

## The Heavens 681

### Chapter 681: Surpassing Realms

With the final stroke of the White Bone Brush, a rank four Abyssal Void Shattering Talisman was produced.

Shang Xia placed the brush down lightly on the table, he examined the Abyssal Void Shattering Talisman in his hand.

“Kid, this is the seventh rank four talisman you crafted! When do you plan to start crafting the rank five Abyssal Emptiness Talisman?!” The other person in the room yelled. Obviously, there could only be one other person other than Shang Xia. Kou Chongxue seemed a little annoyed that Shang Xia had only been crafting rank four talismans, but he was incomparably shocked by the shockingly high success rate Shang Xia had when crafting rank four talismans the entire time.

Even though Kou Chongxue could determine that Shang Xia had a high success rate when it came to crafting rank four talismans from the number of talisman papers he was provided and the number of complete products, he was still shocked.

Hearing it from the members of the institution was one thing. Witnessing it was another. The shock he received when watching Shang Xia craft rank four talismans was incomparable.

A chuckle left Shang Xia’s lips. “Patriarch Kou, there’s no need to be hasty. You need to let me adjust my condition in order to ensure the largest chance of success when crafting the rank five talisman. After all, we only have 3 pieces of rank five talisman paper!”

Kou Chongxue’s expression sank instantly. “Damn brat, aren’t you just fucking with me at this point? I heard the same shit coming out of your mouth several times already. Now, you used up 11 pieces of rank four talisman paper to craft 7 rank four talismans. You made 3 Abyssal Void Shattering Talismans and several Substitution Talismans and Earth Evasion Concealment Talismans. Are you adjusting your condition or using my talisman papers for free?!”

If not for the fact that the Tongyou Institution managed to gain even more control of the battlefield between the two worlds and obtain a new batch of ingredients used to craft rank four talisman paper, Shang Xia would probably have emptied out the treasury of the Talisman Hall once again.

Then again, the 4 talisman papers he wasted were mostly because he tried to craft Substitution Talismans and Earth Evasion Concealment Talismans.

He was crafting them for the first time and he had some experience when it came to Substitution Talismans because it was a part of the inheritance he obtained back then. He used 3 talisman papers and succeeded twice, but in order to craft 2 Earth Evasion Concealment Talismans, he used up 5 pieces of rank four talisman papers.

It was his first time crafting either of those talismans, but he managed to maintain such a high success rate!

It was even more terrifying when it came to the Abyssal Void Shattering Talismans. He completed 3 of them earlier without failing once!

That was also a reason Kou Chongxue was starting to get restless. Since he managed to craft 3 Abyssal Void Shattering Talismans earlier, he would have completed 4 of them without failing once if they included the one he just made. How the hell wasn't he ready to craft the rank five Abyssal Emptiness Talisman?

The only thing that would worry Kou Chongxue was the amount of talismans Shang Xia made. If the person crafting talismans was any other Talisman Grandmaster, there wasn't a need to mention succeeding thrice in a row. They would probably be greatly exhausted if they attempted thrice, and they might need half a month to 20 days in order to restore themselves to their peak state.

However, Shang Xia made 11 attempts with 2 days of rest between each successful talisman creation. That was barely a break!

His actions only served to prove how powerful his divine perception was. That wasn't all. It also displayed how strong his recovery speed was. Throughout the entire process of talisman crafting, Kou Chongxue had no idea where Shang Xia's limits lay.

That was also what made Kou Chongxue worry. What if Shang Xia ran out of stamina halfway through crafting the rank five talisman? It was like he had said. There were only 3 pieces of rank five talisman paper. There were only 3 chances. Their chances weren't exactly optimistic to begin with.

Shang Xia seemed to have read Kou Chongxue's mind and he laughed, "Patriarch Kou, calm down. I know my limits and I have a lot of energy left."

As his understanding of the Man and Heaven Synergy Chapter deepened, his divine perception's recovery speed had long since reached a frightening level. That alone far surpassed any accomplishments he could make by strengthening his divine perception.

Ignoring the look of shock on Kou Chongxue's face, Shang Xia chuckled, "If I wish to explore the Celestial Remains with you, I will have to ensure my own safety. These Substitution Talismans and Earth Evasion Concealment Talismans are extremely useful treasures to protect myself. The Abyssal Void Shattering Talismans are the same. Moreover, the Abyssal Void Shattering Talismans are part of the same inheritance as the Abyssal Emptiness Talisman. I was just familiarizing myself with its crafting process and refining it the best I can." Shang Xia wasn't lying. He just wasn't telling Kou Chongxue the entire truth.

He didn't just plan to craft Abyssal Void Shattering Talismans to ease the process of crafting the Abyssal Emptiness Talisman in the near future. He was also trying to reach a special state of mind while crafting talismans.

Looking at the last 4 pieces of rank four talisman papers in his hand, Shang Xia thought for a second before muttering, "Patriarch, I need to use your inner qi."

"Oh?" Raising an eyebrow in shock, Kou Chongxue wondered, "Are you planning to craft the rank five talisman already?"

"Nope! I'm still going to craft rank four talismans!" Shang Xia shook his head in response.

“You already achieved such a high success rate when crafting rank four talismans alone. Why do you need my inner qi?” Kou Chongxue asked.

Despite what he was saying, he had already started to move. Pointing casually in the air before him, a strand of dipper qi entered Shang Xia’s body. Shang Xia immediately felt as though his body was about to explode from the sudden surge of qi and his veins bulged on his forehead. Beads of cold sweat started to drip to the ground below.

“One’s inner qi will experience a fundamental transformation when entering the Martial Dipper Realm and since you haven’t broken through, receiving external sources of dipper qi will place a huge strain on your body. You need to remember one thing. You cannot allow this strand of dipper qi to enter your dantian. Otherwise, it will contaminate your source qi and destroy any chances of you advancing in the future,” Kou Chongxue reminded him patiently while controlling the strand of qi he sent into Shang Xia’s body. He also tried to help Shang Xia get used to the power of the dipper qi in his body to prevent any negative effects.

Shang Xia chuckled in response, “Patriarch, rest assured I know what to do.”

With the strand of dipper qi in his body, Shang Xia could feel a heavy burden on his meridians and physique. At the same time, he felt much stronger.

He got a feeling that everything around him had fallen under his control.

However, the feeling came and went, and Shang Xia had a feeling it was because he wasn’t too accustomed to using the strand of dipper qi that came from Kou Chongxue.

At that moment, Shang Xia had a taste of the power of someone at the Martial Dipper Realm. He also understood that if he truly wished to control the space around him, he would have to advance and break through to the Martial Dipper Realm himself.

When Kou Chongxue sent a strand of dipper qi into his body, he was trying to let Shang Xia experience the difference between the inner qi of someone at the Martial Extermination Realm and the Martial Dipper Realm. It would be greatly beneficial for his breakthrough to the Martial Dipper Realm in the future.

Feeling the strand of dipper qi flowing through his body, Shang Xia didn’t forget that it would greatly exhaust Kou Chongxue for him to continuously send his dipper qi into his body. He didn’t forget their main goal either.

He tried his hardest to get used to the strand of dipper qi in his body, and tried to use it to craft rank four talismans. He held his White Bone Brush as he attempted to craft another Abyssal Void Shattering Talisman. Despite using a higher-level qi, Shang Xia started to make mistakes before he completed a third of the talisman. Due to the powerful fluctuations caused by the dipper qi in his body, the talisman paper was eventually destroyed.

The last time he experienced anything like that was when he just became a rank four Talisman Grandmaster and started crafting rank four talismans.

“This...” A look of worry appeared on Kou Chongxue’s face.

Shang Xia waved his hands casually and muttered, "It's alright. I expected as much."

Kou Chongxue wanted to reduce the amount of dipper qi he was pouring into Shang Xia's body in order to reduce the burden he had to withstand. At the same time, a smaller amount of dipper qi would mean that Shang Xia would probably be able to control it better.

However, be it Shang Xia's cultivation or strength of physique, everything exceeded Kou Chongxue's expectations. Shang Xia's current bearing was also something that caught him by surprise.

Shang Xia seemed to have entered some sort of special state the next moment. In his strange state of mind, Shang Xia seemed to have forgotten who he was talking to. Not only did he sound extremely firm when talking, but there was even a sense of incomparable confidence when he spoke.

It seemed as though he turned into a different person!

Kou Chongxue's mood quickly returned to normal and a trace of delight filled his mind. It was at that moment that he discovered that Shang Xia was truly displaying the assertiveness and self-confidence a Talisman Grandmaster should have.

Using Kou Chongxue's dipper qi to attempt to craft another rank four Abyssal Void Shattering Talisman, Shang Xia's control over the dipper qi seemed to have increased by a lot. Only after reaching the 70 percent mark did the talisman paper shatter.

This time, it wasn't because of Shang Xia's lack of control over Kou Chongxue's dipper qi. It was because Kou Chongxue messed up and caused the dipper qi in Shang Xia's body to fluctuate during the crafting process.

Shang Xia hadn't said anything when Kou Chongxue spoke up. "I made a mistake. I was too focused on your crafting process and failed to concentrate when sending my dipper qi into your body."

Shang Xia pulled out a third piece of rank four talisman paper and muttered, "It's no problem at all. We can try again."

Kou Chongxue felt that the aura coming off Shang Xia was growing slightly strange, but in a good way. He wanted to say something but when he saw Shang Xia dipping his brush into the ink again, he swallowed his words.

This time, he no longer cared about the crafting process. He focused on pouring his dipper qi into Shang Xia's body while coordinating with Shang Xia to strengthen the control he had over the dipper qi.

Everything went smoothly and Shang Xia neared the completion of the Abyssal Void Shattering Talisman. His control over the dipper qi in his body was much smoother than before.

Seeing as he was about to complete the talisman with several last strokes, Shang Xia, whose movements earlier had been flowing like water, froze.

The sudden change caused the runes on the talisman paper to freeze up and Kou Chongxue could only look on in shock as the near-complete talisman paper crumbled.

"This..." Kou Chongxue couldn't help but ask.

Before he could finish, Shang Xia raised his hand to silence him.

The next second, Shang Xia flicked his brush once to get rid of any trace of rank four talisman ink that it might contain before moving to another table. He brought out the rank five talisman ink stick Kou Chongxue had given him and started to grind it with the Spirit Water at the side.

“You...” Kou Chongxue stared at Shang Xia in shock. He wanted to continue his line of questioning but Shang Xia pulled out those rank five talisman papers he was given. A strange feeling filled Kou Chongxue’s heart and he decided not to say any more.

Are we already starting?!

Why wasn’t there a warning before we started?!

Kou Chongxue was still doubtful in his heart, but he chose to trust Shang Xia’s judgment.

The current Shang Xia seemed completely focused on his work and Kou Chongxue felt that the only thing he could do was to maintain the stability of the dipper qi he was providing.

Actually, things seemed to be unfolding as Kou Chongxue had thought previously. The more focused Shang Xia was, the more likely he was to be able to step into that special state of mind.

The moment it arrived, Shang Xia wasn’t willing to waste a second. He decisively chose to give up on the rank four Abyssal Void Shattering Talisman that was close to being done as he started on the rank five Abyssal Emptiness Talisman immediately.

Since the time he received the talisman inheritance, god knew how many times he had run through the talisman crafting process in his mind.

His movements seemed smooth despite it being his first time crafting the talisman.

Maintaining absolute focus on the rank five talisman paper before him, his brush danced like a dragon. His divine perception was depleting at a frightening pace and so was his inner qi.

Kou Chongxue, who was sitting behind Shang Xia, could tell that the amount of dipper qi he was providing was far from enough and he started pouring in a huge amount after a short moment of hesitation.

He didn’t wish to increase the amount of dipper qi he poured into Shang Xia’s body abruptly as Shang Xia might fail to control it, causing him to fail immediately. However, seeing Shang Xia’s fluid movements, he knew he was overthinking things.

