

## The Heavens 601

### Chapter 601: Sacrifice

After failing his scheme against Shang Xia, he didn't forget to add the final touch and drag Shang Xia down along with him.

His screams of the 'Imperial Star Fate Dipper' caught the attention of everyone on the 3 super islands and they immediately turned to stare at Shang Xia.

Originally, Shang Xia was at the edge of the region those islands could exert their influence. He was flying as quickly as he could but the yell caused all of them to set their sights on Shang Xia once again.

He had already exhausted himself after everything he had been through. Seeing as they were about to descend on him again, he pressed his palm against his chest and spat out a mouthful of blood. The extermination light beneath his feet was dyed red and his speed increased by 50 percent.

What he used was originally a type of escape art commonly used by experts of the Azure Spiritual World. Because of the long history the institution had fighting with enemies of the Azure Spiritual World, they made certain progress in their research into secret arts like that.

Unfortunately for him, there were differences between cultivation methods of those in the Azure Origin World and Azure Spiritual World. If a cultivator from the Azure Spiritual World made use of the secret art, their speed would likely double for a short period of time!

Without waiting for Shang Xia to leave the range of suction, a vast pillar of light appeared from the side and went straight for Shang Xia.

Surprised by the sudden attack, Shang Xia changed direction and tried to escape.

Unfortunately, the light beam was clearly aimed at him. It followed Shang Xia as it continued to press closer.

Releasing a blade light at it, the person in the light beam didn't plan on avoiding it at all as it increased in speed while flying at Shang Xia.

With how close it was, Shang Xia was finally able to see the figure inside the light beam. It was Chen Yuanzi, whose palm had been cut in half!

Facing Shang Xia's blade light, Chen Yuanzi raised his half withered left arm allowing it to be cut away. Not much blood emerged from the wound and he didn't slow down as he charged at Shang Xia.

Chen Yuanzi's gaze was firm. He didn't seem to register the feeling of his left arm being cut off and he simply glared at Shang Xia as he got closer. Not a trace of emotions could be seen in his eyes and they resembled a pool of dead water.

Feeling his hair standing on end under Chen Yuanzi's gaze, Shang Xia obviously understood what he planned to do. With his hopes of entering the Martial Dipper Realm severed, Chen Yuanzi no longer had the will to live. He planned on dragging Shang Xia down along with him!

Unwilling to let Chen Yuanzi do as he wished, Shang Xia slashed at the man's waist. He wanted to see if Chen Yuanzi was crazy enough to not dodge it.

If he didn't, he would die a pointless death. He wouldn't be able to drag Shang Xia to hell with him. If he did, Shang Xia would be able to avoid Chen Yuanzi and find a way to escape.

Unfortunately, Chen Yuanzi made a choice that Shang Xia would never have expected.

Running straight at the blade light Shang Xia summoned, Chen Yuanzi moved his right shoulder. Under Shang Xia's shocked gaze, his right arm fell off his shoulder sockets.

He tossed the half-withered arm at Shang Xia's blade light, nullifying it eventually. He continued to charge at Shang Xia with both his arms missing.

Shang Xia was helpless and he could only slow down to make a turn. Risking entering the range of suction of the 3 super islands again, he had to avoid running straight into Chen Yuanzi.

However, Chen Yuanzi had already planned for that to happen. When Shang Xia passed several miles away from Chen Yuanzi, he could clearly see the look of mockery on the older expert's face.

Oh shit!

Shang Xia's heart sank and he recalled the scene where his blade light shattered Chen Yuanzi's arm a moment ago. It was too late as Chen Yuanzi pushed his extermination origins in his dantian to the limit. They started to show signs of going out of control and all of a sudden, his physical body exploded! A horrifying wave of energy started to spread outwards and a massive pillar of energy appeared where he once stood. The energy wave was so strong it twisted the space it passed through and caused Shang Xia to fly unsteadily to the side.

He only managed to stabilize himself after flying several miles out.

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Who would have thought that the powerful suction force would appear from the Northern Sea Island to trap him firmly in place after he finally stopped himself from flying away?

With Chen Yuanzi's actions, the Eternal Sect and Divine Capital Sect no longer bothered to fight the Northern Sea Mystic Sect for Shang Xia. Even if Shang Xia had a piece of Origin Dipper on him, they didn't bother trying to drag him over to their island.

That was because in order to obtain the Imperial Star Fate Dipper on the mysterious cultivator, the Northern Sea Mystic Sect sacrificed Chen Yuanzi, an expert at the grand completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm! He was also an expert who had more than enough qualifications to remain as a Martial Dipper Realm candidate, and from that alone, everyone could see how determined the Northern Sea Mystic Sect was to capture their target.

Moreover, Chen Yuanzi already told everyone else that the mysterious cultivator they were trying to capture was the culprit who caused great damage to the Northern Sea Island. He almost caused the island to tip over, and if that were to happen, the consequences would be unimaginable! Even if he handed over all his loot, he would never be released. In the eyes of the Northern Island Mystic Sect, the mysterious cultivator was going to die whether he liked it or not!

At the moment, Shang Xia had already lost all combat capabilities. He was dragged over to the Northern Sea Island, and it wouldn't take long before he was captured.

"Looks like I have no other choice but to use this..." Shang Xia muttered to himself as he rummaged about his clothes like he was finding something.

In the next instant, Shang Xia felt that something had changed and he raised his head violently to see the silhouette of another island appearing not too far away.

Due to the large distance between them, Shang Xia could only see that the island was much smaller than the 3 super islands nearby. He couldn't tell who they were exactly.

“Which island is that?! For it to appear here, isn't it afraid that it would be blown to bits by the 3 super islands?!” Shang Xia muttered to himself. Strangely enough, useless thoughts like that appeared in Shang Xia's mind when he noticed the appearance of the new island. His first thought wasn't to continue looking for his item.

The next moment, a giant vortex appeared above the island and was directed at Shang Xia.

A terrifying suction force landed on him and directly nullified the suction force from the Northern Sea Island.

“Oho? They are really daring alright. They dare to snatch food from right under the noses of the 3 super islands...” Shang Xia vaguely felt that the island that just appeared was overestimating themselves. However, he didn't hesitate and flew in their direction.

From the looks of it, Shang Xia was giving himself up.

Whatever the case, Shang Xia understood that he didn't have a choice. If he wished to run away from another direction, the Divine Capital Island and Eternal Island would probably capture him with their own vortexes.

Those islands were probably also hoping for Shang Xia to escape from the Northern Sea Island so that they had an excuse to get their hands on him.

Instead of being captured by any of the 3 super islands, Shang Xia felt that he would rather play along with the island that just appeared. If he got captured by them, he might be able to wave Kou Chongxue's name around to scare them or something...

The Northern Sea Island, which had been hell-bent on capturing the mysterious cultivator, never would have thought that a mid-sized island would appear and try to grab their target?! They were basically tired of living...

If not for the fact that the Northern Sea Island's vortex was also directed at other experts and they were further away from Shang Xia, the mid-sized island would never get the chance to cancel off their suction force.

By the time the Northern Sea Island reacted and directed even more power over, Shang Xia had already traveled hundreds of miles towards the mid-sized island.

The further he got, the weaker the force the Northern Sea Island could exert on him. Even though they increased the power in their vortex, it was easily nullified by the mid-sized island!

Facing such provocation, the Northern Sea Island started to move. They no longer bothered with the formation of the 3 super islands and they started to give chase.

As Shang Xia got closer and closer to the mid-sized island, he finally saw who they were. The island that had the guts to grab someone under the nose of the 3 super islands was none other than the power that backed him! The appearance of the Tongyou Island was eventually revealed in his eyes.

“Why would they dare to...”

Shang Xia finally understood what was happening. The Tongyou Island didn't just hide in the darkness. They also flipped themselves around in order to prevent anyone from seeing them as they approached the 3 super islands. That was also why Shang Xia didn't recognize them until he got so close.

Shang Xia might not know who they were earlier, but he made the right choice anyway by running to them. He might have used a different formula, but it seemed as though he reached the correct answer anyway.

The Northern Sea Island continued to close in on them, and Shang Xia's expression changed when he saw their imposing momentum as they made their way over.

He could tell that the Northern Sea Mystic Sect were completely enraged at the moment and they were going all in to hunt down Shang Xia.

“I need to return as quickly as possible! Only then will we be able to obtain as much time as possible to run away!: Shang Xia knew what he had to do. He might be completely exhausted, but he tried his best to maintain his speed. It was great that he could continue to fly and it was impossible for him to move any faster.

2 spots of light appeared above his head suddenly, and Shang Xia could see 2 streaks of light rapidly approaching.

The shadow of a whip appeared in the void and Shang Xia didn't hesitate to toss his Spirit Binding Rope over to meet it.

His rope linked with the whip in the void and a strong force pulled Shang Xia in the direction of the island.

The whip that appeared was Liu Qinglan's Nine Segmented Whip and another 2 strands of extermination origins appeared from another spot of the Tongyou Island. They wrapped around his waist and pulled him back at an even greater speed.

Those were Yun Jing's extermination origins!

A trace of excitement and gratitude appeared in Shang Xia's heart. Seeing as he was getting closer and closer to the 2 of them, Shang Xia couldn't help but yell, “This is too dangerous! The Northern Sea Island set its sights on us and we might be exposed because of this!”

“Shit up!” Liu Qinglan snapped at him immediately.

Contrary to Liu Qinglan's annoyance, Yun Jing chuckled, “So what if they do? They won't have time to care about us soon.”

Even though Shang Xia was slightly confused by her words, they were rapidly approaching the Tongyou Island. The suction force from the Northern Sea Island was no longer present but their presence alone placed the Tongyou Island in a supremely dangerous position.

#### Chapter 602: Empty Mountain

After returning to the Tongyou Island, Shang Xia didn't feel as relieved as he thought he would.

His instincts told him that the danger they would face wasn't gone. Now, the entire Tongyou Island might be in trouble.

"What are we going to do now?" It was Shang Xia's first time feeling powerless. He could only look at Yun Jing and Liu Qinglan for an idea of what to do.

Liu Qinglan still seemed angry at Shang Xia's reckless behavior and she grunted coldly without giving him an answer. She went back to her formation node and prepared to assist Chu Jia in controlling the grand formation.

Chuckling softly, Yun Jing tossed out a question while also returning to her formation node. "Do you remember the Great Observation Island's Space Connecting Light Cord?"

Shang Xia obviously couldn't forget what happened back then. The Great Observation Island activated their grand formation and moved the landmass that was more than 1000 miles through space in one mighty movement.

Skills of that scale were the reason why experts like Shang Xia, Li Yuchen, the golden masked cultivator, and the mirror wielding expert who possessed peak tier individual combat skills were unable to do a thing to those islands.

Back when Shang Xia witnessed the Space Connecting Light Cord, he asked Yun Jing and Shang Bo if their Tongyou Island possessed similar methods. Unfortunately, the 2 of them refused to tell him anything but from their reaction, he knew that they had it.

Hearing Yun Jing's question, Shang Xia replied anxiously, "Are we going to finally use our trump card?"

The smile on Yun Jing's face didn't fade. "Since our institution dared to fight for a piece of the pie on the Manyu Continent, we definitely have the confidence to do so. We're relying on our grand formation to unleash our ultimate move, Empty Mountain!"

"Empty Mountain?" Shang Xia couldn't understand what their ultimate skill could do from just the name itself.

However, Yun Jing didn't seem like she was planning to explain what it could do. Instead, she wanted him to see for himself.

Still angry with Shang Xia for risking both himself and the safety of the Tongyou Island, Liu Qinglan interrupted with a cold snort, "Ultimate skills like that require a huge amount of energy that we only managed to painstakingly acquire. We won't be able to use it more than twice. We were planning to use it to save ourselves in case anything happened during our return to the Azure Origin World. Because of you, we have to use it now! We even drew the ire of the Northern Sea Island... Did you expose what we did to them back then?"

A guilty expression hung on Shang Xia's face after hearing what she said. It was true that his actions had dragged the Tongyou Island down with him.

He didn't expect Yun Jing and the others to bring the Tongyou Island all the way over to save him either. He never would have expected them to risk revealing their identities to go against the Northern Sea Island.

Ever since Shang Xia returned to the Tongyou Island, the goal of the Northern Sea Island changed from capturing him to the complete destruction of the Tongyou Island. Only by doing so would they be able to wash away the humiliation they suffered. As the strongest faction in the Azure Spiritual World, they were played by the mysterious cultivator and Chen Yuanzi even had to sacrifice himself to protect the interests of the Northern Sea Mystic Sect.

Earlier, the Northern Sea Island directed at least 70 percent of the suction force from their vortex at Shang Xia in an attempt to capture him. Now, it was all aimed at the Tongyou Institution.

Luckily, the distance between the islands was increasing. The Northern Sea Island might be chasing after the Tongyou Island, but it wasn't as though the Tongyou Island was remaining stationary either. The grand formation on the Tongyou Island was resisting the other party's suction force and they wouldn't be able to catch up in the near future.

