all hopes of a grand completion stage Martial Extermination Realm expert breaking through to the Martial Dipper Realm.

Whatever the case, battles of that level originally meant that one person would die. Neither would show mercy to their opponent. Even if Shang Xia knew that he crippled Chen Yuanzi, it wouldn't really bother him. He would even lament that he failed to kill the other party with that strike earlier.

Despite that, in Shang Xia's current state, there was no time for him to be concerned for others at all. He was about to fall into his enemy's hands!

Chen Yuanzi was no weakling. Both of them unleashed their martial intents in their last exchange and Shang Xia wasn't really doing well either.

His blade art might have eliminated a huge amount of power from Chen Yuanzi's martial intent, but the rest of the power contained in the seal struck his body directly. He was injured to the point where he spat out several mouthfuls of blood.

His organs seemed to have rearranged themselves, and god knew how many bones were broken. Chen Yuanzi's seal even had the intention of lingering in his body to cause hidden damage.

If his target was anyone else, even someone at the grand completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm, another cripple would be created. In fact, they might suffer even heavier damages and die on the spot.

Unfortunately, his martial intent struck Shang Xia. His physique far surpassed cultivators of the same level because of the baptism of world origin and tempering of his extermination origins.

Even though Chen Yuanzi's seal caused him to suffer serious injuries, his dantian wasn't affected. The energy that planned to remain hidden in his body was quickly eliminated such that none remained.

It was unfortunate that Shang Xia had to fully focus on dealing with his internal injuries. He had no choice but to succumb to the suction force of the Northern Sea Island.

Even so, Shang Xia never gave up hope.

The chance he was looking for was the appearance of the other super islands!

His guess earlier was spot on. The Northern Sea Mystic Sect might be strong, but they weren't crazy enough to offend every other power out there. Unless the Eternal Sect and Divine Capital Sect agreed with their plan, they wouldn't have done what they did.

Since the other 2 superpowers joined the fray, they wouldn't allow the Northern Sea Island to grab every expert who might have Origin Dippers or fate dipper essence.

The reason Shang Xia had been struggling before was to buy himself as much time as possible. He was waiting for a change in the situation.

...

When Shang Xia was 300 miles away from the Northern Sea Island and despair was about to overwhelm him, 2 silhouettes appeared in the distance.

He discovered that the suction force coming from the Northern Sea Island was starting to weaken as different forces started dragging him in 2 different directions.

"My chance is here!" Shang Xia screamed inwardly. He remained alert the whole time and now that the 3 super islands were affecting each other, he managed to find a spot where the suction forces from each island canceled each other out.

Ignoring the consumption of his inner qi, Shang Xia used everything he had. He didn't care that he spat out another mouthful of blood due to his worsening injuries as he swung his blade at the intersection.

Resplendent rays of light emerged from the blade and shattered the space in the region. All the suction force on him was nullified completely and he finally managed to control his body.

There was no hesitation as he converted the energy he hadn't used in that blade strike to run. He couldn't be bothered with hiding his presence at the moment as he left behind a long streak of light as he ran away from all 3 islands.

The massive disturbance he caused naturally couldn't avoid detection. He might be hundreds, even thousands of miles away from either one of the islands, but he caught the attention of many.

Luckily, Shang Xia wasn't the only smart and resourceful one present. The appearance of the Eternal Island and Divine Capital Island allowed many experts to accurately grasp the chance to release all their life-saving methods. They took the opportunity to run from the 3 super islands.

Their actions provided some cover for Shang Xia, but those super islands were naturally unwilling to let those people escape. Without mentioning anything else, those who displayed such astounding

adaptability and quick reactions were most likely the ones who obtained an Origin Dipper or fate dipper essence.

The islands started to fine-tune their control over their vortexes as they directed it in different directions.

The Northern Sea Island who acted first directly withdrew their vortex and allowed the other 2 islands to capture the others.

From the time he started to escape from the Northern Sea Island to whatever situation he was in, Shang Xia maintained his divine perception at his limit. He could feel a splitting headache, but even so, he didn't dare to retract it in the slightest and let his guard down.

That was how he was able to weave his way through the suction force of the other islands and it wasn't an exaggeration to say that he was dancing on the edge of a knife at the moment. The slightest carelessness would cause him to plunge into the depths of hell.

As he got further and further away from the islands, his unique evasion method drew their attention. The experts who were struggling to escape also noticed what he was doing.

Who would have thought that despite being wholly focused on escaping, Shang Xia would feel a strange thumping in his glabella?

The Crimson Soul Tablet was reminding him that there might be an Origin Dipper or a strand of fate dipper essence nearby.

Why now?! Why the f...

"Argh!" One of the experts who had been resisting the suction force since the start was finally unable to hold on. He was dragged over by the Divine Capital Sect and captured.

As he was dragged over, he flew past Shang Xia who wasn't too far away.

With the distance between them drawing closer, Shang Xia could feel the thumping between his eyebrows getting stronger.

Shang Xia's gaze turned a little strange as he looked at the expert.

Clearly, the other party also discovered Shang Xia's presence and he screamed, "Fellow cultivator, please save me! I am Li Yuchen of the Zhenyang Sect of the Xi Continent! I will definitely reward you heavily if you assist me!"

Shang Xia decided to make his body as he released a Four Constellation Palm in Li Yuchen's direction.

It was also at that moment that the distance between the 2 of them drew the closest.

When Shang Xia reached his hand out, the other party tossed something out. Shang Xia felt something tightening around his wrist as though he was trapped by something.

Soon after, a massive suction force appeared. Before he could react, he felt the world spinning around him as they swapped places.

Li Yuchen was standing in Shang Xia's original position while Shang Xia appeared in the path of where the Divine Capital Sect was dragging Li Yuchen.

"Hah... Hahaha! Fellow cultivator, many thanks! Huh?! Wait, no! I was wrong! Please forgive me!" His laugh was cut short when he discovered a rope around his waist.

When the rope was pulled taut around him, Li Yuchen discovered that he couldn't circulate his inner qi any longer!

That was the Spirit Binding Rope!

Shang Xia, who was holding tightly onto the other end, glared at Li Yuchen who had a face full of shock. Yanking it violently, their positions swapped once again and Li Yuchen returned to his fate of being pulled over to the Divine Capital Island.

There were several items in Shang Xia's hand after he executed his maneuver. Before he could take a look at them, Li Yuchen who was flying towards the Divine Capital Island screamed, "Imperial Star Fate Dipper! That guy stole my Imperial Star Fate Dipper!"

"Asshole!" Shang Xia's expression changed immediately. He couldn't be bothered to look at whatever he obtained and he spat out a mouthful of blood before turning to run away.