Regardless of how smooth Shang Xia’s movements were, it was his first time crafting rank five talismans. Even with the assistance of Kou Chongxue, a peak-tier existence at the Martial Dipper Realm, along with his special state of mind, he wasn’t able to avoid making a mistake during the later parts of the process. His divine perception failed to perfectly meld with the dipper qi he was using and his first attempt came to an end.

“There’s no need to rush things. It’s amazing we managed to reach this stage, you should take a break...” Kou Chongxue wanted to comfort Shang Xia, but he didn’t seem to hear anything. He pulled out the second piece of rank five talisman paper and started immediately.

Kou Chongxue's face twitched involuntarily and he suddenly felt a wave of lethargy overwhelming him.

It didn't originate from his exhaustion of inner qi. Instead, he was mentally tired.

Well, whatever it was, he could basically confirm that Shang Xia had entered a strange state. It seemed as though he was in a world of its own. He could also tell that Shang Xia had used a great deal of inner qi and divine perception. After his first attempt at crafting a rank five talisman. He used up as much energy as it would to craft 5 rank four talismans.

Kou Chongxue didn't plan on interrupting Shang Xia and breaking him off from his unique state of mind. Otherwise, any plans of crafting a rank five Abyssal Emptiness Talisman would probably have to wait till Shang Xia actually breaks through to the Martial Dipper Realm.

Several days passed and Kou Chongxue, who had been pouring his dipper qi into the youngster, was observing him intently. He discovered that Shang Xia's eyes were completely red as he was panting slightly. Beads of perspiration were rolling off his forehead and other than his arm that held his brush, every part of his body was trembling.

Shang Xia was an arrow at the end of its flight.

The exhaustion brought about by crafting a rank five talisman had far surpassed their expectations.

If Shang Xia were to fail again, no matter how long he would be able to maintain his special state of mind, it would be useless. He would never be able to make a third attempt.

At the current moment, be it Shang Xia or Kou Chongxue, neither could be bothered with what would happen in the future. They were completely focused on the talisman at hand. That was because Shang Xia had reached the final phase of its creation.

Everything seemed like a huge miracle!

Along with the final stroke of his brush, Kou Chongxue didn't have time to say anything when Shang Xia spat out a mouthful of blood. He fell backwards, powerlessly.

Reaching out to grab Shang Xia, Kou Chongxue heard the sound of snapping. Cracks spread across the White Bone Brush in Shang Xia's hand and the tip of the brush thinned by more than a third.

Kou Chongxue immediately stopped pouring his dipper qi into Shang Xia and he scattered everything that remained. He didn't wish for the unconscious Shang Xia to suffer any hidden injuries due to his dipper qi.

The next moment, Shang Xia proved that Kou Chongxue had been thinking too much. Even though he was unconscious, Shang Xia's flow of extermination qi didn't stop. It continued to circulate through his body as he started to recover.

Kou Chongxue couldn't help but heave a sigh of relief. From the looks of it, Shang Xia wasn't heavily injured. The only thing he wasn't sure of was the degree of exhaustion Shang Xia's soul endured.

That could only be determined after Shang Xia regained consciousness.

With nothing else he could do, Kou Chongxue turned to look at the rank five talisman on the table. That was a real rank five talisman sitting before him, an Abyssal Emptiness Talisman!

No matter how optimistic Kou Chongxue was about the entire process, he couldn't help but feel a sense of awe now that it was complete. There was a look of disbelief on his face.

He actually did it!

Heh... The Tongyou Institution I created finally produced a rank five Talisman Grandmaster! ... Maybe it would be more accurate to call him a Talisman Sage...

Chapter 682: Nourishing the Talisman Seal

"Did you really craft a rank five talisman?!" Chu Jia who had been missing for 2 months reappeared in the Beyond Heavens Pavilion. She didn't return alone as she was accompanied by Shang Bo.

When she heard that he was injured after forcefully attempting to craft a rank five talisman, the great Formation Grandmaster of the institution rushed over as quickly as he could. She was spinning circles around the bed he was resting in while tutting non-stop. She stared at him with a shit-eating grin on her face as though she was relishing the fact that he had exhausted himself after pushing himself too far.

When Shang Xia was starting to feel annoyed, Chu Jia continued to snort in disdain, "You really are too weak. Even with Patriarch Kou's help, you managed to get yourself into this state. You look completely wrung out! Heh, can you really call yourself a man? Don't you seem a little too weak? Hmph, your grandaunt here went all the way over to the vicinity of the Celestial Remains to lay down countless formations. You better not screw up here and delay Patriarch Kou's plans!"

If not for the fact that Kou Chongxue and Shang Bo were right outside discussing some important matters, Shang Xia would have leaped out of bed and showed this little lass the true meaning of being a man...

He was so annoyed by her that the Four Constellation Qi in his dantian started to fluctuate wildly. He had to turn his attention back to his dantian to forcefully suppress it and a wave of discomfort filled his body.

"Huh? Why is your face red? Don't tell me you're not going to make it?" Chu Jia asked with a mighty innocent expression on her face.

The Four Constellation Qi in his dantian nearly went out of control at that moment. It turned into a stream of blood that came bursting out from his mouth.

If not for the fact that Shang Xia already knew Chu Jia's personality, he would have thought that her final sentence truly meant malice. Her image as a teacher of the institution was merely meant for show. That was never her true personality. Also, her mind didn't work like everyone else as she had been sheltered by the elders of the institution due to her talent in the ways of formation. As such, he knew that she was really concerned about him when she asked her final question.

Even so...

Damn it! This granddaddy here is still going to remember this grudge! Chu Jia, you're asking for it!

Shang Xia gave her a deep stare as though he wanted to see through her thoughts. However, he closed his eyes the next second and seemed to go on a mental journey.

It seemed unbelievable, but Shang Xia wasn't thinking of anything of significance. Instead, he decided to ignore her after realizing that he was powerless to do anything.

Seeing as he wasn't responding, Chu Jia lost interest in taunting him. She didn't mean any harm in the first place and was merely playing around. Since Shang Xia looked like he was taking a rest, she chose to leave his cultivation chamber.

...

When Chu Jia was messing about and teasing Shang Xia in his cultivation chamber, the 3 Martial Dipper Realm Ancestors of the Tongyou Institution were seated in the pavilion right outside as they stared at the table before them.

Their gaze was locked onto the talisman that was filled with dense runes that were drawn in deep crimson ink.

"Is this the rank five talisman?! Did the kid really succeed?!" Ji Wenlong gasped. He was in a state of disbelief and he reached out for it. However, he realized his action was slightly inappropriate and his hand froze mid way through. He awkwardly retracted it.

With the exception of Kou Chongxue, it was the first time the Martial Dipper Realm Ancestors of the institution were seeing a rank five talisman.

Well, Kou Chongxue wasn't in a position to brag about why he had seen a rank five talisman before. It was because someone used it on him back then but there wasn't much to talk about since he was still alive.

A soft sigh escaped Kou Chongxue's lips, "Fourth Brother, I was too hasty and pushed the kid a little too far. If I was really being honest, I didn't believe that he would be able to succeed. I was prepared to waste the 3 pieces of rank five talisman papers. Who would have thought that the kid's ability to craft talismans had already reached such a terrifying level? I was caught unprepared and caused him to suffer a backlash at the end. It nearly affected his source qi in his dantian!"

Shang Bo stared at him and muttered, "There's no need to blame yourself for this. The kid's journey went too smoothly and it's time for him to suffer some setbacks. Moreover, he might not even know how much you have been worrying about him for him to reach his current heights. You did so many things in the dark... If not for your help this time, he wouldn't be able to craft a rank five talisman no matter how hard he tried!"

Pausing slightly, Shang Bo eventually continued, "I am truly ashamed of myself... These few years, I haven't been paying too much attention to him even though I'm his grandfather. You definitely did more than me in caring for the kid. The situation is dire and we need him to deal with this. Moreover, his dantian is fine and he should be as good as new after resting for some time."

Kou Chongxue nodded slightly, but the guilty look in his eyes didn't lessen.

All of a sudden, their gaze froze. They saw Chu Jia leaving Shang Xia's cultivation chamber before heading straight to them.

"Teachers, that brat seems completely fine to me. His injuries shouldn't be too serious and he should be jumping about in no time." Chu Jia noticed the talisman on



the tablet and her eyes lit up. "Is that the rank five talisman he made?! It's the first time I've seen a rank five talisman. Teachers, can I take a closer look at it?"

With a wave of his sleeves, Kou Chongxue made the talisman disappear. He quickly lectured her, "Don't mess around! This talisman is extremely important and we can't be playing around with it!"

Ji Wenlong and Shang Bo chuckled softly as though the scene in front of them wasn't anything strange.

Chu Jia pouted slightly and mumbled, "Isn't it just a rank five talisman? What's so great about it? I already have an idea of how to create a rank five formation core. Hmph! I might be able to create it before I enter the Martial Dipper Realm!"

Looks of surprise appeared on the faces of Shang Bo and Ji Wenlong.

However, she was rudely interrupted by Kou Chongxue, "Didn't your deduction originate from Little Xia's Five Elements Jade? Your understanding is at the elementary level at best... If you really manage to create your rank five formation disc in the future, you should start by thanking Little Xia for his guidance."

"Guidance?!" An annoyed look quickly appeared on Chu Jia's face. "Why am I supposed to thank him?! I'm his teacher!"

...

Shang Xia didn't remain in his cultivation chamber for long. As soon as his injury didn't affect his movements, he returned to the Tongyou City.

He went over to the Void Abyss to take a look before he left and discovered that the deep abyss was almost completely filled up.

The moment the abyss disappeared, the Azure Origin World and the Azure Spiritual World would complete their fusion!

...

Back in the Shang Clan, Shang Quan rushed back after receiving Shang Xia's summons. He raced back from the Changfeng City with his fastest speed.

Because of Yan Ni'er's little babies, the Shang Clan was able to relay and receive messages from the Thousand Leaf Mountain Range extremely rapidly. There were times when the institution had to borrow their strength to send some information over.

After all, stuff like transmission talismans weren't the best tools of communication. Lower leveled ones had limited range and higher leveled ones were difficult to make. The institution couldn't possibly use them all the time and they would only be used in times of emergency.

Perhaps it was because Shang Xia managed to tame some Mutated Rain Swallows back in the battlefield between the two worlds, the institution had never given up trying to tame them. They set their sights on the flock of Mutated Rain Swallows Shang Xia brought back the other time.

According to his various information sources, Shang Xia knew that Yu Duhe, one of the four deacons of the Outreach Division, had given up on the various tasks of the division and chose to

remain in the battlefield between the two worlds to nurture the flock of Mutated Wind Swallows. At the same time, he tried to tame them on the institution's behalf.

It was said that he managed to achieve some sort of success. Moreover, it was also said that after the fusion of the worlds, the world barrier surrounding the battlefield between the two worlds would be broken and the Mutated Wind Swallows would enter the Azure Origin World.

That was in the future and the current goal of the institution seemed to be collecting the swallows' fur in order to make Spatial Pouches.

Shang Xia also learned something else. Back during the trade fair on the Three Unity Island, Liu Qinglan sold off 2 Spatial Pouches and earned quite a bit.

From that information alone, Shang Xia could determine that the flock of Mutated Rain Swallows became pretty huge. The speed at which the institution was collecting Swallow Fur had also increased.

Naturally, the Shang Clan had a share of the profits whenever the Swallow Fur was produced. The Martial Extermination Realm experts of the Shang Clan would probably be able to use Spatial Pouches in the near future.

"You... You seem injured?" Shang Quan noticed Shang Xia's poor countenance and asked. With his current cultivation, only extremely heavy injuries would cause him to reveal his expression of weakness.

A strange look appeared on Shang Quan's face the next moment. "Is there someone who can actually harm you? Did you provoke a Martial Dipper Realm Ancestor or something?"

Shang Quan might not know how strong Shang Xia was exactly, but he knew that the youngster was at the grand completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm. He was also a Talisman Grandmaster and should have plenty of life saving methods to save himself. Under such circumstances, Shang Quan felt that his nephew was probably able to retreat even if he was attacked by a Martial Dipper Realm Ancestor.