Liu Qinglan's tone shifted all of a sudden as the anger she felt started to dissipate. "Speak, damn brat, what the hell did you actually do? At the very least, you need to give the institution an explanation for this."

She seemed to be scolding him again, but she really meant well.

Because of his individual actions and decisions, Shang Xia dragged everyone down with him and affected the overall plans of the institution.

If he couldn't find a proper reason, he wouldn't be able to justify his actions. If that were to happen, there wouldn't be a need to mention his grandfather, Shang Bo. Even Yun Jing and the others would probably have to punish him.

Ever since he returned to the Tongyou Island, he had been circulating his Four Seasons Samsara Art to restore his inner qi as quickly as he could.

Fortunately for him, the grand formation managed to store a huge amount of world origin back then and they had a massive reserve. Shang Xia could quickly stabilize his injuries and blood returned to his face before long. He looked to be in a much better state.

After hearing what Liu Qinglan said, Shang Xia quickly brought out the items he stole from Li Yuchen. He was planning to reveal his gains before Liu Qinglan even brought it up but now that she did, he decided to quickly show off what he obtained.

Pointing at a jade case, Shang Xia muttered, "I opened it and peeked inside. There's a complete Imperial Star Fate Dipper contained within..."

"WHAT?!"

"You actually managed to obtain an Origin Dipper?!"

Liu Qinglan and Yun Jing yelled in unison.

Looking at each other, Yun Jing eventually made her way over to pick the case up. “I’ve been asking you what you saw before the Great Sun was extinguished, but you couldn’t give a proper answer. Alright, you should start talking now. What exactly happened back there? Why would the Eternal Sect, Divine Capital Sect, and Northern Sea Mystic Sect work together and try to capture everyone even if they had to risk offending dozens of factions?”

While he was recovering, Shang Xia explained what had happened and he also told them about the fate dipper essence he obtained.

When they heard that there were more than 10 strands of lights that emerged after the Great Sun was extinguished, Yun Jing and Liu Qinglan felt their eyes turning red with envy.

Shang Xia also had a feeling that they would bring the Tongyou Island over much earlier than they did if they knew what had happened.

“There’s actually so many of them!”

“It’s no wonder the 3 super islands would dare to do something like that...”

Yun Jing and Liu Qinglan finally understood why the 3 super islands would go to such lengths. They might be gratified that Shang Xia managed to obtain an Origin Dipper, but they still felt slightly regretful.

Shang Xia quickly added, “Anyway, from my estimations, there shouldn’t be more than 5 or 6 complete Origin Dippers. As for fate dipper essence, there should be ten or so strands. It’s not possible for there to be many more than that.”

Liu Qinglan twisted her wrists slightly and sighed, “It’s a pity our Tongyou Institution isn’t strong enough yet. We can only allow those 3 factions to do as they wish...”

“What we achieved is good enough. At the very least, the kid brought back a complete Origin Dipper. You can just keep the strands of fate dipper essence for yourself. However, you need to contribute this Origin Dipper to the institution to explain your actions to everybody... Whatever the case, we won’t take it for free either.” Yun Jing waved her hands casually and spoke.

Since the matter was concluded, Shang Xia quickly brought up another point. “Oh right, it’s not like those 3 super islands managed to capture everyone who obtained something. There might be a few who left after getting their hands on the treasures. There might also be some who managed to get away back then...”

Yun Jing nodded in response. “Hehe, if that is the case, what you obtained would be even more valuable.”

Liu Qinglan wanted to say something, but she started to hesitate before deciding to remain quiet.

Seeing the strange look on Liu Qinglan’s face, Yun Jing wanted to ask her about it when Chu Jia’s voice rang in all their minds. “The Northern Sea Island is about to catch up! Everyone, prepare to unleash Empty Mountain!”

Liu Qinglan and Yun Jing no longer conversed. Instead, they turned their full attention over to the grand formation as they made their adjustments to prepare to assist Chu Jia.

Other than circulating his Four Seasons Samsara Art to hasten his recovery, there was nothing much Shang Xia could do. He could only expand his divine perception to try to observe what was happening, but that was about it. After all, he was of no help in his current state.

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The expression of every single expert on the Northern Sea Island was solemn as they stared at the island that was growing closer and closer.

In order to capture a sneaky asshole from the Azure Origin World, they paid a huge price. In fact, it could be said that the price they had to pay was far too large!

Even though the culprit had been saved by the power backing him, the Northern Sea Mystic Sect managed to take the chance to see who they were.

The Tongyou Institution of the Azure Origin World!

The faction wasn't considered a holy land, but they were still pretty well known even in the Northern Sea Mystic Sect.

Well, that was in the past. Whatever reputation they had no longer mattered. In the eyes of the experts on the Northern Sea Island, the mid-sized island would have to be destroyed for them to seek justice for Chen Yuanzi who sacrificed himself.

When the distance between the islands was a mere 1000 miles or so, the protection formation on the Northern Sea Island started to activate. They were more than capable of launching an attack on the Tongyou Island from that distance.

Just as they charged up everything and were about to end their pursuit by destroying them completely, they discovered that the Tongyou Island was starting to fade into the darkness.

"This isn't good, they're trying to run away. Quick, do it!" An explosive roar came from the depths of the Northern Sea Island. The vortex above the island started to spin in reverse as a ray of frosty green light shot out from the middle. It went straight for the Tongyou Island that was starting to turn blurry. Everywhere the green light passed through, space froze completely.

By the time the streak of green light arrived at the Tongyou Island, whatever image of it was left shattered completely.

The ray of green light continued through the void for some time before finally, the Formation Grandmaster on the Northern Sea Island stopped supplying it with energy. The ray eventually dissipated in mid air.

"What's going on?! Why did they disappear?!"

"Did they enter the void with the protection of their grand formation? From the looks of it, their grand formation is pretty special..."

"We can't let them escape just like that! We have to find them!"

"Problem is, we don't know what they used to escape! We have no idea if they shifted through the void or are merely hiding in a pocket of space nearby. The whole island



might just be an illusion that is used to confuse us while the real island makes its escape.”

The experts on the Northern Sea Island started to discuss among themselves. Even though the consensus was that they couldn't allow the Tongyou Island to escape, they had no idea how to actually locate them in the near future.

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On the Tongyou Island...

The moment Chu Jia and the others executed Empty Mountain, Shang Xia could clearly tell that there seemed to be a strange film that covered the island.

As it formed around the island, all traces of the Tongyou Island started to disappear from their original position.

Even though the Tongyou Institution seemed to have disappeared from where they once were, Shang Xia could still clearly see the Northern Sea Island that was hot on their heels.

The pillar of green light appeared and pierced through the region where the Tongyou Island once was, and it definitely looked as though it punctured a hole through the island. He didn't expect that the island would remain completely unscathed as though it was nothing more than an illusion.

Chapter 603: Ultimate Scam Job

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The Tongyou Island was in a pretty strange spot at the moment. Those on the island could tell that they were in their original position, but because of the thin spatial film that covered them, they seemed to exist in a separate space.

After the attack from the Northern Sea Island missed, they lost all tracks of the Tongyou Island.

Despite not being struck by the green beam earlier, Shang Xia's back was drenched in cold sweat.

The attack from the Northern Sea Island was just too terrifying. The sight where it pierced through the Tongyou Island was also too realistic.

After losing the Tongyou Institution's tracks, the Northern Sea Island seemed to have entered a state of chaos. However, they continued to travel in the direction where the Tongyou Island was last seen.

Even though they knew that the experts on the Northern Sea Island wouldn't be able to detect their existence and would be unable to harm the Tongyou Island, everyone on the Tongyou Island couldn't help but feel their hearts in their throats as the giant island approached. Even Shang Xia was no exception.

The reason he was feeling as anxious as the rest wasn't just because he had lost more than 90 percent of his strength at the moment. It was because he could see the Northern Sea Island's foundations as they drew closer and closer. The strength of the number 1 power in the Azure Spiritual World was displayed in front of them at the moment.

The number of experts they had in the Martial Extermination Realm was at least twice that of the Tongyou Institution. Of them, not a single one was in the first layer of the Martial Extermination Realm. Those in the second layer numbered less than half of those on the Northern Sea Island and

almost all of them looked to be young experts who were sent out to gain experience. The others were all in the third layer of the Martial Extermination Realm and above.

Disregarding the sheer size of the Northern Sea Island for the time being, there was a huge number of core structures that had been preserved on the Northern Sea Island. They accepted a number of aboriginal experts and clans, and the range of their protection formation extended up to 1000 miles or so.

Every single earth vein that ran through the Northern Sea Island and key formation node was protected by an expert at the fourth layer Martial Extermination Realm and they maintained a strong control over the island.

Looking at the island, it was clear the Northern Sea Mystic Sect had already transformed it into a flying fortress.

If the islands actually smashed into each other, there was no question about it. Facing a monstrous existence like the Northern Sea Island, the Tongyou Island would be crushed. There was no doubt about it.

As the Northern Sea Island continued to close in on them, the experts on the Tongyou Island could see everything clearly on the other side. Despair filled their hearts.

All of a sudden, soft laughter rang through the Tongyou Island. Yun Jing chuckled, “Not bad, it’s not bad at all! Today, we’re witnessing the strength of the strongest faction of the Azure Spiritual World. If the 5 of us back then witnessed this, we might lose all motivation and not establish the Tongyou Institution at all!”

Her words caused smiles to appear on the faces of the experts on the Tongyou Island. The air of depression disappeared.

The Tongyou Institution had only been established for 20 years or so. How deep were the foundations of the Northern Sea Mystic Island? Did their history go back 800 years? 1000 Years?

Even with their history and strength, the Tongyou Institution which had only been around for 20 years or so had the guts to snatch the benefits that should belong to the Northern Sea Mystic Sect!

What would happen if another 20 years passed?! How strong would the Tongyou Institution be then?!

When everyone was still thinking of how far the Tongyou Institution had come, Chu Jia’s divine perception reached out and linked with Yun Jing, Shang Xia, and Liu Qinglan.

“Little Chu, what’s the matter?” Yun Jing knew that Chu Jia wouldn’t contact all of them for no reason.

Currently, the 3 of them were the strongest individuals on the island. With Chu Jia who had control of the grand formation, the 4 of them could make all the decisions on the island when Shang Bo was in seclusion.

Well, there was also Ren Bainian whose cultivation level was at the fourth layer of the Martial Extermination Realm, but because of his identity, he couldn’t take part in core decision-making.

Chu Jia’s voice came from inside the core region. “Teacher, the Northern Sea Island seems to be hovering around the area...”

“What?!” Liu Qinglan became serious. “Have they already discovered what we’re doing?”

“I don’t think they saw through what we did, but they probably have some guesses of their own.” Chu Jia replied.

Worry clouded Liu Qinglan’s heart and she wondered, “We can’t maintain our state for long. We’ll have to return back to the region of space soon...”

“Relax. They won’t stay for long. Don’t forget, the fragments of land are gathering towards the central region.” Yun Jing spoke up suddenly.

Liu Qinglan sighed, “I’m afraid we won’t be able to hold on until that happens...”

“Little Chu, how long can we maintain Empty Mountain for?” Yun Jing asked.

Another sigh came from Chu Jia. “I don’t think we can last for another hour.”

The few of them sank into silence after hearing what she said.

If the grand formation couldn’t maintain Empty Mountain, the Tongyou Island would immediately return to the region of space they were once in. When that happened, they would expose themselves to the nearby Northern Sea Island immediately.

A moment later, Yun Jing continued, “Little Chu, do you have any idea what we can do?”

“We could use the world origin contained in our grand formation.” Chu Jia responded.

“We cannot touch the world origin!” Yun Jing vetoed the decision immediately. “The world origin there determines the outcome of Shang Bo’s breakthrough. Any fluctuation will affect the process.”

The Tongyou Island definitely had excess world origin because of what Shang Xia pulled. However, they didn’t expect there to be so much of it and they didn’t store it separately.

All the world origin they stored was in the jade formation disc. They were meant to supply Shang Bo for his breakthrough to the Martial Dipper Realm. Before he was done, no one would know how much excess world origin they possessed. As such, Yun Jing wouldn’t allow them to use any of it.

Seeing as the time they could maintain Empty Mountain was growing shorter and shorter, and the Northern Sea Island was still hovering around the area, no one knew what to do.

Only after some time did Shang Xia speak up to break the silence. “This... Can we use fate dipper fragments to prolong the time we have left?”

“You have more fate dipper fragment shards?!” Chu Jia asked, and it seemed like she had been waiting for that moment.

“Are you planning to use the fate dipper fragment?” Yun Jing knew that Shang Xia had a piece of complete fate dipper fragment on him. At the same time, she also knew that he could use it to nurture a complete Origin Dipper. Moreover, the fate

dipper fragment belonged to Shang Xia and he only managed to obtain it after risking his life back on the Manyu Continent.

“Um...” Shang Xia pretty much realized that those 2 of them were acting out a show for him but he couldn't be bothered at the moment. He searched around his sleeves for quite some time before taking out the jade fragment shards he just obtained from the golden masked cultivator. “Even though these didn't come from a fate dipper fragment, it's pretty similar to one. It contains a huge amount of world origin and you can see if it's suitable to maintain the formation...”

Shang Xia tossed them into the air and they were quickly intercepted by the grand formation as they made their way to the core region where Chu Jia was.

It didn't take long before a joyful scream came from the core region. “We can use these! Even though it's not as pure as the shards from a fate dipper fragment, these shards are massive. We can replace quality with quantity. After all, the operation of the grand formation doesn't require such pure world origin.”

However, Chu Jia continued her explanation before Yun Jing and the others could rejoice. “However, we can only maintain Empty Mountain for 2 hours or so. This has nothing to do with the amount of world origin we have. It's a limitation of the secret art itself. When we exit our current state, we'll still be left with a lot of these shards.”

Shang Xia felt his heart leaping back into his throat after hearing that they wouldn't be able to keep their ultimate move up for long. However, Liu Qinglan smiled and replied in everybody's stead, “That should be enough. According to our initial estimates, the land fragments will start to gather here in an hour. Even if the Northern Sea Island refuses to leave, we'll be able to use the cover of the other land fragments to escape!”

A smile also appeared on Yun Jing's face as she nodded slowly.

Finally, Shang Xia could heave a sigh of relief.

With all the explanations done, Chu Jia's voice rang in their minds again. “It's a pity the rest of the shards won't allow us to unleash Empty Mountain another time. Even though we might be able to get away from the Northern Sea Island, we won't know if we'll run into other dangers in the future. We can only hope that Deputy Patriarch Shang is successful in his breakthrough.”

“We can't hope for too much. Our luck has been great up till this point and we can only pray it continues...” Yun Jing responded with a chuckle.

“That might be the case, but it's never bad to have an extra layer of protection. We're at the final stage of our operation right now and we can only hope that no accidents will happen on our way back.” Chu Jia reminded everyone again.

Hearing what she said, Shang Xia pinched the space between his eyebrows and muttered, “Actually, I still have another piece of jade like that. It's even bigger than everything I passed you, however...”

“Where?!” Chu Jia snapped impatiently. “Wow, I didn’t think that you sneaky fellow would still be hiding treasures from us!”

“This...” Shang Xia brought out the jade fragment that contained a strand of fate dipper essence before explaining, “It’s currently used to store a strand of fate dipper essence...”

“Are you dumb? The jade fragment isn’t pure enough and will probably shatter after some time! You might as well place your fate dipper essence into the formation disc for safekeeping and give me the jade fragment to power the grand formation!” Chu Jia yelled at him the very next instant.

“Um...” Hesitating slightly, Shang Xia asked, “Didn’t we say that we can’t disturb the world origin in the formation disc?”

“How much of a disturbance can a single strand of fate dipper essence cause?” Chu Jia replied.

It made sense after Shang Xia thought about it for a moment. After all, the world origin in the formation disc was much purer than that in the jade fragment. It would do a much better job at containing the strand of fate dipper essence.

Letting go of the jade that was at least twice as big as the shards Shang Xia gave her, it flew towards the core region.

A moment later, Chu Jia yelled excitedly, “Great! With the energy in this piece of jade, we can use Empty Mountain again!”

Hearing how enthusiastic she sounded, Shang Xia couldn’t help but ask, “Even though I willingly gave you all those shards and fragments, why do I feel like this is a scam job?”

“Heh, if I were you, I wouldn’t sweat the small stuff. Why bother yourself with these messy matters? You should take the time and restore your combat strength!” A sinister chuckle came from Chu Jia once again.

#### Chapter 604: Fragmented Earth

Shang Xia was rendered completely speechless by what she said. She wasn’t even denying it!

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Realistically speaking, they only had an hour or so to remain in their state of concealment. How much combat strength could Shang Xia recover in that short amount of time?

Well, like Chu Jia had said, he shouldn’t be worrying about the small stuff. He felt that he should just shut up obediently and focus on cultivation. He closed his eyes and started to circulate his inner qi.

“It’s here!” Liu Qinglan’s yell brought him back to reality.

With his eyes snapping open, Shang Xia stared out into the vast space and noticed several spots of light appearing. The specks of lights grew more numerous as time passed and they started to grow larger and larger. Silhouettes of different sizes quickly appeared in the distance.

“This...” Shang Xia stared at the fragments in shock. From the looks of it, they were accelerating and getting clearer and clearer. Even though he knew that it was happening, he couldn’t help but gasp in shock.

“These are the fragments we passed by back then. Now that the Great Sun is gone, they will start to gather again to become a celestial body that remains in space...” Yun Jing muttered.

Even though Shang Xia already understood what would happen, seeing it for himself was another matter altogether. He felt a churning feeling in his heart.

“There are a huge amount of mortals living on those fragments. Eventually, their life will continue on the reconstituted celestial body. Unless a massive change happens, their route of cultivation will end. Perhaps, only legends of it will remain in time...” Yun Jing sighed.

By the time the words left her lips, the number of fragments grew even more numerous as they closed in on where the Tongyou Island was.

“The Northern Sea Island is moving!” Chu Jia reminded them suddenly.

Everyone peeled their eyes away from the majestic sight of the land fragments gathering and stared in the direction of the Northern Sea Island.

If the Tongyou Institution could see the approaching land fragments, there was no way the Northern Sea Island would miss them. The only reason the Northern Sea Island only started to move then was probably because of discussions that were happening in their core region.

“How long can we maintain Empty Mountain for?” Yun Jing asked.

“Less than the time it takes to burn a stick of incense!” Chu Jia replied in a state of panic.

Even though they had the shards Shang Xia provided to sustain their ultimate move, the limit of how long it could be maintained was about to arrive. It was something they couldn’t extend with world origin and they would be forced out of their state of concealment once it ended.

“Prepare for battle with the Northern Sea Island. At the very least, our situation would be much better with the cover of all the land fragments. We’ll have to pass through them again...” Yun Jing growled.

Shang Xia quickly whispered to Liu Qinglan, “By the way, what does Deputy Patriarch Yun mean by that?”

“After we passed through the region filled with land fragments back then to arrive in the central region where the Great Sun was located, we lost contact with the Beyond

Heavens Pavilion. In order to contact Patriarch Kou and Deputy Patriarch Ji, we will have to pass through the region of land fragments and withstand the damage we're about to sustain!" Liu Qinglan explained.

Shang Xia suddenly thought of something. "Wait! Aren't there many survivors from the Manyu Continent on those land fragments?"

Falling silent, Liu Qinglan knew what he was implying. However, she could only shake her head and sigh, "We can't do anything about it..."

Seeing as the fragments were getting closer and closer, no one knew what Shang Xia was thinking.

The Northern Sea Island started to accelerate rapidly all of a sudden as they got ready to enter the region filled with landmasses by the time their conversation concluded.

:The Northern Sea Island is a thousand miles away! The belt of broken land fragments is 2000 miles away from us!" Chu Jia's cries rang in their minds once again.

"Wait a little more!" Yun Jing sounded exceptionally calm as she replied.

"Teacher, we can't wait anymore! Otherwise, we won't have time to reactivate the protection formation around the Tongyou Island!" Chu Jia panicked.

Having heard what she said, Yun Jing seemed to have already expected as much. She replied calmly, "There's nothing to worry about. It's not like we have a lot of people on our island anyway."

"So this is the reason we didn't want to accept too many aboriginals of the Manyu Continent! In situations like this, we can't ensure their safety." Shang Xia muttered to himself and finally understood the institution's decision to establish themselves on the outskirts of the Manyu Continent. He also realized why they didn't accept more mortals back then.

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One had to know that the number of people in the You Continent was small to begin with. After the collisions of their worlds, a great portion of the people who survived scattered all over the Azure Origin World.

Ever since the establishment of the Tongyou Institution, they called back the original inhabitants of the You Continent to return, but the effects weren't great. Moreover, there had been people attempting to destroy the Tongyou Institution in recent years in order to split the resources of the You Continent among themselves.

From what Shang Xia knew, there was a reason behind the existence of every single continent on the Azure Origin World. It directly affected the allocation of the World's Will and world origin.

During the war of the Tongyou Mysterious World, Shang Xia finally understood what was going on. Back then, Ancestor Hua Lu of the White Deer Paradise sent a fate dipper clone over to the You Continent. Because of Kou Chongxue's sudden appearance, they suffered a double whammy where they lost the war and Hua Lu's fate dipper.

After that, Kou Chongxue entered the White Deer Paradise with his true body to wreak havoc. That was the reason the other continents became wary of Kou Chongxue again and started to restrain themselves.

Back in the Beyond Heavens Pavilion, Kou Chongxue also revealed some secrets that allowed him to understand the situation a little clearer.

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Whatever the case, after hearing that they were going to have to pass through the region of broken landmasses again, Shang Xia didn't know how much of the Tongyou Island would be left.

“Quick! Take a look at that! The Northern Sea Island charged into it!” Liu Qinglan yelled.

Actually, there was no need for her to do so. After all, everyone was staring in the direction of the Northern Sea Island anyway.

A thousand or so miles away, when the Northern Sea Island was about to rush into the region of broken land fragments, a giant protection screen appeared above their island. Soon after, it transformed into a massive ice wall that shielded them.

The land fragments in their way couldn't even come into contact with the island. By the time they slammed into the ice barrier, there were only 2 fates waiting for them. The first was to crumble entirely and the second was to shift their trajectory away from the Northern Sea Island.

Under the constant bombardment, the majestic Northern Sea Island wouldn't be able to hold on for long anyway. There were land fragments that weren't much smaller than floating islands like the Tongyou Island flying at the Northern Sea Island and their ice wall started to show signs of weakness. Holes and cracks started to appear in it and it looked as though it was about to crumble.

When everyone was still staring at the Northern Sea Island, Chu Jia's warning rang through the island.

“Everyone, watch out! We're about to return to the original space!”

Shang Xia noticed the spatial film that covered the Tongyou Island turning more and more transparent after she spoke. It seemed like it would pop the next moment.

The island started to reappear in its original position as its silhouette became more and more solid. Eventually, the massive floating island materialized fully.

The protection barrier around the core region of the Tongyou Island quickly reformed itself before extending outwards.

Perhaps it was because of the shards Shang Xia provided, but the amount of world origin that powered the formation seemed to increase as the maximum range of the protection barrier would extend 1000 miles around the core region.

More than half the Tongyou Island would be shrouded by the protection barrier at that point!

Chapter 605: To the Rescue

The range of their protection barrier reached a new limit. However, while it was extending, Chu Jia's panicked cry rang in their ears. “Oh no! The Northern Sea Island is attacking us!”



The experts on the Tongyou Island might have guessed that that would happen when they reappeared, but their hearts still sank after hearing what she said.

Shang Xia looked in the direction of the Northern Sea Island and could see a dark green mass of frosty qi emerging from their protection formation. With a speed that was faster than which those land masses were moving, it flew at the Tongyou Island that just emerged from its hidden state.

“How long will it take before we can use Empty Mountain again?!” Yun Jing asked with a trace of chill in her voice.

“We need an hour at least...” Chu Jia replied.

There was no way they would make it in time if they needed an hour. The mass of frosty qi was approaching rapidly and it would cross the distance of a thousand or so miles in several breaths of time.

“Can we evade it?” Yun Jing asked once again. This time, she sounded extremely calm and emotionless.

“We can’t, there’s no time!” Chu Jia replied instinctively.

After emerging from Empty Mountain, the island was completely still. It was impossible for them to move so quickly in such a short period of time.

“Stop expanding the protection barrier!” Yun Jing ordered.

Chu Jia was shocked by the sudden instruction. Actually, everyone on the island didn’t understand why Yun Jing would make such a decision.

“Just do it!” Yun Jing’s voice was frosty and despite not being able to see her expression, everyone could pretty much picture it in their minds.

The protection formation that was extending outwards froze and maintained itself with a range of 700 miles from the core region.

The mass of cold qi that came from the Northern Sea Island rapidly approached and it was a mere 200 miles away from the Tongyou Island at the moment. Even if the Tongyou Island could withstand the blow from the mass of cold qi, they would lose their defenses completely and be helpless against the land fragments that were coming their way.

“Abandon the third, fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh region!” Yun Jing’s new orders shocked those on the island.

Back when they established the Tongyou Stronghold on the Manyu Continent, they split the territory into the inner, middle, and outer sectors according to the reach of the earth veins underground.

After the initial classification, they further split the area up into smaller regions. Other than the 500 miles of the core region that was regarded as the inner sector, the rest were further divided. The middle sector which consisted of another 500 miles around the inner sector was split into the Eastern, Western, Southern, and Northern regions while everything else outside was numbered from the first to the eighth region.