"Nope. I ran into an accident! My injuries have already stabilized and I thank Uncle Quan for your concern." Shang Xia coughed once before taking out a rank three talisman seal. He handed it to Shang Quan.

After receiving the seal, Shang Quan examined it carefully before wondering, "What is it?"

Shang Xia didn't answer the question immediately. Instead, he followed up with another question. "Uncle Quan, how has your cultivation progressed after entering the Martial Intent Realm two years ago?"

A bitter smile formed on Shang Quan's face the next moment. "I seem to be unable to make any progress. However, I seem to have reached an understanding. My talent in cultivation is limited and the Martial Intent Realm should be my limit. I'm focused on contributing to the clan at the moment and I hope that the younger generation can grow up well."

Shang Xia thought about it for a second and muttered, "Regardless, Uncle Quan, you shouldn't give up on cultivating completely. As the saying goes, as long as you put your heart to it, you might move the heavens and achieve the impossible..."

Shang Quan waved his hand casually while laughing, “You don’t have to console me. I know myself best. Moreover, I’m not too interested in cultivation. I would rather play around and try to make some talisman ink. Also, you said that you needed me for something when you called me back from the Changfeng City. Is it related to this piece of stone seal?”

Shang Xia nodded slightly. He outlined the matter of talisman seals to Shang Quan and informed him never to reveal the seal to others. He finally concluded, “From my conclusion, the moment I complete the final rune, I will need a Martial Intent Realm cultivator’s divine sense to start nourishing the seal. You will need to refine it day and night until your spirituality manages to fully stick to the seal...”

Before Shang Xia could finish, Shang Quan replied, “Just leave it to me!”

Even though he promised, he didn’t seem too convinced. He continued to ask, “If the talisman seal is complete, will I really be able to create a rank three talisman by stamping it on a rank three talisman paper?”

Shang Xia nodded in response. “I already created rank one and two talisman seals. The process of creating a rank three talisman seal is extremely tough and I thought of using this method to imbue some spirituality in it. I have no idea how long it will take though...”

After he spoke, a trace of disappointment flashed in his eyes. He was clearly still not satisfied with the way rank three talisman seals would be produced.

“Say no more! You’ve been a rank four Talisman Grandmaster for too long and seem to have forgotten how important rank three talismans are. There’s no need to mention that every single rank three talisman that manages to make it out of the institution is sold at a horrifying price. Everyone will be more than happy to snatch them up! Back when you were a rank three Talisman Master, you crafted a batch of talismans. All of them were carefully preserved by the various factions that managed to obtain them. If the seal is successful, its worth will be much higher than a high-grade weapon even if it can only be used for a limited number of times. In fact, we might not give it up even in exchange for a divine weapon...” Shang Quan explained. His evaluation was pretty much similar to that of those Martial Dipper Realm Ancestors of the institution and Shang Xia couldn’t help but feel a newfound respect for his Uncle Quan.

After talking so much, Shang Quan seemed to have thought of something else and he muttered, “Oh right, what talisman will this seal be able to produce anyway?”

“It’s the Void Breaking Bamboo Talisman Seal. It’s used to break restrictions and formations,” Shang Xia replied.

Shang Quan’s eyes lit up the next moment. “I heard you talk about this before. It’s one of the more complicated rank three talismans out there. After you complete the talisman seal, can you lend it to me for some time? I would like to play around a little, haha.”

“Uncle Quan, you might not know, but if the method works, you will be the only one who can use the talisman seal after it’s stained with your spirituality. Other people might be able to use it, but they will never be able to use it as well as you. Perhaps, they might not be able to use it at all!” Shang Xia chuckled bitterly.

“Huh?!” Shang Quan gasped. He immediately felt the talisman seal in his hands growing heavier. He wanted to return it to Shang Xia, but he felt a little reluctant. He looked at Shang Xia and muttered, “Wouldn’t it be a little inappropriate to give it to me? After all, this talisman seal is extremely important and it’s too valuable...”

Shang Xia laughed and interrupted him, “That’s exactly why I can only entrust this to the most reliable person in our clan.”

Shang Quan was truly touched by Shang Xia’s words and he promised, “You won’t have to worry about anything. I’ll nourish it with my divine sense day and night and I won’t let anyone discover it.”

Shang Quan understood that it was true that his cultivation had reached its limit. He would only be able to deal with ordinary affairs in the clan. However, if Shang Xia’s conjecture was correct and he managed to create the rank three talisman seal, his position in the clan will never fall!

Even if he would only be able to use the talisman seal 100 or even 200 times, it didn’t matter! There were tons of rank three Talisman Masters who would never be able to craft so many rank three talismans in their lifetime!

Chapter 683: Rank Five Advancement Formula

After Shang Xia left the Shang Clan Manor, he went to the Medicine Hall in the institution and found Alchemist Ge Wangchuan.

“What? You wish to look for my uncle?” Ge Wangchuan revealed an awkward expression. “My uncle’s body isn’t doing too well recently. He has been resting at home and hasn’t seen many guests. Grandmaster Shang, may I ask the reason you wish to look for him?”

Shang Xia knew that Ge Muchen was getting on in age and was no longer actively participating in matters regarding the Medicine Hall. However, he ran into a massive problem and only grandmasters like Ge Muchen would be able to help him.

He fell into contemplation after hearing Ge Wangchuan’s question before responding, “Junior wishes to consult Grandmaster Ge Muchen about matters regarding my rank five advancement medicine.”

With a strange look on his face, Ge Wangchuan stared at Shang Xia. “Grandmaster Shang, I’m afraid even at my uncle’s peak, he was merely a rank four Alchemist Grandmaster. His personal cultivation never crossed the Martial Intent Realm. Given his advanced age, aren’t you just making things difficult for him if you wish to ask him questions about your rank five advancement medicine?”

Shang Xia could hear the discontent in Ge Wangchuan's voice and he explained patiently, "Is there anyone else in the institution more knowledgeable than Grandmaster Ge Muchen when it comes to advancement medicine? Also, I don't need him to create the medicine. I only wish to receive some pointers from him on how I should go about making it."

Ge Wangchuan was slightly taken aback and he asked hastily, "Oh? Are you not looking for him to make your advancement medicine?"

Shang Xia realized that he didn't really explain himself well earlier and he quickly explained, "Junior managed to obtain a rank five advancement formula and I pretty much gathered everything I required to make it. I require some guidance on how to create the advancement medicine with those treasures."

Ge Wangchuan heaved a sigh of relief after hearing what Shang Xia said. "You should have said so earlier! However, our institution has 3 Martial Dipper Realm Ancestors now. Why don't you look for them instead?"

"My advancement medicine is vastly different from what they used. Moreover, didn't Grandmaster Ge Muchen create their advancement medicine..."

Ge Wangchuan stared at Shang Xia in shock. He couldn't believe his ears and gasped, "Did our institution manage to get a second rank five advancement formula?! Oh, but anyway, you might have misunderstood something. With a complete advancement formula, you won't need a rank five Alchemist Grandmaster to make a move. Especially since you already gathered all the herbs and treasures required."

"Master Ge Wangchuan, are you able to do it?" Shang Xia's eyes widened in shock. He recalled how the few rank three Alchemists joined hands to create his Four Seasons Sansara Wine back then.

Roaring with laughter, Ge Wangchuan responded, "Do you think that's possible?! If we're talking about a rank four advancement medicine, the few of us might be able to do something if we joined hands. However, that's a rank five advancement medicine we're talking about! Even with the complete formula and recipe, we will need a rank four Alchemist Grandmaster to make a move."

"This... After saying so much, aren't you still telling me that we will need Grandmaster Ge Muchen's involvement?" Shang Xia frowned.

Ge Wangchuan waved his hands casually and muttered, "Not really. The 3 sets of rank five advancement medicine used by our Martial Dipper Realm Ancestors weren't made by my uncle."

Shang Xia knew that Kou Chongxue, Ji Wenlong, and his grandfather, Shang Bo, used the same advancement medicine to enter the Martial Dipper Realm. He also knew that the advancement medicine wasn't perfect and they had to supplement it with a huge amount of world origin. The advancement process was thus extremely dangerous and would cause a massive stir every time it happened.

After hearing what Ge Wangchuan said, Shang Xia felt slightly annoyed with himself. He wondered why he didn't ask Kou Chongxue and the others where they got their advancement medicine from.

Of course, that was a problem he just realized. No one could blame him for thinking that Grandmaster Ge Muchen was the one who created them. After all, Ge Muchen's reputation in the institution was just too large! Shang Xia felt that even if he didn't craft their advancement medicines personally, he would have something to do with it.

"Master Ge, do you know who created their advancement medicine?" Shang Xia asked.

Unfortunately, Ge Wangchuan shook his head and chuckled helplessly, "I'm afraid they're the only ones who know who made the medicine. My uncle might also know, but it's not something I am aware of. Young Master Shang, I'm afraid you will have to ask them personally. They shouldn't keep it from you anyway."

Shang Xia might not be able to meet Ge Muchen, but he learned a piece of important information that day. He discovered that Kou Chongxue and the rest might be hiding another Grandmaster Alchemist and his trip to the Medicine Hall wasn't in vain.

...

Finally meeting Kou Chongxue back in the Beyond Heavens Pavilion, Shang Xia immediately started grumbling, "Patriarch Kou, why didn't you tell me where to find someone to create my rank five advancement medicine? I ran all the way over to the Medicine Hall and nearly had to disturb Grandmaster Ge Muchen."

A strange look appeared on Kou Chongxue's face and he seemed a little surprised. "Didn't your grandfather tell you anything?"

Shang Xia's expression sank instantly. It seemed as though the entire series of events was a giant farce. He mumbled softly, "Ever since I returned from the adventure to the Manyu Continent, I'm afraid I've seen you more than I've seen my grandpa..."

Breaking out into an annoying laugh, Kou Chongxue explained, "Alright, I can introduce the Alchemist Grandmaster to you. It's great that you already have the complete formula and you only need him to follow the steps to produce the medicine. However, that person isn't part of our institution yet and will definitely grasp a portion of your advancement formula..."

Shang Xia's heart trembled slightly. Kou Chongxue said that the person wasn't part of the institution yet, and that would mean that he was actively trying to recruit the other party. Moreover, he sounded pretty confident about it.

Then again, for the Alchemist Grandmaster to create Kou Chongxue and the others' rank five advancement medicine, they had to trust each other a lot...

Shang Xia chuckled softly in response, "As long as he can ensure that nothing goes wrong with the advancement medicine, it doesn't matter even if I show him the complete formula. Will there be anyone who will dare to test it on themselves?"

Shang Xia's words revealed his extreme confidence.

With his ever increasing level of cultivation, Shang Xia was gradually starting to discover that advancement medicines weren't the only thing a cultivator needed to break through. Without a strong foundation and enough accumulations, one would never be able to advance. Moreover, they

needed a strong sense of belief in their own martial dao. Without a clear path, forcefully breaking through would only lead to a dead end.

Shang Xia refused to believe that there was another person out there in the Azure Origin World and Azure Spiritual World who had heard of the cycle of restraint and propagation of the 5 elements. Even he didn't know too much about how they worked.

His knowledge in his current path of cultivation couldn't be said to be great. Otherwise, he would be able to integrate it much better into the current state of cultivation and not receive so much backlash even though he had only taught students in the Martial Extremity Realm back in the institution.

It was nothing for him to reveal a part of the advancement formula, namely the recipe for the advancement medicine. In fact, even if he revealed the entire formula, it didn't matter! Without the Crimson Soul Tablet's interference, anyone who tried using the advancement medicine wouldn't be able to ensure a good balance of the five elements when breaking through.

Kou Chongxue obviously noticed the nonchalance and confidence behind Shang Xia's proclamation and a profound gaze flashed in his eyes. However, he quickly started laughing again, "That would be for the best. However, you hadn't gathered all the treasures and herbs required to craft your advancement medicine. How is he supposed to do anything?"

A helpless smile returned to Shang Xia's face. "I'm lacking in a Water Element rank five spiritual treasure. If I had it, I would be able to get the Alchemist Grandmaster to create a half-finished product. Once I obtain the last 2 strands of fate dipper essence, I would be able to combine them myself and use the power of the Five Elements Jade to complete the medicine myself.