With a single order from Yun Jing, the Tongyou Island would give up 5 of the 8 outer regions! That would mean that they had forsaken close to a quarter of the Tongyou Island!

“Teacher...” Chu Jia sounded really reluctant to do so but she was quickly interrupted by Yun Jing.

“Hurry up!”

After hearing how calmly she gave the order, Shang Xia wondered if there had already been a plan for that in case things went south.

With the strict order from Yun Jing, everyone did as instructed. The Tongyou Island quaked and a loud blast rang in their minds as the 5 regions started to separate from the island.

From the very beginning when the Tongyou Island first separated from the Manyu Continent, they were more than 1800 miles in diameter. The island was pretty round, and if one ignored the imperfections, they could call it a nice circular island.

After everything they went through, the Tongyou Island shrank to around 1700 miles in diameter when they arrived at the source of the World’s Will.

Now that they had to give up 5 of the 8 outer regions, they lost nearly a quarter of their land! The shape of the Tongyou Island also became really irregular.

“Push them out!” Yun Jing ordered.

Even without her order, Chu Jia knew what she had to do. She controlled the 5 regions that had split off to smash against the incoming mass of cold qi.

By the time they acted, the mass of cold qi was only a hundred or so miles away. The chunks of land that were separated from the Tongyou Island were directed at it.

The first chunk quickly slammed into it and was swallowed easily. Other than slowing down the mass of cold qi, it didn’t do much as it froze over instantly.

Soon after, the second chunk of land smashed into it. Layers of frost appeared on their surface as the second chunk of land turned into an ice sculpture that remained hovering in mid air.

With 2 frozen chunks floating around, the third crashed into them, causing a massive shockwave to sweep through the area. The collision crushed all 3 chunks but also eliminated the mass of cold qi.

The final 2 land masses pushed their way into the sea of debris as they forcefully carved out a path that was hundreds of miles long.

“We will have to rely on ourselves to deal with those shards!” Yun Jing’s voice rang in the minds of every cultivator on the Tongyou Island, including Ren Bainian’s clansmen.

It didn’t take long before a rain of shattered debris started to rain down on the Tongyou Island, swallowing them completely.

Using the time they bought with the final 2 chunks of land, the protection formation managed to extend around the inner and middle sectors of the island.

Since it was pushed to its maximum range, the strength of the protection barrier was naturally affected.

The experts who were stationed at their respective formation nodes started to make their move as they tried their best to shatter whatever fragments before they could crash into the protection barrier.

Due to his exhaustion, Shang Xia was unable to do anything. He could only close his eyes to circulate his inner qi in an attempt to recover as much as he could. As the saying goes, what you can't see can't affect you. Since he couldn't see what was happening outside the protection barrier, he didn't let it affect him.

Despite their best efforts, there were still countless pieces of land crashing into their protection formation. Ripples appeared all around.

If the barrier was experiencing such damage, one could only imagine what was happening outside.

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Other fragments of what used to be the Manyu Continent were also approaching and no one knew how long it would take before they would pass through it. As time slowly passed, Shang Xia could feel that the protection barrier was starting to shrink. From its initial maximum range of 1000 miles, it withdrew to a range of 800 miles or so.

At the same time, the Tongyou Island started to rotate itself. The final 3 outer regions pointed in the direction where the land fragments were coming and greatly reduced the pressure on the inner and middle sectors of the island.

Shang Xia, who had been circulating his inner qi for some time, finally recovered a small portion of his fighting strength.

He heard a miserable cry somewhere above him. And he gasped in fright. He thought that the core region had already been compromised by the constant bombardment of land fragments.

Hastily extending his divine perception outwards, he discovered a frightening scene.

A giant land mass crashed into the protection barrier and was smashed to bits. Huge pieces of debris were thrown all over the place, but there were many corpses mixed into the destruction.

Those seemed to be the lucky survivors of the Manyu Continent and the lucky survivors were screaming as they tumbled through the air. A huge portion of them had already died during the impact, but as the landmass was broken into smaller chunks, the survivors continued on their way to the central region where the Manyu Continent would reform.

Because of the collision, a group of mortals died instantly from the impact. There were several lucky ones who landed on the Tongyou Island, outside the range of the protection formation. Unfortunately, they wouldn't be able to live for long if they remained outside.

There were even a few of them who leaped off their landmass before the collision. It was their last chance of survival and some of them landed on the Tongyou Island and managed to live.

Those lucky members of the Manyu Continent who arrived on the Tongyou Island had no idea the remaining land fragments of the Manyu Continent would reform into another celestial body where they would continue to live on and reproduce. Of course, there would be an unknown number of casualties along the process...

Observing everything that was happening, Shang Xia noticed members of the Ren Clan rushing over to the border of the protection formation as they tried to save the survivors who managed to make it onto the Tongyou Island.

It was obvious Shang Xia truly approved of their actions.

Ren Bainian didn't remain idle either. He led the Martial Intent Realm cultivators of his clan to protect the region near the edge of the protection barrier to prevent it from being damaged.

After a short moment of contemplation, Shang Xia made a gesture as the Auspicious Cloud Cape shot out from behind him. It flew across the outer sector as it grabbed any survivor it could.

The Tongyou Island was maneuvering through the giant land fragments with much difficulty and Shang Xia didn't hesitate to slow down his speed of recovery to save as many survivors of the Manyu Continent as he could. As the Auspicious Cloud Cape flew across the land, it managed to save close to 40 lucky survivors of the Manyu Continent.

With those saved by the members of the Ren Clan, there were more than 100 new faces on the Tongyou Island.

Breaking down the people who managed to live, those who were saved by the Ren Clan close to the edge of the protection barrier were mostly cultivators. Those who were picked up by Shang Xia around the outer sector were mostly mortals.

After settling everyone in the protection barrier, Shang Xia noticed that the number of fragments was starting to decrease. The burden on the protection barrier was no longer as heavy as before.

It seemed as though it was finally about to end! They were finally going to leave what was considered the Manyu Continent!

#### Chapter 606: Betrayal

Even though Yun Jing had already instructed Chu Jia to turn the Tongyou Island in such a way that the remaining parts of the outer sector would bear the brunt of the blow from the incoming fragments, the rest of the island also suffered a lot of damage. Craters could be seen everywhere.

Fortunately, despite the constant shrinking of the protection barrier, it managed to hold steady. The core region was well protected.

If someone were to look at the Tongyou Island from above, they would see that the inner and middle sectors were mostly unaffected. Of course, the same couldn't be said for the 3 remaining regions of the outer sector. A good half of them had already disappeared.

Since the number of land fragments coming their way was starting to decrease, the experts on the Tongyou Island finally had some respite.

Seeing as they were about to enter another region of space, Yun Jing's voice rang in the ears of everyone present. "Everyone, do not be careless. This is the time most people would relax and let their guard down. It is also the most likely time we would suffer an attack."

Even though many experts on the Tongyou Island had reached their limits, they couldn't help but put their guards up after Yun Jing's reminder. None of them dared to completely relax and circulate their inner qi to recover.

Yun Jing's voice rang in Chu Jia's mind next. "Little Chu, how long till we can use Empty Mountain again?"

"We'll be able to use it soon. In less than the time it takes to burn a stick of incense, we will be able to unleash Empty Mountain." Chu Jia's reply came.

"That's great." Yun Jing replied. "Reduce speed immediately! Slow down and extend the time we need to leave this region!"

Chu Jia followed her instructions and the Tongyou Island that had its size reduced by nearly a third started to slow down.

Next, Yun Jing gave her orders to everyone else on the island about their current situation and told them to make full use of the time to recover in order to deal with any threats that would arrive.

As Shang Xia circulated his inner qi, he also tried to communicate with the Crimson Soul Tablet.

He had a sudden realization that the Crimson Soul Tablet swallowed an ungodly amount of world origin back then. If he could make use of a small portion of it, he might be able to recover a lot quicker.

Unfortunately, he was bound to be disappointed as the Crimson Soul Tablet refused to respond to his attempts at communication.

In a fit of exasperation, Shang Xia grumbled, "Damn it! You swallowed so much world origin back then and I even fed you a rank five advancement formula! I don't see an improved formula anywhere! You won't even give me a little world origin... You stingy bastard!"

The Crimson Soul Tablet thumped twice in his sea of consciousness after receiving the scolding and Shang Xia pinched his glabella while he continued, "What's the matter?! Am I wrong?! Are you angry with me? You took in so much world origin and I don't see you restoring yourself anyway. It's not like giving me a little right now will affect much..."

The tablet thumped twice again after what he said and Shang Xia realized that he was mistaken. "Shit! Something is wrong!"

It wasn't responding to his scolding. Instead, it seemed to be resonating with world origin nearby!

Shang Xia's heart sped up and he seemed to have thought of something. He yelled to remind the rest, "Be careful! There might be another island approaching!"

His reminder was like law at the moment. Ever since he accurately 'predicted' the destruction of the Manyu Continent and the end of the Great Sun, Yun Jing and the rest no longer doubted him.

"Which direction?!" Yun Jing asked.

Feeling the faint response of the Crimson Soul Tablet, Shang Xia eventually pointed under the island.

Not only was that the blind spot of the Tongyou Island, but it was also the best spot to launch an attack. Not only would they be able to use the Tongyou Island as a shield against whatever might come. They would also be able to launch a very effective sneak attack!

The only question was how in the world the other island managed to grasp the Tongyou Island's weakness and attack them from below?

"It's the Changbai Sect!" Chu Jia gnashed her teeth and cleared everyone's doubt.

Even with Shang Xia's advance warning, the Tongyou Island was in a state of weakness at the moment. Yun Jing quickly gave the order to send the island backwards as they made a slow retreat.

As the Tongyou Island made its adjustments in mid air, the final 3 regions in the outer sector that were close to destruction became useful once again. Chu Jia pointed them in the direction where the Changbai Island might appear.

Despite the Tongyou Island's reaction, Shang Xia didn't feel the thumping stop. Instead, it became even more urgent.

Shang Xia turned serious as he reminded, "They can still locate us! They're also getting closer!"

Chu Jia snorted coldly, "It's something we expected. After all... Huh?"

Yun Jing remained calm and said, "It's fine. Ren Bainian has already brought everyone in the Martial Extremity Realm and above from his clan and those we just saved to the rest of the formation nodes. They will be able to provide some help..."

Liu Qinglan interrupted, "You don't seem bothered that an outsider is doing this for us?"

"If he doesn't wish to be exiled into space, he should know what to do." Yun Jing growled.

After Ren Bainian and everyone else took their place, Shang Xia could feel the operation of the grand formation becoming a lot smoother. However, it didn't take long before he heard Yun Jing's question again. "Little Chu, how is it? Can you still hold on?"

Chuckling in a slightly hoarse voice, Chu Jia replied, "Teacher, ?relax. I'm fine."

Only then did Shang Xia remember that Chu Jia was the only Formation Grandmaster in the Tongyou Institution. She had been controlling the grand formation since the start. Even with the assistance of many Martial Extermination Realm experts at the various formation nodes, all they could do was pour their energy into the grand formation. She had to be the one to actively control the grand formation.

Chu Jia, who stepped into the Martial Extermination Realm a few months before Shang Xia, and might or might not have entered the second layer of the Martial Extermination Realm yet, had been controlling the grand formation since the very beginning. Perhaps, she was the person with the greatest contribution on the Tongyou Island. At the same time, she was also the most exhausted individual as she couldn't rest like the others.

A soft sigh escaped Yun Jing's lips. "It's been hard on you since we don't have any other Formation Grandmasters to provide assistance..."

After hearing their conversation, Shang Xia had a strange feeling he couldn't quite explain. Yun Jing didn't seem panicked or surprised by the possibility of an attack by the Changbai Island.

He couldn't help but wonder how much preparations the Tongyou Institution made in order to deal with the issues that might happen during their expedition to the Manyu Continent.

As thoughts ran through his head, he was interrupted by Liu Qinglan's yell. "They're here!"

In the vast space after passing through the belt of land fragments, a frozen path extended over and an island could be seen sliding on it. It didn't stop until it was a mere hundred miles away from the Tongyou Island.

The distance of a hundred miles was enough for the Martial Extermination Realm experts to launch attacks against each other with the help of their island's grand formation.

In a situation like that, if a faction was caught off guard and allowed their opponents to get within a hundred-mile range, even the super islands that belonged to the Divine Capital Sect, Eternal Sect, or the Northern Sea Mystic Sect would be forced into a completely passive state.

The Ice Passage that allowed the Changbai Sect to rapidly appear beside the Tongyou Island might have faded away, but the Changbai Island was still rapidly approaching.

Both islands just passed through the belt of land fragments and the Changbai Island was naturally unable to escape unscathed. They suffered serious damage, but the size of their island seemed a lot more well-preserved than the Tongyou Island. They had a much larger area left.

"Fellow cultivators of the Changbai Sect, are you planning to go against the alliance our Ancestors made?" Yun Jing asked and her voice was projected through space with the help of the grand formation. It rang through the Changbai Island which was a hundred miles away.

"Bandits of the Azure Origin World, hand over our Nine Blossom Jade Formation Disc immediately! That's a treasure that belongs to our Changbai Sect!" Pan Yunbi's voice also made its way onto the Tongyou Island.

At that very moment, Shang Xia realized why the Changbai Sect was able to accurately locate their position.

"Nine Blossom Jade Formation Disc? Is that the sacred object that was rumored to be stolen back then?" Shang Xia muttered to himself. To be classified as a sacred object, it had to be a rank five treasure at the very least. It was comparable to a divine weapon and it was no wonder the experts of the Azure Spiritual World were willing to take the risk to cross over to the Azure Origin World to locate it.

Back then, Shang Xia also heard from the experts of the Azure Spiritual World that the person who stole the sacred object was an expert called 'Yu Cangze'. They even suspected that the person was a spy sent by the Tongyou Institution.

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The more he thought about it, the more Shang Xia felt that 'Yu Cangze' was the sneaky asshole he knew as Youshang. Oh wait a second. That annoying guy was called 'Huang Yu' now and he was supposed to be an expert from the Spirit Abundance World.

“What Nine Blossom Jade Formation Disc are you talking about? We have no idea what that is. Hmph, a great sect like yours can’t go about blaming everyone however you like!” Yun Jing replied.

Pan Yunbi’s angry voice rang through the Tongyou Island again. “What’s the matter? You had the guts to steal our treasure. Why aren’t you admitting it now?!”

“What evidence do you have that we stole it?” Yun Jing continued.

Pan Yunbi wanted to continue arguing, but she was quickly interrupted by another voice. “Enough! Can’t you see that Deputy Patriarch Yun is merely stalling for time?”

“Heh!” Yun Jing’s voice rang through the Changbai Island the next moment. “Looks like you got me. So what about it? Are you planning to go down with us now that you came all the way here?”

“Going down with you guys?! Do you think your Tongyou Island has the qualifications to do so?” Pan Yunbi couldn’t help but yell.

The voice that interrupted Pan Yunbi earlier came again. “Deputy Patriarch Yun, there’s no need to beat about the bush. Hand over half the world origin on your island and we’ll forget the matter about the Nine Blossom Jade Formation Disc. Otherwise, I believe you can tell what the current situation entails for you. Even though I wouldn’t dare to go all out and risk destroying both islands, we’re more than capable of causing you guys to suffer a huge loss without putting ourselves at risk.”

As soon as he spoke, the Changbai Island continued to press closer. Their grand formation was activated and they awaited Li Yunchao’s order to launch a fierce offensive on the Tongyou Island.

Chu Jia’s weary voice rang in the minds of Yun Jing and the rest at that critical moment. “We’re ready to use Empty Mountain again.”

Who would have thought that Yun Jing would respond confidently, “There’s no need for that!”

Turning to the Changbai Island, Yun Jing yelled, “All of us obtained the world origin of the Manyu Continent with our own abilities. If your Changbai Sect isn’t competent enough to absorb sufficient world origin, you can’t go around blaming others. If you wish to steal our world origin, everyone in our Tongyou Island is ready to fight to the end!”

“Hmph! Stubborn fools! Do it!” Li Yunchao ordered and a huge snowstorm appeared above the Changbai Island. After building up, it started to make its way over to the Tongyou Island.

“Hehe, they’re far too lacking when compared to the Northern Sea Island!” Yun Jing laughed. She sounded extremely confident and Shang Xia could tell that neither Chu Jia nor the grand formation was showing signs of responding to the threat.

If Yun Jing’s confidence isn’t coming from what we can do...

Jerking his head, Shang Xia stared in the direction of the Changbai Island. The snowstorm was approaching and it blocked off his view of the other side.



As the snowstorm got closer and closer, the experts on the Tongyou Island started to grow restless. Before chaos could break out, a sharp cry ripped through the snowstorm and arrived on the Tongyou Island. It came from the Changbai Island and a soft chuckle escaped Yun Jing's lips.

Despite how in control of the situation she looked, Shang Xia could tell that she was half faking it. Only when the scream arrived did she actually feel better.

Clearly, it wasn't time to think about what Yun Jing was feeling. Shang Xia's thoughts turned to the Changbai Island and he wondered what happened there.

#### Chapter 607: Bitches Came Back

Soon after, more than a dozen sharp cries came from the Changbai Island. The snowstorm they were sending to the Tongyou Island stopped and the tip of the Changbai Island was revealed. Close to 60 miles of it was closing in on the Tongyou Island.

After the first scream came, Li Yunchao's enraged cry rang through the air. "Yan Su'er, are you tired of living?! How dare you!"

Soon after, a strange scene happened on the Changbai Island. The protection barrier that covered it started to shrink before turning extremely faint. It was as though the protection barrier would pop at the slightest touch.

Clearly, something happened inside the Changbai Island. From what Li Yunchao was screaming, it was obvious Yan Su'er had her hand in it.

Considering her motives, Shang Xia recalled how she had been secretly meeting with Shang Bo and Yun Jing after he saved her back then. At that moment, it was basically confirmed that Yan Su'er agreed to betray the Changbai Island for the institution.

The only thing Shang Xia didn't know was if the Tongyou Institution predicted that something like that would happen, or if they were forced to activate Yan Su'er because the situation forced them to.

After some contemplation, Shang Xia felt that the possibility of the latter being true was higher. That was because Yan Su'er wasn't just representing herself. Her entire race was behind her. Without any confirmation that her race was safe, she wouldn't have exposed herself.

Yun Jing's voice rang in Liu Qinglan and Ren Bainian's minds all of a sudden. "Hurry up and assist Yan Su'er in returning to the Tongyou Island. Remember, do not venture too close to the Changbai Island when doing so!"

Liu Qinglan and Ren Bainian might be a little confused, but they quickly turned into 2 streaks of light that flew above the Tongyou Island while following her instructions."

The 2 of them quickly discovered something strange. Because of the large commotion Yan Su'er caused, everyone should be clamoring to get her killed. There should have been chaos on the Changbai Island, but it was eerily quiet.

Eventually, another streak of light emerged from the Changbai Island and made its way towards Liu Qinglan and Ren Bainian.

Glancing at each other, Liu Qinglan and Ren Bainian got ready for battle.

It didn't take long for them to discover 2 figures in the incoming streak of light.

Yan Su'er had an extremely solemn expression as she held a middle-aged woman. The person she was holding clearly didn't dare to make any sort of resistance.

As Yan Su'er made her way over, she wasn't focused on Liu Qinglan or Ren Bainian. Instead, she was looking back over her shoulders at the Changbai Island.

As she expected, 8 streaks of light emerged from different directions not too long after she appeared. They charged straight at her and there were at least 5 different streaks of light that were made up of a 3 colored extermination origin or more.

When they finally approached, every one of them started to slow down and they kept a certain distance from Yan Su'er. From the looks of it, it was a standoff. However, they looked like they were afraid to go all out because of some strange reason.

Liu Qinglan and Ren Bainian were shocked, but they immediately made the connection. The person Yan Su'er was holding was definitely someone important. They didn't hesitate to make their way over to Yan Su'er's side.

When they regrouped, Yan Su'er's solemn expression finally let up a little. She sealed the dantian of the lady in her grasp before tossing her to Liu Qinglan. "This is Bai Yunxu, one of the 2 Formation Grandmasters on the Changbai Island. I sneak attacked the other, causing heavy injuries. The Changbai Island wouldn't dare to act rashly against the Tongyou Island now."

After hearing her explanation, Liu Qinglan heaved a sigh of relief internally. "Great! Senior Yan is truly extraordinary. This junior really admires you."

Nodding once, Yan Su'er muttered, "Escort her back to the island. I have something I need to say to all of them."

Even though Liu Qinglan was a little confused, she replied decisively. "Of course. Senior, please be careful." After she spoke, she signaled to Ren Bainian. "Let's go!"

They started to bring Bai Yunxu back to the Tongyou Island and along their way, they heard Li Yunchao questioning Yan Su'er behind them. "Yan Su'er, are you planning to forsake your race? Don't forget your identity. You're a cultivator of the Azure Spiritual World. Your foundations are on the Liao Continent!"

Soon after, Yan Su'er's indifferent voice rang through the air. "This old lady stayed behind precisely because of this. I need to make things clear so that we won't have any misunderstandings."

"Misunderstandings?!" Li Yunchao snorted in anger. "You ambushed Zheng Yunqiao, causing a good half of our grand formation to stop operating. You call this a misunderstanding?!"

Yan Su'er's expression didn't change in the slightest as she gave her reply, "Brother Li, do you think that if I really go all out, Zheng Yunqiao will only suffer injuries of this level? It might not seem light, but it's not too serious either. Moreover, your protection formation merely slowed down, it didn't shatter. I didn't destroy the core of the formation either."

"How dare you! If you had the guts to do something like that, do you think I would have allowed you to leave the island alive?!" Li Yunchao growled.

Giving him a slight nod, Yan Su'er continued, "Brother Li is someone who speaks reason. That's the reason why I chose to stay behind to explain myself. I hope Brother Li can inform the Changbai Sect to not make things difficult for the other members of my race."

Boiling with rage at that point, Li Yunchao released an angry chuckle. "Hah?! Do you still remember that you're the patriarch of your race?! Hehe, why should I do as you say? Do you think we will let the members of your race off after your betrayal today? Even if you have Junior Sister Bai as your hostage, and I truly hope you can let her live, but it's a shame. Her life alone isn't enough to ensure the safety of your race!"

Without a single ripple in her emotions, Yan Su'er grunted once before she carried on, "Well, a single Bai Yunxu definitely isn't enough. What if I add on every single cultivator your Changbai Sect sent to the battlefield between the two worlds?"

"What are you saying?!" Li Yunchao couldn't control his aura as it expanded violently to cause layers of snow to fly at Yan Su'er. "Yan Su'er, you deserve to die! I'm not underestimating you right now, but unless the four races of the Liao Continent chose to turn against us, your Swallow Race wouldn't be able to take our members down even if you colluded with the Tongyou Institution. More than a third of the cultivators we sent to the battlefield between the two worlds have cultivation in the Martial Intent Realm. We also have 2 junior brothers in the Martial Extermination Realm to lead them!"

The snowstorm that was eventually swept up started to fly at Yan Su'er. Despite being at risk of being swallowed whole, she simply drew a casual line beneath her feet using the staff in her hands. Thump...

A deep thud rang through the void. Layers of space ripple started to spread with her in the center, destroying the snowstorm coming her way.

"You..." Li Yunchao didn't expect her to nullify the move he had been charging up for some time.

He wasn't the only one in shock. Experts from the Changbai Sect around him stared at Yan Su'er's elderly hunchbacked figure in shock.

"You... You have also entered the grand completion stage?!" Li Yunchao seemed to be asking her a question, but he already reached his conclusion.

As an expert at the large completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm from the Changbai Sect, Li Yunchao had never been able to take the step to enter the grand completion stage. Even so, he had a deep understanding of what the realm entails.

A solemn light flashed through Yan Su'er's eyes after hearing his question and she eventually replied in an extremely indifferent tone, "If not for the help of the Tongyou Institution, I would have died after taking this final step."

Now that the experts of the Changbai Sect had become a lot quieter due to her revelation of strength, she continued, "It seems like all of you should understand what I plan to do. I sent my

granddaughter back previously in order to implement the plan. The disciples of your Changbai Sect should have already been captured by the Tongyou Institution by now. The core strength of my race should have also entered the Azure Origin World with my granddaughter leading the way. The lives of your disciples and Bai Yunxu will be the bargaining chip my race will use to keep themselves safe.”

Li Yunchao knew that if everything Yan Su'er said was true, the Changbai Sect would have suffered a massive loss. They weren't just defeated. They were placed at an absolute disadvantage. They didn't even have anything they could use to negotiate with the other party.

Li Yunchao's countenance turned extremely colorful. His face flickered between green and white and he couldn't even say the final few words to maintain his reputation.

Noticing his reaction, Yan Su'er didn't plan on staying any longer. She turned and made her way over to the Tongyou Island.

At the same time, the Tongyou Island was quickly pulling away from the Changbai Island. They started to venture away from the belt of land fragments and into the vast expanse.

Li Yunchao stared at the Tongyou Island as they made their way away and his expression turned extremely ugly. The other experts who came along with him had no idea what to say.

Signaling to each other with their eyes, Pan Yunbi was eventually pushed to step forward. She carefully approached Li Yunchao and she stammered, “Senior Brother Yun, this... What should we do next?”