Shang Xia might not be an accomplished alchemist, but once the Alchemist Grandmaster completed a majority of the world and produced the semi-finished medicine, he would be able to take the last step himself by adding the last few treasures. Moreover, Shang Xia also had the Origin Jade that would be filled with the 5 elements in the near future.

As such, there was no need for the Alchemist Grandmaster to know the entire advancement formula. Shang Xia would be able to prevent leaking it to anyone. Especially to his enemies who would be able to deduce his weakness from it.

Because of how important an advancement medicine was, the cultivator would have to trust the alchemist greatly.

Kou Chongxue thought for a second and mumbled, "How's this... There will be a private gathering in the Beyond Heavens Pavilion soon and the Martial Dipper Realm experts of our worlds will be taking part in it. You can stay by my side and pretend to be an attendant. There should be a round of trades happening and there might be something you need."

Trades between Martial Dipper Realm Ancestors?!

Shang Xia was greatly moved when he heard the news. After all, treasures that were traded between Martial Dipper Realm Ancestors would undoubtedly be extremely precious.

Seemingly able to guess what Shang Xia was thinking, Kou Chongxue sighed, "You better not let your hopes up. After all, these gatherings are usually very casual. These ancestors will probably be trading treasures related to the growth of their faction or their juniors. Not too many rank five

spiritual treasures will appear and there are times when people will mess with you to not let you obtain the treasures you have your eyes on.”

#### Chapter 684: Entering in Advance

When Shang Xia was feeling a little excited about the gathering between Martial Dipper Realm experts, Shang Bo returned with a piece of news that doused the buzz in Shang Xia’s heart.

“You’re not going to be able to take part in the gathering. Prepare to enter the Celestial Remains ahead of time!” Shang Bo glanced at Shang Xia before turning to Kou Chongxue, “There are others who have set their sights on the Celestial Remains and are planning to break into it forcefully.”

“Who are they?” Kou Chongxue asked. He, who looked like an ordinary mortal, suddenly burst forth with a frightening aura. It was so sharp it could pierce the skies and the air around him changed. He seemed to have transformed into a sword that could sunder the heavens as the space around him twisted unnaturally.

Shang Xia wasn’t too far away from him and the instant Kou Chongxue released his aura, he felt a giant pressure crushing him. It was so strong that he found it hard to breathe.

He couldn’t help but feel overwhelmed in that instant. That was the true power of someone at the peak of the Martial Dipper Realm! Due to his increased cultivation and soaring strength, Shang Xia was starting to become a little arrogant. He even managed to escape from several Martial Dipper Realm Ancestors in the past and that also served to boost his ego. However, everything evaporated the moment he was suppressed by Kou Chongxue’s aura.

Shang Bo, who was also in the Martial Dipper Realm, frowned. He quickly looked at Shang Xia who was even closer to Kou Chongxue than himself and he noticed that his grandson’s face had turned completely red.

One had to know that an expert like Shang Xia would be able to hold his breath for hours without the slightest problem. However, he was finding it hard to withstand Kou Chongxue’s aura even for a little bit.

The news might have shocked Kou Chongxue and he failed to control himself, but he quickly regained control and managed to stop his aura from leaking out of his body. That demonstrated his great control over his fate dippers and dipper qi, but he turned to look at Shang Xia with a look of amazement.

The kid wasn’t actually forced off his feet by the pressure. Hehe, looks like I still underestimated him...

With Shang Bo’s appearance and the information he brought back, Shang Xia knew what his grandfather had been doing the whole time. He had been keeping an eye on the Celestial Remains the entire time!

“Do you know who they are?” Kou Chongxue asked.

Shang Bo shook his head slowly and muttered, “They’re extremely cautious. However, I can be sure of one thing. They’re experts from our Azure Origin World.”



Kou Chongxue's voice sank as he said softly, "There aren't many people who have the ability to force their way into the Celestial Remains before it opens naturally..."

"Could they be borrowing other sources of strength like us? I was able to craft the Abyssal Emptiness Talisman that can ease our travel through the void, but others might also be able to come up with other methods like it. Moreover, the talisman I made might be useful when it comes to breaking through formations and spatial barriers, but it might not be a perfect fit for what we're doing..." Shang Xia muttered.

"It doesn't matter. We can't drag this out any longer. We have to move now." Kou Chongxue muttered.

Turning to Shang Bo, he continued, "Once we make our move and force our way into the Celestial Remains, we will most likely cause a huge disturbance. Many people will be drawn over but regardless, we would have the upper hand as we managed to act first. Protect the formation used to receive us, but if you fail to do so, don't worry about it. Give it up if you have to."

"Relax. Nothing unexpected will happen. The moment someone barges into the Celestial Remains, everyone will understand what has happened. No one will bother looking for me," Shang Bo mentioned.

What he said allowed Shang Xia to understand that Kou Chongxue seemed to have many other plans when he entered the Celestial Remains. Of course, he wasn't surprised. For existences like Kou Chongxue who stood at the peak of the Azure Origin World and Azure Spiritual World, every step he took had to be calculated. The schemes and considerations he had when making any move were massive!

Just like that, Kou Chongxue, Shang Bo, and Shang Xia started to make their way over.

Shang Xia quickly discovered that neither Martial Dipper Realm Ancestors were flying while controlling their fate dippers under their feet. It was completely unlike Martial Extermination Realm experts who had to push their extermination origins beneath their feet when they flew. Instead, they seemed to be walking normally while the space around them twisted unnaturally.

Is this the way Martial Dipper Realm Ancestors travel? Do they bend the space around them directly?

Shang Xia was greatly taken aback.

With their protection, Shang Xia realized that he had been brought into a sort of special space controlled by the two. They used their fate dippers to maintain the bubble around them as they moved and Shang Xia managed to grab a free ride.

Seeing how Shang Xia was looking left and right confusedly, Kou Chongxue chuckled softly and started to explain something. "The Azure Origin World and Azure Spiritual World contain more than a dozen continents. It could be said that we own an extensive area. Even so, the space we occupy in the vast sea of stars could barely be considered a speck of sand. The Beyond Heavens Pavilion is like a giant curtain covering the worlds and it's what we see when we raise our heads to the skies while in them. If we look at the Beyond Heavens Pavilion from the vast sea of stars, it would resemble an entrance to our worlds... Do you understand what I'm saying?"

Shang Xia nodded and thought about it for a second before asking, “Would that mean that we would be able to save a lot of travel time if we didn’t travel across the continents themselves and use the Beyond Heavens Pavilion as a transit point instead?”

“You got it. However, only Martial Dipper Realm Ancestors are able to use methods like that. That is because Martial Extermination Realm cultivators aren’t able to return to the world without guidance from a Martial Dipper Realm expert. Of course, one would be able to return if they had the assistance of their holy lands but that only applies to those who belonged to the same faction. No power would allow others to enter their territory easily.” Kou Chongxue roared with laughter.

Shang Xia seemed to have thought of something and asked, “If that was the case, back during the battle on the Taihang Mountains, did you and Deputy Patriarch Ji manage to send your Fate Dipper Clones over in time because you traveled through the Beyond Heavens Pavilion?”

“Of course. How else do you think you’re still alive?” Shang Bo answered the question in Kou Chongxue’s stead.

By the time their conversation concluded, they arrived in a certain spot in space. According to Shang Xia’s calculations, they should be somewhere above the Jiao Continent.

Seeing several massive spatial cracks and crumbled remains of some strange structure, Shang Xia gasped, “Is this where the Celestial Remains are located?”

Kou Chongxue didn’t answer the question as he started walking towards the ruined land.

Shang Bo lagged behind a little bit as he warned Shang Xia seriously, “Follow behind us and don’t wander around. There are many dangers hidden in the ruins and stuff like hidden spatial cracks have the ability to kill you.”

Shang Xia nodded like a chicken pecking on rice grains. He also asked, “Grandpa, are we in the Beyond Heavens Pavilion somewhere above the Jiao Continent? Was there a faction there who managed to establish their own Elysium?”

Shang Bo turned to look at where Kou Chongxue was walking before shaking his head to respond to Shang Xia, “I have no idea. I only know that the Celestial Remains existed before the Divine Martial Calendar. Only the Divine Capital Sect and Eternal Sect might know anything about it.”

Again, the time before the Divine Martial Calendar was brought up. How much did 800 years of time cover up?

Shang Xia leaped over a bunch of debris and the edges of his clothes were ripped apart without any warning.

“Hey! Be careful! Don’t let your thoughts run wild and pay attention to where we’re walking!” Shang Bo turned back and instructed again.

Shang Xia’s expression was a lot more solemn. His divine perception swept across the space where his clothes were torn and he discovered a tiny fluctuation in space.

When he tried to stretch his divine perception into it, he discovered that it was sliced off clearly before disappearing into the crack.

“Hiss...” Shang Xia sucked in a cold breath. The spatial crack actually had the ability to sever divine perception! Half the reason behind his hiss was because he was shocked, the other half came from the intense pain brought about after his divine perception was sliced away.

Shang Bo turned to look at him again, and the look of concern and warning in his eyes deepened.

No longer daring to play around, Shang Xia started to follow behind them obediently as they made their way deeper into the remains.

After some time, Shang Xia, who had been holding back for a long time, couldn't help but ask, “Grandpa, is this just the outskirts of the Celestial Remains?”

“Something like that. I know what you wish to ask. These ruins probably come from the original structures that belonged to the Elysium. When it was destroyed back then, these suffered massive damage. As time passed, it eventually became what we see here.” Shang Bo explained without turning his head.

Even existences like Kou Chongxue had to make their way into the ruins carefully.

No one knew how long had passed, but after Shang Xia cried out in shock several times, Kou Chongxue stopped abruptly. “We're here. Fourth Brother, I'll leave this to you!”

Shang Xia reacted quickly and realized they should have arrived at the location where Chu Jia laid down her formations.

All he could see was a scene of destruction, and he quickly extended his divine perception outwards again. He only managed to feel an odd spatial fluctuation that seemed to be resonating with something on Kou Chongxue's body.

It seemed as though Chu Jia's methods of laying down formations were getting more and more profound.

Shang Xia could probably guess that Chu Jia's formation managed to fuse perfectly with the strange scene of destruction before him.

Turning around suddenly, Kou Chongxue stared at Shang Xia, “Kid, do you remember the way we took to get in?”

Surprised, Shang Xia ran through the route they took to enter the ruins before nodding in affirmation. “I do.”

“Remember, every faction has their own safe path to take into the ruins. Every one of them was discovered after paying a huge price. You cannot reveal the route we took to anyone.” Kou Chongxue warned in a deep voice.

Shang Xia immediately nodded in response. However, he quickly asked another question of his own. “Patriarch Kou, did you explore the route we took yourself?”

“Heh, I have my own methods... Why the hell do you have so many questions anyway?” Kou Chongxue snorted in response.

He didn't care about Shang Xia and turned to Shang Bo the next moment. "Fourth Brother, where did you notice the other party back then?"

"I didn't see who it was and they probably concealed their presence. I only managed to discover a slight trace of their remnant energy after they left. That is how I learned of their presence." Shang Bo pointed in several different directions while explaining.

Kou Chongxue connected the points they took and mumbled thoughtfully, "Could they be from the Jing Continent?"

Chapter 685: KNOCK KNOCK

"Jing Continent? Are they members of the Yuanchen Sect? Or should I say, the Xiangyang Holy Land?" Shang Xia heard about the Yuanchen Sect in the past and he asked.

Shang Bo seemed to have thought of something after hearing Kou Chongxue's guess and his expression twisted slightly. "Could it be..."

Kou Chongxue nodded slightly. "Looks like the rumors are true. The Yuanchen Sect seems to have set their sights on the Celestial Remains..."

"What do we do now?" Shang Bo wore a solemn expression as he muttered. Clearly, the Yuanchen Sect's plan had placed a huge pressure on Kou Chongxue and Shang Bo.

"We can't avoid it now that things have already progressed to this stage. Even if we run into them, we can only go all out and fight them with them. At the very least, we have the initiative..." Kou Chongxue muttered.