“What should we do next?! How would I know? Why don't all of you tell me what we should do next?” Li Yunchao finally found an outlet to vent his frustrations. After suffering the huge loss in front of Yan Su'er, the humiliation that followed caused anger to burn in his heart. He swept his gaze across those present and snapped, “What the hell are all of you looking at me for?! The grand formation isn't completely shattered. Why aren't we making full use of our time to restore it? Junior Brother Zheng Yunqiao's injuries aren't too serious. Can't someone help him to restore himself to his peak state as soon as possible? Other than Zheng Yunqiao and Bai Yunxu, is there anyone else on the island who knows anything about formations? Even if they're rank three or rank two Formation Masters, it's better than nothing!”

No one would dare to poke the bear at the moment. All of them saw how Li Yunchao suffered in front of Yan Su'er and all of them couldn't help but sympathize with him. They turned to carry out his instructions.

“Wait, come back!” Li Yunchao called everyone back in a soft voice. The rage that he experienced earlier was nowhere to be seen as he regained his calm. “Tell Junior Brother Zheng Yunqiao that he can slow down the restoration of the grand formation. He just has to ensure that the commotion we cause is minimal. The most important thing is still to ensure Martial Uncle Shen's smooth breakthrough to the Martial Dipper Realm.”

After receiving his order, everyone turned to return to the Changbai Island.

Only then did Li Yunchao slowly turn back to stare in the direction where the Tongyou Institution left.

“Tongyou Institution... Heh...”

...

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On the Tongyou Island, Yun Jing left her formation node after Liu Qinglan and Ren Bainian brought Formation Grandmaster Bai Yunxu back. She went to personally welcome Yan Su'er.

Not too many emotions could be seen on Yan Su'er's face after she met Yun Jing. She simply nodded once and said, “I have done as instructed!”

“Elder Yan, there's no need to act like this. You saved our island and all of us have noticed your contributions.” Yun Jing smiled.

Despite Yun Jing's reaction, Yan Su'er remained firm. “There's no need to praise my actions. We have been fighting for the past 20 or so years and we understand each other more than we know ourselves. I refuse to believe that you guys don't have anything else planned in case I didn't make a move. Moreover, if you guys decide to take things seriously, Deputy Patriarch Shang just has to make a move to ensure that the Tongyou Island remains perfectly alright.”

“Of course, if Shang Bo had made a move, they would have achieved their goal. They might not have retrieved their Nine Blossom Jade Formation Disc, and they wouldn't have been able to obtain any world origin. However, they would definitely sever his chance to enter the Martial Dipper Realm. If that were to happen, the Changbai Sect would have won regardless.” Yan Su'er concluded.

With a soft chuckle, Yun Jing didn't confirm nor deny whatever she said. She replied, “We're not out of the woods yet. We still need Elder Yan's assistance for whatever is to come.”

“Since things have progressed up to this point, I have no reason to shirk my duties. My attachment to them won't affect anything either.” Yan Su'er replied.

“With Elder Yan's assistance, there shouldn't be too much of a problem! I hope you can assist me in controlling the Nine Blossom Jade Formation Disc.” Yun Jing smiled.

Finally, a look of surprise flashed in Yan Su'er's eyes. She gasped. “You're daring alright. You even dare to arrange for me to protect your core region. Aren't you afraid that I will work together with Bai Yunxu at the critical moment to kidnap your Formation Grandmaster? If I'm not wrong, Shang Bo should be cultivating right under the Nine Blossom Jade Formation Disc, right?”

A minute change appeared on Yun Jing's countenance but she chuckled heartily the next moment. “As they say, we won't use anyone we don't trust. We won't doubt anyone we deploy either. Elder Yan, you will only be able to fully make use of your cultivation and combat strength here. Since our institution agreed to accept the Swallow Race, there's no point in suspecting each other!”

Yan Su'er gave Yun Jing a deep stare before muttering softly, “Alright!”

With Yan Su'er and Yun Jing protecting the most important formation nodes on the Tongyou Island, Ren Bainian also quickly received his order. He was to coordinate with Liu Qinglan and defend other important formation nodes.

It was also then that the Tongyou Island seemed to have passed through another formless barrier.

When they finally got rid of the sticky feeling that came after, they felt as though the world was spinning around them. They were eventually thrown into a new region of space.

No... Something wasn't right...

Looking at the stars flickering in the distance, everyone on the Tongyou Island seemed to have reached the same conclusion. They returned to the vast sea of stars.

At that moment, Shang Xia discovered something. He jerked his head and turned to look in a certain direction.

In a space devoid of anything previously, countless land fragments started to gather. They smashed into each other and began fusion. Eventually, they turned into a giant mass...

The creation of a new celestial body had begun. Eventually, it would be reborn in the vast sea of stars!

The thought barely flashed through his mind when he felt a strong gust sweeping through the Tongyou Island. His Crimson Soul Tablet also started to pound rapidly in his sea of consciousness to give him a warning.

What's going on?!

Shang Xia turned to look all around him as he extended his divine perception to its limit. He tried to find the source of the gust while giving Yun Jing and the others a warning.

Before he could say anything, Yun Jing's panicky voice rang through the air. "Activate Empty Mountain right now! Hurry! Everyone, pour your inner qi into the grand formation, don't be stingy with it!"

A bad feeling filled Shang Xia's heart. He stared in a certain direction in the void and saw a giant pillar of light extending towards them.

When the light flooded his vision, the spatial film appeared around the Tongyou Island again. They once again entered a pocket of separate space before they were swallowed entirely by the pillar of light.

They might be unaffected by the beam of light, but Shang Xia felt that the beam of light passed through him earlier. He was truly terrified as his heart pounded in fear.

"Who?! Is that the Northern Sea Mystic Sect?! Great Observation Sect? Or is that the Changbai Sect?"

"It can't be the Changbai Sect..."

"It's the Spirit Abundance World!"

Everyone threw random guesses out.

“Is it really them?”

“Why would they set their sights on us?”

“What was that pillar of light? Why the hell did it feel more powerful than the ball of frosty qi from the Northern Sea Island?”

Yun Jing couldn't be bothered with their discussion at the moment. Her gaze was locked onto the space in the distance as she instructed Chu Jia, “Cancel the use immediately. We have to leave this state right now!”

“Why?” Chu Jia questioned. “We can still maintain this state for an hour. Moreover, this is the last time we can use this move. Why aren't we making full use of it?”

Yun Jing growled, “The Spirit Abundance World isn't the Northern Sea Mystic Sect. They might have already discovered the intricacies of our move. Some people are already trying to surround our location!”

“We have to contact Patriarch Kou and Deputy Patriarch Ji immediately. Only with their help would we be able to get rid of those from the Spirit Abundance World and return to our Azure Origin World!” Yun Jing completed her explanation.

As soon as she did, the layer of spatial film around the Tongyou Island dissipated.

“Prepare for battle!”

The instant the Tongyou Island returned to their original position, there were at least 3 high-level Martial Extermination Realm experts who attacked the Tongyou Island from different directions.

Liu Qinglan, Ren Bainian, and the others quickly made their move to prevent the experts from succeeding.

It didn't take long for 3 other streaks of light to appear without warning. They seem to have been lying in ambush for quite some time as they approached the Tongyou Island from the gaps in their protection.

Everyone who was approaching the Tongyou Island at the moment had cultivation level in the third layer of the Martial Extermination Realm or above. The 3 experts who appeared at the end were even in the large completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm.

Yun Jing and Yan Su'er also rose into the air to make their move. However, the way they took action was completely different from Liu Qinglan and the others. Liu Qinglan and the rest were using the protection barrier's assistance to deal with their opponents. Yun Jing and Yan Su'er flew into space directly to stop the experts at the large completion stage.

The moment cultivators in the Martial Extermination Realm fought without holding anything back, they would cause a massive disturbance that could spread for tens of miles.

When Yun Jing and Yan Su'er approached their opponents one of them swung his sleeves to reveal a streak of light that shot in the direction of the Tongyou Island.

They tried to stop it, but they were quickly obstructed by the 3 experts at the large completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm. They couldn't pull away in a short period of time and Yun Jing had no choice but to yell, "Stop that thing!"

She might not know what they threw at the Tongyou Island, but she knew that there was no way she could allow that to land.

Unfortunately, every single expert who could fight was locked in combat at the moment. Almost everyone was stretched to their limits and they had to face a strong offensive from their enemies. They couldn't stop it even if they wanted to.

Since the Tongyou Island's core region was still protected by their grand formation, everyone could only hope that it was enough to stop whatever they threw.

However, it was evident that the experts of the Spirit Abundance World came prepared. The item they tossed at the Tongyou Island was definitely no ordinary object.

Splitting up into multiple streaks of light, they made quick work of the protection barrier as they tore through it without much resistance.

Seeing as the 3 remaining rays were about to land on the island, Shang Xia raised his Spirit Extermination Gourd. He poured whatever energy he recovered into it and revealed the existence of the tiny green sword.

Despite being at that juncture, Shang Xia started to hesitate. He didn't know if it would be worth it to use the life-saving trump card given to him by Kou Chongxue on whatever it was.

Before he could reach a decision, a terrifying aura emerged from the core region of the Tongyou Island. It erupted like a supervolcano and it shattered the protection barrier with the sheer force of its appearance. Even the stars in the distance trembled slightly.

A mere trace of the aura caused space to shake. The stars shook in its wake.

Only when one stepped into the Martial Dipper Realm would their divine perception undergo another transformation would they be able to cause something like that!

In other words, at that instant, Shang Bo had broken through the bottleneck of the Martial Dipper Realm and had set one foot through the gates of becoming one!

With a sudden burst of happiness filling his heart, Shang Xia's attention was turned away from those streaks of light. As such, he didn't release Kou Chongxue's sword strike.

In that split second, he lost his chance to obstruct them. Those lights landed in different spots of the Tongyou Island and entered deep into the ground.

Luckily, because of Shang Bo's aura that emerged, space was completely twisted and the direction of those streaks of lights were affected. They were forced to land some 200 odd miles away from their originally planned location.

They were originally aimed at the inner sector of the Tongyou Island. Because of what happened, they landed in the middle sector instead, 700 miles away from the core region.

"Shang Xia, what the hell are you doing?!" Yun Jing roared in exasperation while fighting her opponent.



Unfortunately, Shang Xia couldn't be bothered with her yells at that time. Because of Shang Bo's revelation of his aura, the Nine Blossom Jade Formation Disc failed to control the world origin it contained. A huge amount burst forth and was drawn over to Shang Xia by his Crimson Soul Tablet.

#### Chapter 608: Void Connection Cord

When the Tongyou Island was absorbing world origin from the Great Sun that was the source of the Manyu Continent's World's Will, they managed to obtain double what they could have because of Shang Xia's Crimson Soul Tablet.

Most of it was stored in the Nine Blossom Jade Formation Disc so that Shang Bo could use it during his breakthrough.

Even though everyone knew that Shang Bo wouldn't need so much world origin during his breakthrough, no one dared to move any part of it because of how important the breakthrough was.

Back when they wanted to extend the time they could maintain their ultimate skill, Empty Mountain, they still had to get Shang Xia to contribute his jade shards.

When Shang Xia was first rescued, it wasn't as if he didn't think of using the world origin contained in the formation disc. It was only when he heard that it might affect his grandfather's chances of entering the Martial Dipper Realm did he give it up.

Due to the sudden burst of Shang Bo's aura, a portion of world origin escaped from the formation disc and started to leak out into the outside world. Despite not knowing if Shang Bo had actually completed his advancement, those world essence would be wasted anyway.

Since that was the case, why couldn't he make use of it?

With a simple thought, the escaping world origin swarmed over in his direction.

Back then, his physical body had already been tempered by the world origin. Now, he was like a dry sponge that finally came into contact with water. He greedily sucked up every single trace of world origin his way as he circulated his Four Seasons Samsara Art. After refining the world origin, he felt his injuries healing rapidly. His empty reserve of inner qi was also quickly replenished.

As that happened, the locations where the streaks of light entered the Tongyou Island finally showed their effects. Intense vibration came from the ground below and it gave those on the island a feeling that they were experiencing free fall.

Experts who were fighting above the island saw everything that was happening. Yun Jing, Yan Su'er, and the others could clearly see 3 rays of light extending towards the inner sector of the Tongyou Island.

At the same time, another 3 light-like cords emerged from the void above the Tongyou Island and extended deep into the ground where the light streaks landed.

After suffering a huge blow earlier, the Tongyou Island seemed to be locked down by the 3 cords that extended into the void. It started to sway the island around while slowly pulling it in a certain direction.

Yun Jing and Yan Su'er tried to cut the connection, but the experts of the Spirit Abundance World obviously wouldn't let them do as they wished.

Liu Qinglan, Ren Bainian, and the others also tried to draw on the support of the grand formation to sever the light cords. Unfortunately, they barely caused a scratch on it even when working together.

When the experts on the Tongyou Island were trying to cut those cords, they started to shrink and the island was dragged across a huge distance.

Despite what seemed like a successful operation, the Spirit Abundance World actually messed up pretty badly. The cords were supposed to latch onto the core region of the Tongyou Island and dig it out completely before they dragged it away with them.