A ruthless light flashed through Shang Bo's eyes. "Should I move in the dark and..."

Kou Chongxue gestured for him to stop and he warned, "We can't mess around right now. You're not a match for them!"

He didn't seem assured and he continued to instruct Shang Bo, "Your task is to protect this formation secretly and welcome us when we emerge. You have to protect yourself above all else."

Shang Bo hesitated slightly but nodded eventually.

Turning around, Kou Chongxue started to make his way deeper into the ruins. He didn't forget to yell, "Kid, follow me. We need to hurry up."

Shang Xia glanced at his grandfather before running after Kou Chongxue.

After traveling for what seemed like tens of feet, Shang Xia discovered that they changed direction somewhat. He instinctively turned to look for his grandfather, but he was nowhere to be seen. In fact, the entire area seemed different.

"We're closing in on the entrance to the Celestial Realm. Back when it collapsed, it caused the space around here to crumble and the fluctuations spread far and wide. It might seem like we only took a few steps, but we traveled an unknown distance. The

difference in space is extremely hard to grasp.” Kou Chongxue explained as he expected Shang Xia to be confused.

After a moment of contemplation, Shang Xia asked, “Patriarch Kou, is the Yuanchen Sect very powerful? My grandpa... He seems to be very wary of them.”

“Are you curious about their goal here?” Kou Chongxue asked without turning his head.

Shang Xia didn't deny it, and he asked, “Aren't they planning to enter the Celestial Remains to look for treasures and inheritances?”

Kou Chongxue sighed softly in response, “The Jing Continent is the largest continent in our Azure Origin World and the Yuanchen Sect is second only to existences like the Divine Capital Sect and Eternal Sect. The Xiangyang Holy Land is also the most likely faction to establish their own Elysium.”

Shang Xia gasped. “Is the Yuanchen Sect planning to ascend to the same level as the 3 super powers?”

“Is that strange to you?” Kou Chongxue raised an eyebrow and glanced at Shang Xia.

“Not really. I only wish to ask if there are any inheritances in the Celestial Remains capable of raising one to an Elysium...” Shang Xia replied hastily.

To that, Kou Chongxue released a strange laugh. “Hehe, you don't have to think that far. Do you think everyone knows the method to ascend from a Mysterious World to a holy land?”

Shang Xia paused for a second before realizing what he meant. However, the patriarch had already left and he tried to keep up the best he could. “Patriarch, could it be...”

“I entered the Celestial Ruins twice in the past. The first time I entered was over 20 years ago. The You Continent faced a massive calamity and I barely entered the Martial Dipper Realm. I managed to discover a way to raise a Mysterious World to a Holy Land. It was also then when I had the idea to establish the Tongyou Institution. I thought back to how I entered the Martial Dipper Realm in the first place and made a bold guess. Ji Wenlong and your grandfather proved me right recently and no matter how crude the method of advancement seems, our institution managed to obtain a passage into the Martial Dipper Realm. It's one of the main criteria we need to become a holy land.”

“The second time I came, I brought your grandfather with me. Even though I was nearly killed after being surrounded by numerous enemies, I managed to pave the way for your grandfather to enter the Martial Dipper Realm.”

Kou Chongxue paused for a second and sighed, “Because of that... Second Brother Liu became discontent with us and took matters into his own hands to barge into the Coral Forest. Without enough preparations, he tried to obtain the Zhu Family's inheritance when the time wasn't right. Well, you know what happened next.”

After he was done speaking, he stopped suddenly before turning to stare at Shang Xia. A wide grin returned to his face and he laughed, "Also, this is the third time I'm entering the Celestial Remains!"

Seeing as Kou Chongxue had stopped, Shang Xia pretty much knew that they had arrived.

His divine perception reached for the space in front of Kou Chongxue, but he discovered it seemed to have dropped into some sort of endless abyss. He was so frightened that he violently retracted it in case it was swallowed by some sort of spatial crack or things of the sort.

Kou Chongxue revealed a look of schadenfreude when he noticed Shang Xia's shocked expression. Obviously, he knew what Shang Xia was experiencing as he made the same mistake before.

"This is the entrance and exit of the Celestial Remains. As the space here crumbled a long time ago, there are tons of spatial fragments in the area. They formed some sort of special spatial wall and it will only weaken once every 20 years or so. Even though it's said to be weakened, only Martial Dipper Realm experts would possess the strength to cross the spatial barrier to enter the interior of the Celestial Remains."

After he spoke, Kou Chongxue raised his hand to reveal the Hidden Frost Sword. It appeared at an unknown time, but he didn't slash it down directly. Instead, he retrieved a talisman from his sleeves. It was a talisman made from beast skin and it shone a crimson red. It was precisely the Abyssal Emptiness Talisman Shang Xia made not too long ago.

When Shang Xia was calming his mind to prepare for Kou Chongxue to breach the spatial barrier, the patriarch turned around and asked, "Oh yeah, didn't I give you 3 pieces of rank five talisman papers back then? You used 2 of them... What talisman do you plan to craft with the final piece?"

"Why the hell are you in the mood to talk about this right now?" Shang Xia growled as he was shocked by the sudden question.

Kou Chongxue sniggered softly before lightly bringing his sword down. He tapped the space before him, but his gentle movements brought about a completely different effect. The divine weapon that was well-known across the Azure Origin World resembled a slumbering beast that had awakened. A loud hum filled the area around them as a terrifying sword qi emerged.

The Hidden Frost Sword remained motionless in front of Kou Chongxue, but sword light flashed from time to time. The space around them was sliced open and tiny spatial cracks were created. With Kou Chongxue in the middle, a giant sphere of spatial cracks was formed.

It was clear to Shang Xia that Kou Chongxue was storing up power for a horrifying strike.

Not daring to venture far, he took several steps to remain close to the patriarch.

"Go!" Kou Chongxue muttered once and by the time Shang Xia raised his head, he felt a palm wrapping itself around his wrist as it dragged him through a spatial tunnel.

"Follow me! Do not let go!"

Chapter 686: Neutralizing Dipper Qi

The moment Kou Chongxue forced his way into the Celestial Remains, Shang Bo who looked to be several thousand feet away from the entrance raised his head in shock. He noticed the heaven-shaking sword qi and the spatial cracks that filled the region as he sighed to himself, “With such a huge disturbance, more than half the Martial Dipper Realm Ancestors on our Azure Origin World will probably be alerted to our actions here...”

A worried look flashed across Shang Bo’s face and he stared in the direction of the sword qi while clasp his hands behind his back. After a short moment, he stepped back into the region of destruction. His figure twisted slightly in the light and disappeared. The destroyed region regained its original peace and it seemed as though no one had stepped foot in it for a long time.

...

Shang Xia might have been trying to maintain his consciousness and observe the things around him, but the rapidly twisting space around him caused him to feel nothing but a blur. All he knew was that he was traveling through some sort of spatial tunnel.

“Martial Dipper... Only by entering the Martial Dipper Realm will my soul evolve again. Only then will I be able to gain a proper experience when traveling through spaces like these...” Shang Xia thought to himself.

All he could do was circulate his inner qi to prepare himself for any danger that might appear suddenly.

As he tried to circulate his Four Constellation Qi, he discovered that the sense of oppression he felt due to the twisting space around him gradually weakening.

While circulating his Four Constellation Qi, Shang Xia discovered something strange. The pressure he felt wasn’t weakening because of the increased strength of his extermination origin protection barrier around his body. Instead, his Four Constellation Qi seemed to be eating away at the strange pressure that was pressing down from the void.

One had to know that even when traveling through spatial tunnels like that, dangers were everywhere. Shang Xia was able to maintain his current state as Kou Chongxue was bearing the bulk of the pressure.

Shang Xia was shocked, and a trace of divine light flashed across his mind.

All of a sudden, Kou Chongxue’s blurry voice rang beside his ears. “You better be careful. I’m going to use the Abyssal Emptiness Talisman soon.”

As soon as he completed his sentence, a strange spatial force descended around Shang Xia. Everything in the surroundings seemed to disappear as their flying speed increased by a whole lot.

“Hahaha! Nice!” Kou Chongxue’s clear laughter rang through the spatial tunnel. Even though it was still slightly distorted due to the twisting space and sounded really strange, Shang Xia could hear the excitement he was feeling. “It truly deserves to be a rank five talisman! Our journey became so much smoother!”

“Break!” He interrupted himself with a loud yell right after he spoke, and the space nearby exploded. Countless fragments of sword qi flew in all directions and Shang Xia

felt his body turning a lot heavier all of a sudden. His divine perception that was useless earlier returned, and the familiar feeling of feeling the things around him came back. He quickly discovered his current situation.

He could feel himself falling and with a quick intention, his extermination origins appeared and became a streak of light beneath his feet. His figure froze in mid air.

Heaving a sigh of relief, Shang Xia observed the area around him.

Even though he had a guess of what the interior of the Celestial Realm would look like, he was still greatly shocked at the sight.

The scene of destruction wasn't what surprised him. Instead, it was the fact that the destroyed remains of several pavilions and structures were still hovering in mid air.

"This..." Shang Xia didn't know how to explain his thoughts when he saw what was around him.

All of a sudden, a loose branch flew at him from a certain direction.

Shang Xia stared at the lush green leaves that grew on it along with several pinecones flying by him. He could feel a boundless aura of vitality from it.

He couldn't help but look at the tree below where the branch came from. Examining it further, he noticed clumps of mud under the tree wrapped up in thick bunches of roots.

"Are we so lucky to run into a huge opportunity the moment we enter?" Shang Xia felt a trace of excitement bubbling in his heart.

Even if that was an ordinary pine tree when it just took root, there was no way it could remain a common pine after so many years of growing in the Celestial Remains that was filled with an abundance of heaven and earth qi. Moreover, from the vitality it was emitting, Shang Xia knew that it was something special.

He wanted to head over to examine it, but Kou Chongxue's voice came from behind him. "That's the Ten Thousand Needle Pine. I didn't think we would run into it the moment we entered. You better be careful."

"What?" Shang Xia's movement froze.

Kou Chongxue drifted over from not too far away and stood beside Shang Xia before his gaze landed on the pine tree. He explained, "Haven't you noticed the many restrictions around the tree?"

Shang Xia didn't reply immediately. Instead, he examined Kou Chongxue from top to bottom carefully and gasped, "You... Are you a fate dipper clone?!"

"Yeah? This is one of the clones that contain one of my fate dippers. I didn't think you would be able to notice it." Kou Chongxue's Clone stared at Shang Xia with a trace of shock.

Shang Xia looked all around, but he failed to notice Kou Chongxue's true body's whereabouts.



“Don’t bother finding me. The moment we entered, 2 fate dipper clones were created. I’m here to ensure your safety while the other and my true body enter the depths of the Celestial Remains. After all, we would be able to work more efficiently once we split up,” the fate dipper clone beside Shang Xia muttered. However, his gaze never left the Ten Thousand Needle Pine.

“This... How should I...” Shang Xia hesitated slightly as he was afraid of offending the patriarch even though it was just a clone.

The clone seemed to know what Shang Xia wanted to ask, and he muttered, “I was a clone created from the Water Origin Fate Dipper. You can just call me ‘Patriarch Kou’,” Pausing for a second, he continued, “I know you’re still looking for a rank five spiritual treasure and two fate dipper essences. Some of them are of the Water element and I’m here to help.”

“Many thanks, Patriarch Kou.” Shang Xia cupped his fists before turning to look at the Ten Thousand Needle Pine that had drifted closer to them. “Patriarch, you said that there were restrictions around the tree. I managed to notice them too. Doesn’t that mean that the tree is something special?”

Kou Chongxue’s Clone seemed a little cold and he muttered in a chilly voice, “Can’t you tell that these restrictions have been made recently?”

Shang Xia’s eyes widened in shock. He scanned the tree with his divine perception again and understood what he meant. “Patriarch Kou, do you mean to say that someone placed those restrictions when they entered 20 years ago?”