It was a shame Shang Bo's aura pushed their attack away and they landed 700 miles away from the core region. The light cords might have firmly attached themselves to the Tongyou Island, but it was impossible for them to dig out such a huge area. Instead of pulling the core region of the Tongyou Island away, they had to drag the entire island!

According to their plan, they would ambush the islands that belonged to the Azure Origin World and Azure Spiritual World when they emerged. They would dig out the core region before running away. It was supposed to be an extremely speedy operation but they didn't expect their problems to start cropping up when they encountered the Tongyou Island.

As they planned to only pull the core region, their operation was affected as the speed at which they pulled the Tongyou Island was much slower than a small portion of land. It gave Yun Jing and the others an opportunity to struggle free.

"Did you manage to contact them?!" Yun Jing yelled suddenly.

Chu Jia's anxious voice also came from inside the core region. "Something is disrupting our formation! Those light cords... Hurry and sever them! They're restricting our Nine Blossom Jade Formation Disc!"

Yan Su'er released a long whistle all of a sudden as a giant phantom of a blood swallow appeared behind her.

At the same time, Yun Jing, who was only fighting one expert from the Spirit Abundance World, also pushed herself to her limit. Her combat abilities increased as she flew over to hold off one of Yan Su'er's opponents.

With one person left to fight Yan Su'er, they were obviously unable to contend against her after she revealed her full strength. He could only watch as the blood swallow flapped its wings to send out dozens of sharp rays. One of the light cords was severed instantly and caused the Tongyou Island to shake violently.

After using her martial intent to cut one of the cords, Yan Su'er entered a state of temporary weakness. She didn't continue fighting with the expert of the Spirit Abundance World as she turned around to make her way back to the island. She used the protection barrier to fend off the attacks from the expert of the Spirit Abundance World after her.

The moment Yan Su'er severed one of the light cords, Yun Jing also reached her limit. Fighting 2 experts at the large completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm was too much for her. Sending out a final palm, she spat out a mouthful of blood and fled. Unlike how she flew up to challenge them, she was basically stumbling as she fell back onto the island.

They might have cut 1 of the 3 light cords connected to the Tongyou Island, but there were still 2 more that were rapidly retracting. The Tongyou Island continued to be dragged across space.

Ignoring her injuries for the time being, Yun Jing coughed up another mouthful of blood while asking, “How is it?! Can you make the connection to Kou Chongxue and Ji Wenlong now?!”

Chu Jia, who was controlling the formation disc, failed to give her a confirmation and that could only mean that she was unable to complete her task.

After leaving the belt of land fragments, the Tongyou Island suffered an ambush from the experts of the Spirit Abundance World. Because of how they were dragged through space because of those light cords, the position of the Tongyou Island kept changing. The light cords also restricted the use of the Nine Blossom Jade Formation Disc, causing them to be unable to contact their Martial Dipper Realm Ancestors.

Yun Jing raised her head to stare at Yan Su'er who was also extremely pale. The old lady seemed drained of inner qi and she could only shake her head while laughing bitterly. Clearly, she didn't have the ability to sever the other light cord.

Yun Jing's gaze then turned to Shang Xia and she snapped. “Shang Xia, what the hell were you doing?! Why didn't you use the sword qi he left in your Spirit Extermination Gourd?!”

Kou Chongxue had already informed Yun Jing about how he refreshed the sword qi in Shang Xia's gourd. Even if he didn't she learned about it since he brought it out on the Manyu Continent back then. However, Kou Chongxue had also informed her that the sword qi in the gourd could be split up and used multiple times.

If Shang Xia used the Spirit Extermination Gourd, the light rays wouldn't have landed on the Tongyou Island. Naturally, the light cords wouldn't have connected and they wouldn't have to suffer everything they just went through.

Shang Xia himself realized what happened. He hesitated earlier because he planned to save up Kou Chongxue's sword qi...

Like Chu Jia, no reply came from Shang Xia.

With Liu Qinglan and the others unable to affect the light cords, the cultivators of the Spirit Abundance World started to let up their attack on the Tongyou Island. They felt that there was no need to fight any longer as the opponents couldn't do a thing to stop them. As such, the experts on the Tongyou Island gained a rare chance to catch their breath.

“What should we do now?” Liu Qinglan asked between pants. Because of the scale of the battle, she was utterly exhausted even with the help of the protection barrier. If she was in such a state, there was no need to mention the other experts who were only in the first or second layer of the Martial Extermination Realm.

Everyone was barely holding on.

Yun Jing's face flushed red again, but she swallowed the blood that reached her lips. “We have no choice. Withdraw the protection formation and prepare to give up the middle sector.”

After the repeated ordeals the Tongyou Island had been through, the outer sector was basically gone. Only the middle and inner sectors were left. The Tongyou Island was left with a mere 1000 miles of land.

If they gave up the middle sector, that would mean that they would be forsaking another 500 miles of land! They would only be left with the inner sector that contained the core region!

Of course, Yun Jing came up with that plan because the light cords were only connected to the middle sector. The moment it was cut away, the Tongyou Island would be able to free itself.

“Do we really have to?! Can’t we just give up a portion of the land those light cords are connected to?” Ren Bainian finally spoke up. It was the first time he had expressed his opinion on anything related to the island.

Yun Jing wasn’t displeased with him at all. After Ren Bainian’s hefty contributions across the many battles they had been through, the Tongyou Institution was no longer on guard against him. In fact, his position on the Tongyou Island was only growing stronger.

If they looked at it from another angle, the Tongyou Island was the only homeland Ren Bainian had.

“We can’t...” Yun Jing chuckled bitterly. “Brother Ren, you will understand why the moment you protect a formation node. Those light cords connected themselves to our earth veins. It’s impossible to separate a small portion of land to get rid of them. Moreover, time isn’t on our side.”

Ren Bainian could only shake his head to express his helplessness.

“Little Chu...” Yun Jing wanted to give Chu Jia the instructions to withdraw the protection barrier and give up the land, but she was interrupted by a sudden interjection.

“There’s no need.” Shang Xia’s voice rang in everyone’s mind. Unlike before, the majesty that was once missing from an expert at the grand completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm was back. “I’ll deal with the other 2 light cords.”

#### Chapter 609: Double Kill

When the Tongyou Island separated from the Manyu Continent, Yun Jing and the others split the island up into 3 sectors. They were the inner, middle, and outer sectors respectively.

Not only were they split because of the distance to the core region, but it also concerned how much control the grand formation had over the specific area. Also, it was so that they could sacrifice the sectors in turn when they ran into desperate situations.

The outer sector which consisted of 700 miles of land had to be given up after the attack by the Northern Sea Island, and the damage caused by passing through the belt of land fragments.

If they sacrificed the middle sector that consisted of 500 miles of land, the Tongyou Island would only be left with the final 500 miles of land. It would be extremely detrimental to their attempt at whatever they were going to do back on the Azure Origin World.

As such, Yun Jing was extremely reluctant to give up the middle sector of land as she knew the importance of having a big island. However, with things progressing up to that point, she had no choice.

Just as she was about to make the decision and instruct Chu Jia to carry out the plan, Shang Xia finally spoke up to interrupt her. "There's no need. Leave the rest to me!"

Back when he was just rescued by the Tongyou Island, Shang Xia's injuries were serious.

No matter if it was Yun Jing or Liu Qinglan, all of them could tell he wouldn't be able to recover in a short amount of time. Actually, even restoring a shred of combat abilities would be extremely difficult.

If anyone else was in his position, they might not have shown signs of recovery even if they cultivated in seclusion the entire time.

That was also why Yun Jing stopped after scolding Shang Xia for not acting earlier. She felt that he might not be able to send his inner qi into the gourd to use the full abilities of Kou Chongxue's sword qi.

Shang Xia might have spoken up, but instead of feeling excitement or joy, Yun Jing and the others turned solemn.

"There's no need to force yourself. You cannot harm your foundations because of this. That will only cause you to lose all hope of entering the Martial Dipper Realm."

"Yeah. It's just 500 miles of land. We can afford the loss. We will still possess the inner sector that contains the core region. All our world origin is contained there and we can still limit our losses."

While Yun Jing and Liu Qinglan were still in the midst of their explanation, Shang Xia broke into laughter. An aura that was no weaker than what Shang Bo exposed earlier emerged and it engulfed the inner sector of the Tongyou Island.

Yun Jing revealed a look of shock, but it quickly turned into confusion. "You... You managed to recover?! How is this possible?"

Liu Qinglan seemed to have thought of something and she yelled, "Don't tell me you used some sort of secret art to temporarily restore your strength in exchange for something! You can't..."

Shang Xia felt extremely touched by their words. He could tell that they were truly concerned about him and were afraid that he would harm his future by paying some hidden price for a temporary burst of strength.

Rising slowly into the air, Shang Xia chuckled in response, "Seniors, there's no need to worry. I never felt better!"

His figure blurred after the final words left his lips and he shot out from the protection barrier to the space above the Tongyou Island.

As they were no longer in the region that used to contain the Manyu Continent, Shang Xia was actually flying through the vast sea of stars. Ordinarily, one would have to be at the Martial Dipper Realm if they wished to remain in the vast sea of stars for a long period of time. Martial

Extermination Realm experts had to receive the assistance of a Martial Dipper Realm Ancestor if they wished to travel through the sea of stars, or they would have to wait till they broke through.

Of course, that was if they wanted to travel across the sea of stars. Martial Extermination Realm experts had the ability to appear and remain in space for short periods of time.

That was why Yun Jing and Yan Su'er could fight the experts of the Spirit Abundance World above the Tongyou Island earlier.

The second Shang Xia arrived above the Tongyou Island, the 3 experts from the Spirit Abundance World at the large completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm rushed at him from different directions.

"Be careful!" Yun Jing's expression changed and she wanted to head up there to help him.

However, her expression sank the next moment as she felt a wave of weakness washing over her. In order to give Yan Su'er an opportunity earlier, she pushed herself past her limit to hold off 2 of them.

Yan Su'er managed to unleash her martial intent to sever a single light cord before retreating, but Yun Jing suffered some injuries due to her entanglement with the 2 experts.

After returning to the Tongyou Island, Yun Jing would be able to fight against an opponent of similar cultivation with the assistance of the grand formation. She knew that if she left its confines, she would only burden Shang Xia.

She wasn't the only one who wanted to help but couldn't. Yan Su'er was the same.

Yan Su'er might be in the grand completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm, but her foundations were affected when she broke through. She would never be able to enter the Martial Dipper Realm in the future and even executing her martial intent was unbelievably taxing. She couldn't join Shang Xia and fight the experts of the Spirit Abundance World in her current state.

Looking at the condition of the Tongyou Island, other than Shang Bo who was supposed to be at the critical moment of his breakthrough, there was no other high-level fighting power! Well, there was Shang Xia no one had any idea how he managed to restore his fighting strength...

Facing the joint assault of those experts, Shang Xia seemed completely fearless. He knew that they had extraordinary methods and heightened combat abilities, but he looked eager to engage them in a fight.

Unfortunately, the mission at hand was a little more important. He had to sever the light cords to ensure the Tongyou Island could free themselves from the experts of the Spirit Abundance World.

With the Abyssal Blade in hand, he grunted softly and waved it through the air. Unlike any strike he used before, the speed at which he swung his blade was extremely slow.

As it cut through the void before him, the power of samsara emerged. Despite not being that close to him, everyone on the Tongyou Island felt it through their divine perception.

However, that was the blade intent they felt because Shang Xia wasn't directing it at them! Only those who had to face the terror that was Shang Xia could detect the true power contained in the blade strike.

The blade seemed to sever the flow of time, but at the same time, it seemed as though it caused a huge ripple to appear through the river of time.

That was Shang Xia's martial intent after concluding his Twenty Four Solar Terms Divine Blade, the Four Constellation Samsara Nether Blade.

He didn't just aim it at the second light cord that was connected to the Tongyou Island. It was also directed at the strongest expert among the 3 who came to confront him.

Facing Shang Xia's Four Constellation Nether Blade that was supposed to be weaker because it was directed at multiple things at once, the cultivator still felt the feeling of death approaching.

His first reaction was to run as he knew that his opponent wanted to end his life while severing the light cord. He wanted to kill two birds at once!

"What arrogance!" Rage boiled in his heart. He had a feeling that his opponent was looking down on him, and he didn't wish to let the other party attain their goal. Of course, as a seasoned expert, he wouldn't take the blade strike head-on either. He quickly went to hide behind the light cord that had been targeted

He felt that no matter how strong the blade strike was, it would have to sever the light cord before it would arrive before him.

As an object that could drag an entire island around, one had to be in the grand completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm if they had any chance of breaking it. The expert from the Spirit Abundance World planned to use the light cord to block off a majority of the energy contained in the strike before taking it on. After all, how much energy would be left when it arrived?

The expert from the Spirit Abundance World felt that he would have wasted his time cultivating if he failed to defend against the weakened strike. If he was still unable to do so, dying under the blade strike wouldn't matter.