Obviously, Kou Chongxue's Clone’s sense of time was different from Shang Xia. With the reminder, Shang Xia also understood that the Ten Thousand Needle Pine might pose some threat to him, but the real danger would be the layer of restrictions around it. After all, it was laid down by a Martial Dipper Realm Ancestor.

Only Martial Dipper Realm Ancestors could enter the Celestial Remains when it opens. Unless there were Martial Extermination Realm experts like Shang Xia who were brought in by their Ancestors.

Despite becoming a little more serious, Shang Xia didn’t plan on giving up the treasure. He asked, “Wouldn’t the restrictions on it mean that the pine tree isn’t something ordinary? Patriarch, do you know what the Ten Thousand Needle Pine actually is? Is it a rank five treasure?”

Kou Chongxue's Clone shook his head and muttered, “Don’t bother with it. The Ten Thousand Needle Pine is originally a rank four spiritual treasure. The only upside to it is that it can live for a long time. From how it’s still full of vitality, it should be able to last for countless years. Right now, it can be considered a treasure at the peak of the fourth rank. It’s close to turning into a rank five spiritual treasure. That’s probably why those people who entered the Celestial Remains back then chose to place restrictions around it instead of harvesting the tree.”

Shang Xia seemed a little disappointed, but he still chuckled, “At the very least, we should take those pinecones. They have to be precious treasures.”

Kou Chongxue's Clone nodded. "Remember the rank four spiritual wine recipe you brought back from the Taihang Mountains? You'll be able to make it with them."

Shang Xia didn't plan on getting Kou Chongxue's Clone to make a move. Instead, he wanted to see if he could break through restrictions himself.

A light flashed in Kou Chongxue's Clone's eyes when he saw what Shang Xia was doing and he didn't say anything more.

Gathering his Four Constellation Qi in his palm, he slammed it into the restriction around the Ten Thousand Needle Pine.

Massive fluctuations came from the surface of the Ten Thousand Needle Pine and it seemed as though a layer of qi was about to bounce back on to him.

"Be careful!" Kou Chongxue's Clone's warning came from behind Shang Xia.

By the time the words left his lips, the four colored extermination light around Shang Xia's palm spun rapidly. Every time it made a complete revolution, a portion of the restriction would be shaved away.

Several dozen circulations were complete in the blink of an eye and the restriction was almost fully destroyed. Before the energy rebound could happen, it was already dealt with.

With the power to force Shang Xia away, all that was left was the tiny bit of obstruction that was no match for Shang Xia's Four Constellation Qi.

Instead of shattering it completely, Shang Xia created a small hole in the barrier enough for him to pass through.

Once again, his methods had far surpassed what Kou Chongxue's Clone expected.

"Hey, take care of yourself..." Kou Chongxue's Clone's warning came again. This time, the danger came from the Ten Thousand Needle Pine. Without the protection of the restriction around it, it managed to sense Shang Xia's approach. Hundreds of pine needles shot at Shang Xia from the hole he created.

A frown appeared on Shang Xia's face and he rotated his arms in a giant arc. His Four Constellation Qi transformed into a giant vortex around him and sucked those pine needles into its core.

Obviously, Kou Chongxue's Clone knew about the defense mechanism of the Ten Thousand Needle Pine. From the name alone, it wasn't hard to learn that the tree would shoot pine needles whenever it faced a threat. Even so, Kou Chongxue's Clone didn't remind Shang Xia earlier.

Turning around to stare at Kou Chongxue's Clone, Shang Xia revealed a fake expression of displeasure. However, he was met with a face full of shock.

Kou Chongxue's Clone didn't seem to understand what had happened and he asked, "Can your extermination origins actually dissolve dipper qi?!"

Chapter 687: 'Small' Gains

Actually, Kou Chongxue's Clone wasn't surprised by the fact that Shang Xia's extermination origins could dissolve dipper qi. He was shocked that the youngster could do it so quickly. Earlier, everything happened in an instant.

Shang Xia chuckled, "Disciple's inner qi is extremely effective when it comes to destroying formations and restrictions..."

Kou Chongxue's Clone remained silent at that. The brat was hiding god knew how many secrets and there were even rumors going around that he managed to comprehend 2 martial intents.

How is it even possible to comprehend 2 martial intents?

Because of the sudden burst of pine needles, Shang Xia wasn't in a rush to enter the hole he created earlier. Instead, he started to examine the needles in his hands.

Kou Chongxue's Clone chuckled at the side, "There's nothing to see. Those pine needles would only possess hardness akin to a low-grade weapon when it first emerges. After some time, most of them will go back to being ordinary pine needles. There is only a single pine needle on every branch that will be able to maintain its hardness at the level of a low-grade weapon..." Kou Chongxue's Clone stared at the pine tree before he continued, "The opening you made wasn't large and the tree only shot out a tiny portion of pine needles. It should be alright if you manage to find 3 to 5 of them. They're not very useful."

With the hardness of a low-grade weapon, it could only be considered a rank two spiritual treasure.

Moreover, the pine needles were extremely tiny. They were truly of no use to Shan Xia.

However...

Shang Xia picked out 5 pine needles that were 3 inches in length. They shone like jade and he turned to Kou Chongxue's Clone and asked, "Patriarch, why don't these pine needles seem like rank two spiritual treasures? Moreover, they felt like mid-grade needles when I stopped them earlier. Could they actually be rank three spiritual treasures?"

"What?!" Kou Chongxue's Clone's face changed as he took several steps over to Shang Xia to retrieve the pine needles. "They are actually rank three spiritual treasures!"

After his realization, he turned to look at the Ten Thousand Needle Pine again with a burning gaze.

Rank two or three spiritual treasures held no meaning in the eyes of Shang Xia or Kou Chongxue's Clone. However, the Ten Thousand Needle Pine was different! It would normally nurture pines that were rank two spiritual treasures at best. It was extremely unusual to obtain rank three pine needles!

"Could it already have reached the level of a rank five spiritual treasure?" Shang Xia couldn't help but ask.

Even though rank four and rank five spiritual treasures were separated by a mere rank, the difference between them was like the heavens and earth.

Shang Xia might not care about a rank four Ten Thousand Needle Pine, but things would be different if it was at the fifth rank. Even Kou Chongxue wouldn't be able to hide his desire for the treasure if that was the case.

If not for the fact that Kou Chongxue's true body and the other clone had something important to do, the clone beside Shang Xia might have already called them back to deal with the situation in front of them.

With a solemn expression, Kou Chongxue's Clone examined it a little more closely. The more he looked at it, the stranger his expression became. "No... It's not a rank five spiritual treasure..."

Shang Xia was slightly taken aback. No matter how he scanned the treasure with his divine perception, he felt that it had surpassed the level of a rank four spiritual treasure.

"Could it be in the process of advancing?" Shang Xia gasped.

"That isn't the case either. This is really strange. Half the tree seemed to have already reached the fifth rank while the other half is at the fourth..." Kou Chongxue's Clone muttered.

Noticing the look of utter confusion on Shang Xia's face, Kou Chongxue's Clone pointed at the tree and explained, "Go examine the crown of the tree and you will understand. It seemed to have suffered from some sort of heavy damage. Half of it seemed to have withered but it still managed to maintain itself at the fourth rank. The other side is completely undamaged and it possesses the qualities of a rank five spiritual treasure. Moreover, it seems to have advanced recently..."

"Is that even possible?" Shang Xia exclaimed in shock.

Kou Chongxue's Clone remained indifferent and he continued, "There are many strange things that can happen out there. This isn't too weird."

"What should we do next? This is a rank five spiritual treasure... Even though it's only half..." Shang Xia wondered.

"Are you able to bring it out of the Celestial Remains?" Kou Chongxue's Clone threw a bucket of cold water over him instantly.

Opening his arms to display a helpless gesture, Shang Xia sighed, "Aren't you here? If you can't bring it out, what other idea can I have?"

"Right then. Looks like we can only think of a way to hide it. We should place it in a location only we know about before laying down a complicated restriction around it that others will find hard to destroy. When we enter the Celestial Remains again, we'll be able to harvest the treasure!" Kou Chongxue's Clone declared.

He turned to look at the spiritual plant and muttered, "Let's just pick all the treasures off it before thinking of a place to hide it. Also, we better hide our auras before the other half of the tree starts shooting pine needles at us."

Shang Xia nodded and started to conceal his presence with his Man and Heaven Synergy Chapter. It didn't take long for him to appear like a regular mortal who couldn't cultivate.

Kou Chongxue's Clone shot Shang Xia another deep look before concealing his own aura. Unlike Shang Xia, his aura was hidden in a formless water screen around his body.

When they stepped through the hole Shang Xia made to arrive under the crown of the tree, Kou Chongxue's Clone greedily sucked in a breath of air. "What a strong aura of life. It's a pity it's far from being able to condense a strand of fate dipper essence. Otherwise, it's possible to condense another Eternal Spring Fate Dipper here..."

Shang Xia was disappointed by his evaluation. He was missing 2 fate dipper essences, and one of them was of the Yi Wood Element.

The Eternal Spring Fate Dipper was something Kou Chongxue refined back then, and Shang Xia was pretty sure it was of the Wood Element. The only thing he didn't know was if it was of the Jia Wood or Yi Wood Element.

After closing in on the trunk of the tree, Shang Xia reached out and touched it. The Crimson Soul Tablet quickly gave an evaluation. "Damaged rank five Wood Element spiritual treasure."

The only rank five spiritual treasure Shang Xia was missing was of the Water Element and he raised his head and looked at the ripe fruits and thought to himself, Looks like I can only harvest some pinecones and pine needles...

Who would have thought that Kou Chongxue's Clone would exhale a deep breath to cause a massive cluster of mist to fill the space within the restriction?

Shang Xia looked at the increasingly blurry tree before turning around. "Do you plan to hide the Ten Thousand Needle Pine in a sea of mist? Shouldn't we destroy the restriction around it before anything?"

The clone didn't respond and chuckled mischievously. He took a deep breath and gathered the mist that was released earlier.

This time, Shang Xia noticed a strange tint coloring the mist when he retrieved it.

"Is that... Extermination mist?! It's not just a single type either." Shang Xia gasped.

Kou Chongxue's Clone nodded with satisfaction before replying, "Don't you have a Spirit Extermination Gourd on you? Hurry up and store them."

Shang Xia brought it out hastily and kept the mist Kou Chongxue's clone sucked up.

Next, Shang Xia went around to pick the tree clean. A huge portion of the pine nuts he gathered were rank four spiritual treasures. There was also a third of it that had already turned into rank five spiritual treasures along with the advancement of the tree. Shang Xia and Kou Chongxue's Clone instantly felt as though their trip hadn't been made in vain.

There was no need to mention brewing wine with those rank five pine nuts. Even if they were eaten directly, they could bring about wondrous effects to Martial Dipper Realm experts.

It was only a pity that there were too few of them.

Rank three pine needles were left on the tree, but Shang Xia and Kou Chongxue couldn't be bothered retrieving them. It wasn't because those treasures were lacking. Instead, they wanted to preserve those pine needles so that they could surprise anyone in case the tree was found.

Done with their harvest, Shang Xia planned to destroy the restriction around the tree. However, he was interrupted by Kou Chongxue's Clone.

“Pluck a branch of the tree before that.”

Shang Xia was stunned. Even though the Ten Thousand Needle Pine managed to enter the fifth rank in such a strange way, those branches were merely rank four treasures.

It wasn't as though everything on the tree would transform into rank five spiritual treasures the moment the tree advanced. However, Shang Xia nodded after a short moment of contemplation. Without using his extermination origins, he climbed up the tree and picked out a branch that had the thickness of an egg.

Seeing the branch in Shang Xia's hand, Kou Chongxue's Clown chuckled, “You should give this to the Weapons Hall and get them to craft a good spear. It's definitely going to be a high-grade treasure once it's done.”

Finally, Shang Xia worked with Kou Chongxue's Clone to get rid of the restriction around the Ten Thousand Needle Pine completely. They then laid down a complicated restriction of their own before finding a secret spot that was both out of the way and surrounded by danger before hiding the tree. Not satisfied, they laid down many traps before finally, Kou Chongxue's Clone covered the entire region in dense fog.