The expert from the Spirit Abundance World was confident in himself, and he was also confident in the power of the light cord.

Too bad for him, his confidence was the source of his downfall.

Shang Xia's blade light tore through space and one of the light cords was severed in an instant. A good portion of the energy contained in the blade light was used up, but it was then that the expert from the Spirit Abundance World realized that even if he used everything at his disposal, he wouldn't be able to stop it!

He unleashed his strongest technique with his treasured weapon while maintaining his extermination origin protection barrier at their maximum capabilities. He also tossed out every life saving treasure he had on him to stop the blade light, but the energy in the blade light didn't seem to be running out!

The blade light that had dimmed greatly since it emerged gently brushed against his body.

Surprisingly, he didn't feel the pain of being sliced open. It was as though nothing had happened and confusion filled his mind.

It didn't take long before his confusion disappeared as pain came from the depths of his body and soul.

His skin turned dark and saggy before crumpling up with wrinkles. His hair turned from its original jet black to gray, and eventually snow-white. His gaze became unfocused as his back started to hunch involuntarily. His body started to shrivel and wither.

Indeed, he wasn't killed by the blade in one ferocious slash. Instead, all his life force was stolen and he aged countless years in an instant. He turned old and weak.

“What blade art is that?!”

“Brother Lou, hurry up and retreat! Run!” The other 2 remaining experts felt a chill running through their hearts and they didn't dare to approach Shang Xia. One of them yelled for the other to retreat and they sent out sword lights and palm strikes in an attempt to prevent Shang Xia from chasing after them.

Despite retreating slightly, they didn't run away completely despite being terrified by the blade strike Shang Xia unleashed earlier. They knew that one wouldn't be able to use their martial intent in succession.

After severing the second light cord, the Tongyou Island tilted dangerously as they were strung up by the last cord that stretched into the void.

Now that there was only one left, it was impossible for it to drag the Tongyou Island to where the experts of the Spirit Abundance World were planning. However, the island was unable to free itself either and both parties were locked in a stalemate.

Fortunately, with the second light cord severed, the restriction they had on the Tongyou Island's grand formation weakened to the point where Chu Jia could contact Kou Chongxue and Ji Wenlong in the Beyond Heavens Pavilion. They quickly locked on to the island's position in space and rushed over.

Even though neither of them sent their energy through space, everyone could feel their presence. The experts on the Tongyou Island were greatly rejuvenated knowing that their backup was finally coming. However, the same couldn't be said for those of the Spirit Abundance World.

The 2 experts who were left to face Shang Xia froze up for a short second.

At that moment, Shang Xia found an opportunity and he swung his Abyssal Blade at the third cord. Under their shocked gaze, the final cord that was connected to the Tongyou Island was sliced cleanly through.

The freak in front of them actually managed to unleash his martial intent twice in a short period of time!

## Chapter 610: Returning

The moment the third cord was severed, the Tongyou Island managed to free itself. The force that the Tongyou Island was using to pull itself away previously caused them to jerk a hundred or so miles through space. With Chu Jia's control, they eventually slowed down and stabilized themselves.



Even so, the Tongyou Island traveled thousands of miles before they stopped moving.

Shang Xia's powerful show of strength when he released his martial intent twice in a row scared the experts of the Spirit Abundance World. Neither of them had the guts to try attacking Shang Xia. Instead, they started to retreat to prevent themselves from being his next target.

He might have dealt with the light cords, but Shang Xia didn't turn to leave immediately. Instead, he chuckled sinisterly at the 2 of them before turning to fly off.

"Dumbass! He already used his martial intent twice! How much energy do you think he has left?" A loud yell rang in their ears as a figure shot past them towards Shang Xia.

The 2 experts who received the scolding felt a trace of anger in their hearts, but they quickly followed behind the figure.

They understood that the expert who just appeared had been observing their every move. If they didn't follow up, they would probably suffer when they returned to the Spirit Abundance World.

As such, they might be grumbling at the person who spoke earlier, but they had no choice but to keep up their chase.

Shang Xia thought that he would be able to return to the Tongyou Island smoothly after scaring them off, but someone managed to tear off his facade.

Wait a second... Why the hell did that voice sound so familiar?!

"Damn kid, do you really think it will be that easy to leave?!" The person flew extremely quickly and closed the distance between them rapidly. A sharp aura tore the space behind him.

"Don't tell me..." Shang Xia had a guess in his heart, but he could feel the piercing aura of the sharp sword behind him.

Not daring to be careless, Shang Xia swung his blade behind him without turning back.

The blade light slammed into the sword qi that was coming his way before filling the air with a burst of extermination qi. The space behind him was ripped to shreds.

The expert hot in pursuit was clearly not afraid of the region of shattered space as the soft hum of a sword emerged to eliminate all the obstruction in his way. Sword lights rained down on Shang Xia in a never ending stream.

"Indeed..."

When he saw the familiar Jade River Sword coming his way, Shang Xia arrived at his conclusion. However, his expression turned solemn and it even looked a little unsightly.

Raising his Abyssal Blade, he defended himself with some difficulty as he had exhausted himself by releasing his martial intent twice in succession earlier.

A crisp ding was heard when the Jade River Sword struck a heavy blow on the Abyssal Blade.

The Jade River Sword which used to be straight as an arrow started to bend. The wielder of the sword pressed closer to Shang Xia before sending a palm strike at his chest.

Unable to dodge the strike, Shang Xia could only greet it with one of his own.

“Pa...”

A horrifying impact caused shock waves to spread while twisting the space around them.

The Jade River Sword became straight the next instant as it sliced between their palms to separate them. Both parties were sent flying backwards.

Shang Xia grunted heavily and spat out a mouthful of blood before using the opportunity to escape. He endured his ‘internal injuries’ as he turned to flee in the direction of the Tongyou Island.

After being flung back, the experts of the Spirit Abundance World following behind him finally caught up. They tried to race after Shang Xia but he was too far away at that point.

A cold snort left the lips of the expert who wielded the Jade River Sword and his face flushed red from the backlash. He snapped, “If not for your hesitation, we would have been able to stop him!”

The 2 experts of the Spirit Abundance World who caught up had unsightly expressions on their faces and one of them finally snapped, “Huang Yu, don’t think that you’re better than us because you have Lou Yi’s backing. Who the hell do you think you are to speak to us like this? Fuck you!”

The other also expressed his displeasure. “Brother Huang, we only planned to steal their world origin. Since the island managed to struggle free, what’s the point of stopping their expert from running? Moreover, we tried our best. Brother Lou even sacrificed his life in the process. Is there a need to act so overbearing right now?”

Huang Yu revealed a look of resentment after receiving their scolding and he pointed at them while stuttering, “You... You guys... Alright, I see how it is! Hmph, I’ll definitely report this to Young Master Lou Yi after I return. You guys better watch yourselves!”

After he spoke, he no longer bothered with their sinking expressions. He turned into a streak of light that flew between them before leaving for the depths of space.

After using the impact of the blow to run, Shang Xia eventually returned to the Tongyou Island. His legs wobbled slightly when he landed and he fell directly on the ground below.

Ren Bainian and Shang Ke ran out of the protection barrier to look for him the moment he arrived.

“Brat, how are you feeling?”

“Young Master Shang, how are your injuries?”

They barely opened their mouths to speak when Shang Xia waved his hand to stop them. He muttered in a low voice, “We’ll speak after returning!”

Just like that, the 2 of them escorted him back to the safety of their protection formation.

The moment he did, Shang Xia straightened his back and his wobbly legs stomped hard on the ground. He didn’t look injured at all!

“This...?!”

Seeing the tongue tied expression on their faces, Shang Xia laughed. “There’s nothing to worry about. I had to put up a show earlier.”

Shang Ke and Ren Bainian were slightly taken aback, but they quickly fell deep into thought. They subconsciously raised their heads to stare in the space where the battle took place before turning back to look at Shang Xia who had been walking deeper into the core region. They quickly kept up with him.

“Was that the Jade River Sword?” Shang Ke asked casually after a short moment of contemplation.

“Yup! I’ll go look for Deputy Patriarch Yun for now.” Shang Xia nodded at them before leaving.

When he finally met Yun Jing, he saw that Yan Su’er was also present. Yan Su’er stared at him strangely the moment he stepped into the hall and she asked, “Youngster of the Shang Clan, what martial intent is that?”

Shang Xia saw Yun Jing chuckling at the side without any intention of speaking and he decided to reply for himself. “Junior just comprehended this martial intent and it’s called the Four Constellation Samsara Nether Blade!”

Yan Su’er started to mutter to herself and she repeated the name of his martial intent twice before raising her head to look at him again. There was a peculiar look in her eyes when she spoke again. “Kid, you are able to use your martial intent twice in succession... You have the qualifications to break through to the Martial Dipper Realm!”

Shang Xia quickly waved his hands in response, “Junior barely comprehend my martial intent. I need to make further improvements and stabilize my foundations. It’s too early to talk about breaking through to the Martial Dipper Realm.”

A smile remained on Yan Su’er’s face as she nodded slowly. The look in her eyes grew ever more strange as she looked at Shang Xia.

Only then did Yun Jing finally speak. “Was that him?”

“There’s no doubt about it...” Shang Xia nodded in response.

“Looks like it’s going to be hard on him again.” Yun Jing sighed. “Did he say anything?”

Seeing as Yun Jing wasn’t guarded against Yan Su’er at all, he simply opened his left palm to reveal its blood soaked features. The blood started to congeal the next second to form a diagram that somewhat resembled a talisman. It firmly imprinted itself into Shang Xia’s skin.

“This...” Yun Jing frowned as she studied the diagram. She seemed to be a little unsure as she wondered out loud, “Is this a Tracing Imprint?”

Shang Xia chuckled in response, “We might even be able to use this to locate the actual position of the Spirit Abundance World in the vast sea of stars!”

To that, Yun Jing merely shook her head. “Impossible. He couldn’t have gone to the Spirit Abundance World in such a short amount of time. Even if he did, he wouldn’t be able to gain information on their specific location.”

After some contemplation, Shang Xia also found it impossible. In the end, he could only ask, “Where do you think this Tracing Imprint points to?”

“The Spirit Abundance World is ranked higher than Azure Worlds. They might have some secret transit point in the sea of stars. Whatever it is, we don’t have to rush to find it. We can look into the matter by copying the imprint off your hand after we return to the Azure Origin World.” Yun Jing shook her head while replying.

Since everything had been dealt with, Shang Xia finally felt a trace of relief in his heart. He changed the topic and asked again, “Oh right, did we manage to gain contact with Patriarch Kou and Deputy Patriarch Ji?”

Yun Jing smiled in response. “Deputy Patriarch Ji was the first to locate us. We’re using the grand formation to construct a spatial passage to the Beyond Heavens Pavilion. We’ll be able to return to the Azure Origin World soon.”

Shang Xia might have guessed as much, but hearing it for himself was a different matter. He could finally heave a sigh of relief and his expression lightened up.

It might not have been long since the destruction of the Manyu Continent, and the Tongyou Island managed to maintain a diameter of 1000 miles, but they had been through too much.

Adrenaline had been keeping everyone on their toes the entire time. Now that they finally received news that they would be returning, an unstoppable wave of lethargy overwhelmed everyone on the island.

Suddenly, the Tongyou Island shook violently.

Shang Xia, who had just started to relax, released his divine perception instantly and a majestic aura filled the area.

Yun Jing wanted to say something to warn the others, but the words were stuck in her throat when his boundless aura enveloped the island. The pressure on her was so strong that she instinctively took a step back.

Yan Su’er’s reaction wasn’t much different. Her expression changed. Even though she was in the same cultivation realm as Shang Xia, at the grand completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm, her divine perception was also suppressed.

Quickly realizing that his reaction was overboard, Shang Xia quickly withdrew his divine perception. With an apologetic ‘hehe’, he gave them a casual explanation. “I thought something bad was going to happen...”

“Brat, you didn’t even give me the chance to speak...” Yun Jing chided.

Scratching his head helplessly, Shang Xia could only release a bitter laugh.

That might have been Yun Jing’s reaction, but Yan Su’er continued to stare at him. There seemed to be a fire burning in her eyes and Shang Xia started to feel a little uncomfortable.

“That’s a sign that the spatial tunnel has been completed. We’ll be able to return to the Azure Origin World now!” Yun Jing explained.

Shang Xia nodded in response. “Alright, this disciple shall take my leave now if there’s nothing else.”

Without waiting for anyone to say anything, Shang Xia ran out of the hall in a state of half panic with Yan Su’er still staring at him.

He eventually heard Yun Jing’s laughter behind him. “Elder Yan, you really scared the kid...”

“This old lady already... Are you really not going to consider...”

Shang Xia subconsciously turned to stare in the direction of the hall, but his attention was quickly drawn away. He discovered that the stars that existed in the depths of space were starting to turn into long streaks that extended for as far as his eyes could see. Eventually, they formed a curtain of starry light.