Unless one knew where it was, or had heaven defying luck, it would be almost impossible for anyone to locate the Ten Thousand Needle Pine.

Only then were they satisfied enough to take their leave.

As they went away, Kou Chongxue's Clone noticed Shang Xia to be deep in contemplation and thought that he wasn't satisfied with their hiding spot. He couldn't help but laugh, “There's no need to worry. When the Celestial Remains opens again, all of us will enter together. We can rush over to look for the Ten Thousand Needle Pine together and no one will be able to fight us for it. Moreover... Brat, where the hell did you learn how to lay down restrictions like that? You managed to conceal the aura completely and linked the life force of the tree with our restrictions. If anyone tries to forcefully destroy the restriction, they will kill the tree along with it... Your method is sinister alright!”

Shang Xia shook his head in response. “Disciple isn't worried about the tree. Instead, I'm thinking that I will be able to nurture it the moment I enter the Martial Dipper Realm. It might be able to fully transform and become a true rank five spiritual treasure.”

Kou Chongxue's Clone froze.

When Shang Xia turned to look at his clone, he was greeted with a pair of shining eyes. “Are you sure you can do it?”

Shang Xia wasn't too sure, but he replied nonetheless. “I should be able to.. I am 80 percent certain I can do it. After all, the vitality from the other half of the Ten Thousand Needle Pine seems to be suppressed by some sort of dipper qi. As long as I manage to get rid of it, the tree will recover.”

“You better not tell anyone this for the time being...” Kou Chongxue's Clone muttered.

Shang Xia wanted to press further and look for the reason, but Kou Chongxue's Clone simply waved his hands to dismiss him. “Wait till you meet my main body again. He'll explain. Whatever it is, this matter is of extreme importance.”

## Chapter 688: Four Five Sword Experts

Somewhere in the ruins outside the Celestial Remains, Shang Bo hid in their formation and stared at the entrance with a solemn expression on his face.

He was looking at 2 Martial Dipper Realm experts discussing some matters as they looked at where Kou Chongxue forced his way into the Celestial Remains.

They used their dipper qi to blur their facial features, and no one would be able to identify them even if they were watching. Their voices were also sealed off by some sort of invisible barrier and no one more than 3 feet away would be able to hear anything.

Shang Bo observed their gestures while they were speaking and quickly managed to deduce that they seemed really impatient.

He didn't know if that was because Kou Chongxue managed to enter the Celestial Remains earlier than them, or if it was because the huge disturbance would definitely draw other Martial Dipper Realm Ancestors over. Perhaps, it was a combination of both.

Whatever it was, Shang Bo was sure that one of them was the person he had seen previously.

Because Kou Chongxue managed to determine that they were from the Yuanchen Sect of the Xiangyang Holy Land in the Jing Continent, Shang Bo wasn't exactly clueless about their identities. He also knew that they were definitely panicking now that someone had entered the Celestial Remains before them.

The only problem with Kou Chongxue entering first was the fact that he had done the most difficult part of barging in! Anyone who tried to enter after him would find it much easier than before.

As the two scanned their surroundings to ensure that there was no one else around, they seemed to have reached a decision.

One of them flicked his sleeves and a small black boat appeared nearby.

The moment they stepped onto it, the boat started to float in the air. A wave of dipper qi burst forth and they charged straight into the weakened entrance of the Celestial Remains.

Rumble...

Once again, massive spatial fluctuations started to spread across the vast space.

The disturbance was far from what Kou Chongxue caused earlier. However, most of the Martial Dipper Realm Ancestors in the Azure Origin World should still be able to feel it.

Counting the time that passed, it had barely been 2 hours since Shang Xia and Kou Chongxue entered the Celestial Remains.

After the second group entered, someone else crossed the region of destruction and approached the entrance once again.

This time, the person who arrived wasn't as sneaky as the 2 who came before him. However, the cover of the ruins provided enough concealment and he didn't appear in Shang Bo's sights the entire time.

Shang Bo might not have entered the Martial Dipper Realm for as long as Ji Wenlong or Kou Chongxue, but from the spatial fluctuations that were produced, he could tell that the person was probably Lu Yingwu from the Lushan Sect of the Yang Continent.

Shang Xia was correct. The Celestial Remains was above the Jiao Continent and the Jing and Yang Continents were the closest to them. That was why they managed to arrive faster than the rest the moment they discovered someone forcefully entering the remains.

No one knew if Lu Yingwu was cautious, or if he had other plans. He didn't approach the entrance of the Celestial Remains after he arrived. Instead, he stared from afar as though he was waiting for someone else.

Indeed... Spatial fluctuations appeared not too long after and someone raced towards the entrance without concealing their aura.

Shang Bo might not be able to see that person as usual, but he could feel their aura growing closer.

"Hey, Old Man Lu, why the hell are you here? Are you waiting for me?" A shocked cry came. Even so, it couldn't hide his arrogance.

Lu Yingwu's calm voice rang through the air. "With such a huge disturbance so close to my Lushan Sect, it will be really strange if I come a little later. Whatever it is, Brother Hao Yun, you're right about one thing. I was indeed waiting for you."

"I get it." Ancestor Hao Yun from the Great Observation Sect roared with laughter. However, his tone changed the next second. "Brother Lu, did you see the people who forced their way in?"

Lu Yingwu stared at Hao Yun and both of them maintained a certain distance from each other. After some time, Lu Yingwu muttered, "The 2 batches of people who entered should be from different factions. I believe Brother Hao Yun knows who went in a moment ago. However, there's something off about those who went in before that. I wonder which Ancestor managed to do something like that, but the powerful sword qi does give us some clues..."

Hao Yun seemed to be rejoicing in someone else's misfortune and he gloated, "I can't believe someone actually went in before the members of the Jing Continent..."

"That's probably the case..." Li Yingwu nodded slightly in response.

Not too long later, another voice came from a different direction in the ruins. "Huh? The Celestial Remains has been opened twice. Why haven't you guys taken the opportunity to follow them in?"

Both of them turned to look at the source of the voice and saw a well built man with a ruddy expression approaching them. He exuded an air of confidence and power as he emerged from behind some broken remains.

Before he spoke, neither Lu Yingwu nor Hao Yun discovered his presence. Glancing at each other, they saw the solemn expression in each other's eyes.

They quickly cupped their fists in greeting despite their surprise. "Senior Huang, you're there."

"I greet Mister Huang."



Huang Jinghan nodded slightly before turning to look at the entrance to the Celestial Remains.

Since it had been opened twice, the spatial barrier that used to prevent anyone from entering had already turned into a massive spatial vortex.

“Ma Chengjian of the Shu Continent, Kou Chongxue of the You Continent, Ninth Capital Swordsman from the Divine Capital Sect, and the Yifeng Swordsman of the Eternal Sect... Of them, who do you think was the first to enter the Celestial Remains?” Huang Jinghan asked suddenly.

Lu Yingwu and Hao Yun glanced at each other and shook their heads simultaneously.

“I came a little too late. Moreover, any of those 4 have cultivation above mine and I am unable to determine who entered the Celestial Remains first.” Lu Yingwu muttered.

Hao Yun added, “I arrived even later. However, all 4 of them are from our Azure Origin World. Could the person who entered be from the Azure Spiritual World?”

The Celestial Remains might be in one of the southernmost parts of the Azure Origin World and Martial Dipper Realm Ancestors of the Azure Origin World would definitely not reveal its existence to anyone else, but no one could be sure that the experts from the Azure Spiritual World were completely clueless.

After all, the worlds were about to merge and the Void Abyss was almost filled. If Martial Dipper Realm Ancestors from the other world wanted to cross over, they wouldn't face too many difficulties.

Moreover, Lu Yingwu and Hao Yun both knew that of the 5 great swordsmen of the Azure Origin World, Huang Jinghan left out the last one, himself.

Well, that made sense as he was standing right in front of them. There was no way he could be the first to enter the Celestial Remains.

The next second, Lu Yingwu and Hao Yun thought of another possibility. Could the Yuanchen Sect have pulled the stunt to hide their tracks?!

...

Shang Xia and Kou Chongxue's Clone had great luck indeed. They managed to run into a damaged rank five spiritual treasure the moment they entered the Celestial Remains.

On the surface, those 2 lucky freaks managed to obtain an impressive treasure. However, one could argue that Shang Xia wasn't as fortunate as he seemed. After all, it was possible for a Yi Wood Fate Dipper to be produced if the Ten Thousand Needle Pine wasn't damaged. Unfortunately, it hadn't been nurtured due to the tree's injuries.

After they harvested the fruits and pine needles without harming its foundations, they hid it well before traveling deeper into the Celestial Remains.

Their luck ended there as they didn't run into anything else for quite some time. Moreover, they ran into several dangerous situations along the way. If not for Kou Chongxue's Clone's interference, Shang Xia might have suffered several heavy injuries.

“There’s no need to worry... Actually, you’re pretty lucky.” Kou Chongxue’s Clone saw the look of disappointment on Shang Xia’s face and chuckled, “We appeared in the outskirts of the Celestial Remains when we first entered. Every time the spatial barrier around the entrance weakens every 20 years, a group of Martial Dipper Realm Ancestors would enter to look for treasures. They would look around the region before leaving. God knows how many times they have scoured the area. The last time anyone had entered was less than 10 years ago! Spiritual treasures or herbs wouldn’t be able to recover and it’s already incredible for us to run into the Ten Thousand Needle Pine...”

Shang Xia didn’t know how much of Kou Chongxue’s Clone’s words were meant to comfort him, but he felt a lot better after hearing it. He eventually chuckled, “Actually, I’m more concerned with the fact that the Celestial Remains have been explored countless times by those Martial Dipper Realm Ancestors. Like you said, it has been here for countless years. There has to be many groups of experts who entered and if we ignore those treasures or herbs that had the ability to keep growing, how much is actually left in here?”

Kou Chongxue’s Clone smiled. “Firstly, it’s true that the barrier would weaken every 20 years. However, the degree at which it would weaken varied every time. It’s not like it will fully open every time the barrier weakens. It wouldn’t be as smooth as this every time.”

“Also, the treasures in this Celestial Remains might have been almost fully plundered, but there are still some left. They might have been well hidden by the owners of this Elysium back then, or they might exist in some extremely dangerous space. There might be some regions where even Martial Dipper Realm Ancestors wouldn’t dare to enter.”

“What you said might also be true. Even though the Elysium has crumbled, it isn’t fully destroyed. It still contains some special characteristics of when it was fully functional and various spiritual treasures and herbs can still grow within. Extermination origins, and even Origin Dippers might be formed!”

Shang Xia was shocked by the explanation and he only managed to process it after some time. “So... If you’re saying that an Elysium possesses the ability to nurture Origin Dippers and extermination origins, wouldn’t that mean that the 3 super powers would also be able to do the same?! Moreover, those Elysiums are at their peak state right now and they should be able to produce more than this Celestial Remains, right?”

Kou Chongxue’s Clone chuckled in amusement. “It’s good that you understand. However, many people suspect that the Mysterious Tortoise Hall, Divine Capital Pagoda, and the Everlasting Palace can’t be compared to the Celestial Remains above the Jiao Continent. They might be able to nurture some extermination origins or Origin Dippers, but they shouldn’t be at this level. After all, this place is in a state of ruin. Even so, it still possesses all those functions... There are even some that say the 3 super factions are somewhat lacking when compared to the Celestial Remains because they used some power to produce an expert at the Sixth Order of the Primary Realm. It’s either that

or they used some of their power to maintain some strength that could match up to an expert of that level...”

“What if... What if they have an expert at the Sixth Order of the Primary Realm while maintaining some means to produce combat strength at that level?” Shang Xia asked.

Kou Chongxue roared with laughter and wanted to say something more. However, his expression changed the next second. “Huh? That... That’s a spirit river!”

Chapter 689: Falling Jade Spring

“Huh? That... That’s a spirit river!” Kou Chongxue’s Clone seemed to have felt something and his expression changed.

“Patriarch Kou, what’s a spirit river?” Shang Xia asked. He had no idea what a spirit river meant but from the look on Kou Chongxue’s Clone’s face, he knew that it had to be something pretty amazing.

Kou Chongxue’s Clone was in too much of a rush to explain anything to Shang Xia and he transformed into a streak of light that disappeared into the distance. “Follow me!”

Looking at how Kou Chongxue was moving, Shang Xia felt that the patriarch resembled a spirit river more than anything else.

“Oh...”

Thinking about how the clone was created with Kou Chongxue’s Water Origin Fate Dipper, Shang Xia no longer found it weird. After all, it was of the water element. It wasn’t anything strange for him to be able to turn into a stream of light that resembled a river.

Surrounding himself with his extermination origins, Shang Xia raced after Kou Chongxue’s Clone by following the aura he left behind intentionally.

At his current cultivation level, he wasn’t able to bend space like Kou Chongxue’s Martial Dipper Realm Clone. He also had to avoid dangers in his way like spatial cracks and he wasn’t able to travel too quickly.

The only thing he could hope for was that the ‘spirit river’ Kou Chongxue’s Clone noticed wouldn’t escape from the clone’s pursuit.

After some time, Shang Xia felt the aura of Kou Chongxue’s Clone growing stronger. When he approached, he discovered a spirit spring sitting in the middle of the void as it emitted a dense stream of world origin.

Kou Chongxue’s Clone’s voice rang in his mind. “Seal off the space around us. We cannot allow the spirit river to escape!”

Shang Xia didn’t have too much time to think as he circulated his Four Constellation Qi instinctively. He immediately released his inner qi in the direction of the spirit spring.

He might have acted on instinct, but the moment he released his inner qi, he realized that something was wrong. It poured out from his dantian rapidly and showed no signs of slowing down. Even with his deep accumulations, he felt a sense of powerlessness like never before.

Shang Xia wasn't using any sort of secret art. As his Four Constellation Qi entered the void, it immediately started to seal off the space around them.

The second Shang Xia's inner qi sank into the void, the spirit spring seemed to sense danger. It tried to shift through the void to escape, but it was quickly restrained by Kou Chongxue's Clone. No matter how it tried to turn illusory, it failed to merge and disappear into the void.

It didn't take long for Shang Xia's Four Constellation Qi to seal off the region of space. When he was done, a sudden force tore it open as Kou Chongxue's Clone's figure was restored from the stream he turned into previously. He stared at the somewhat illusory spirit spring and chuckled, "Falling Jade Spring. Damn! Your luck is really good. I didn't think that a spiritual treasure of this quality would still be left in the Celestial Remains!"

Shang Xia's eyes lit up when he heard the words 'spiritual treasure'. Anything that Kou Chongxue's Clone would refer to as a spiritual treasure had to be of the fifth rank!

From its name, it wasn't hard to discern that it was a Water Element spiritual treasure.

After Kou Chongxue's Clone descended, he stared at the spirit spring happily. It was still tossing and turning, but he didn't seem to want to do anything. Shang Xia eventually roared, "Patriarch Kou, I can't hold it any longer!"

Even though everything happened really quickly, Shang Xia exhausted a good half of his inner qi trying to seal the space off.

"Oh." Kou Chongxue's Clone finally seemed to notice the problem and he reached his hand into the void and pressed down. The spirit spring ceased all movements and was dragged over immediately.

The spirit river it produced that had been wriggling through space was quickly sucked back into the spirit spring.

Shang Xia turned to look at Kou Chongxue's Clone who had grabbed the spirit spring firmly in his hand. Now that it returned to its true form, it looked like a crudely made stone flask. When Kou Chongxue's Clone shook it slightly, Shang Xia heard sloshing sounds coming from within.

Kou Chongxue's Clone casually tossed the flask that was barely the size of a palm over to Shang Xia the next moment.

Grabbing it hastily, Shang Xia gasped in pleasant surprise, "Is the Falling Jade Spring a rank five spiritual treasure?"

He seemed to have forgotten all about his cheating device. The Crimson Soul Tablet could easily evaluate the treasure, and it would probably be more accurate than what Kou Chongxue's Clone knew.

Whatever the case, Kou Chongxue's Clone had already pressed his lips together before replying, "The Falling Jade Spring is the real rank five spiritual treasure. The spring water it contains is only at the fourth rank.

As a weird expression appeared on Shang Xia's face, Kou Chongxue's Clone sighed, "Alas, it hasn't been long since everyone last entered the Celestial Remains. If you had another 20 years, the spirit spring can probably produce several drops of rank five Falling Jade Crystal Dew. That's also a

rank five spiritual treasure. If you had even more time, it might even be able to produce several strands of Falling Jade Fate Dipper Essence. It might be what you need..."

Shang Xia was shocked as he looked at the flask in his hand. He circulated his extermination origins and the Crimson Soul Tablet quickly gave him an explanation.

"Falling Jade Spirit Spring, rank five Water Element spiritual treasure."

"Falling Jade Liquid, rank four Water Element spiritual treasure."

The Crimson Soul Jade was as concise as ever when it evaluated those treasures.

A tinge of regret flashed across his eyes when he heard that it would be able to produce a Water Element fate dipper essence after some time, but it didn't last for long. The smile quickly returned to his face as he chuckled, "Looks like my luck isn't bad! At the very least, I managed to obtain a rank five Water Element spiritual treasure. The only thing I'm lacking now are fate dipper essences of the Water and Wood Elements..."

Kou Chongxue's Clone looked at Shang Xia deeply before mumbling, "It's great you think this way. It's a pity my old friend who knows how to craft advancement medicines isn't here. Otherwise, he can probably complete the semi-finished medicine with what you already have. All you need will be to obtain those fate dipper essences..."

Perhaps it was because of the Water Origin Fate Dipper that made up the clone, but it seemed to resonate well with the Falling Jade Spring. He had a deep understanding of the treasure.

Shang Xia chuckled once and ended the conversation. There was already a strange feeling in him that he hadn't been as lucky as he could be after entering the Celestial Remains.

Back when he found the Ten Thousand Needle Pine, it was a damaged rank five spiritual treasure. It was supposed to be able to nurture a strand of fate dipper essence, but not enough time had passed for it to be condensed.

The Falling Jade Spring was something he obtained through sheer luck, but the water it contained was merely rank four spiritual water.

Even Kou Chongxue's Clone was starting to feel a little sorry for Shang Xia. He was so close, yet so far.

...

Shang Xia had to cultivate for some time to restore his inner qi after exhausting a huge part of it to trap the Falling Jade Spring earlier.

He hadn't restored too much of it when a loud blast rang through the Celestial Remains. Violent spatial fluctuations spread extremely quickly across the regions of space.

Raising his head in shock, Shang Xia stared at the source of those fluctuations and gasped, "Did someone else enter?!"

"Hmm... That took close to 2 hours. Looks like the experts of the Yuanchen Sect aren't decisive enough. They came a little later than I expected!" Kou Chongxue's Clone

muttered before looking in the same direction. There was a trace of ridicule in his voice.

After mumbling intelligibly to himself, Shang Xia looked at Kou Chongxue's Clone and asked, "Patriarch Kou, what's the situation with your true body and the other clone right now?"

"I have no idea, but I didn't receive any warning or alerts from them. That would mean that neither of them ran into any trouble..." Kou Chongxue's Clone shook his head and laughed.

"So... Now that other people have entered the Celestial Remains, are we going to meet up with your true body?" Shang Xia wondered.

His clone didn't stop laughing as he continued, "The Celestial Remains is massive. It's not easy for us to run into them anyway. Even if we do, those losers might not be able to do anything to me!"

Since Kou Chongxue's Clone had spoken, Shang Xia had no reason to go against it. They continued to travel around the Celestial Remains to look for opportunities and treasures.

During that time...

In the depths of the Celestial Remains, spatial cracks were all around. Regions of crumbled space and remnants of various formations were fused together and the entire area looked like a dormant volcano that had the ability to erupt at any time.

Kou Chongxue's true body was deep within the region and was maneuvering through the countless spatial cracks and dangers all around.

His gaze landed on a region of twisted space and it somewhat reflected a damaged, but multicolored three legged bronze cauldron.

"The Elysium Boundary Marker, a Jade Pillar to support the heavens. Origin Holy Artifact. Rumor has it that these are the 3 most important treasures after the creation of an Elysium."

"Now that most of the space here has crumbled, the Heaven Supporting Jade Pillar has definitely been destroyed. I'm afraid even the Boundary Marker might not have made it. Otherwise, it's not possible for this Celestial Remains to remain as an unknown existence. None of us even knows its name..."

"Even with so many factors, the Celestial Remains could maintain a powerful presence with dense heaven and earth qi filling every inch of space. It managed to produce treasures again and again without showing any signs of weakening. That would mean that the Holy Artifact that is connected to the source of the world origin is still present. Moreover, it should be very well preserved..."

Kou Chongxue stared at the bronze cauldron and muttered to himself. He couldn't be sure if he was looking at the Origin Holy Artifact. All he was staring at was its twisted reflection, and that wasn't

the real thing. Moreover, he could barely make out its appearance due to the strange twisting of space.

Even so, Kou Chongxue could tell that even if the cauldron wasn't the Origin Holy Artifact, it was definitely a rare treasure. At the very least, it would be on par with the Hidden Frost Sword he was using!

There was also no need to mention how difficult it would be to retrieve the cauldron. From the regions of shattered space and formation remnants, not a single Martial Dipper Realm Ancestor would dare to step foot in there without enough preparations. That was probably why the cauldron could still remain untouched.

Chapter 690: Observatory

Actually, there was one other thing that could confirm Kou Chongxue's guess about the bronze cauldron.

Back then, they managed to discover the region Kou Chongxue had entered because of Shang Bo's mistake the last time they entered.

It wasn't a secret that the entire region posed a massive threat even to Martial Dipper Realm experts.

Back when Shang Bo was brought into the Celestial Remains, he was still in the Martial Extermination Realm and he wasn't even as strong as the current Shang Xia. He naturally didn't know the dangers the Celestial Remains held. By the time he discovered that something was wrong, it was too late for him to emerge with his strength alone.

Under such circumstances, he could only ask Kou Chongxue for help.

When Kou Chongxue noticed where Shang Bo was, he felt his head hurt. His scalp was tingling when he noticed the dangers all around, but he couldn't leave Shang Bo to die!

Luckily, Shang Bo hadn't ventured too deep, and after using up a great portion of his dipper qi, Kou Chongxue managed to save him.

During the extraction process, Kou Chongxue and Shang Bo not only managed to find several perfectly preserved extermination origins. They also obtained the Grand Silk Silver Sand Fate Dipper that Shang Bo used to enter the Martial Dipper Realm!

That was also the reason Kou Chongxue started to greatly support Shang Bo in his cultivation after returning from the Celestial Remains. He was the reason they managed to obtain so many precious resources in the first place!

It was also during the escapade that Kou Chongxue noticed the presence of the bronze cauldron.

Even though he was unable to determine its actual location, he was sure that it was located in the region of space.

Kou Chongxue also started to suspect that the bronze cauldron was the Origin Holy Artifact because of what they found back then.

As the region of space was far too dangerous for Martial Dipper Realm experts, not even Kou Chongxue had the guts to go too deep. However, the amount of treasures they found back then was

just too ridiculous to pass up. Now that he managed to enter again, Kou Chongxue decided to take a little risk and explore the region again.

Even though he was back, Kou Chongxue didn't hold high hopes of obtaining the bronze cauldron. Otherwise, he wouldn't have brought Shang Xia with him and sent out 2 clones to explore the rest of the Celestial Ruins.

He only hoped to obtain another Origin Dipper after scouring the region to allow himself to take another step in his cultivation. It was especially so after Shang Xia suggested that he used an Origin Dipper of the Fire or Earth Element to advance.

As for the matters regarding the bronze cauldron...

Since Kou Chongxue could guess that the Origin Holy Artifact of the Celestial Remains was still present, there was no reason the Yuanchen Sect wouldn't know of it.

In fact, they might even know of the presence of the bronze cauldron!

If the Yuanchen Sect wanted to ascend into an Elysium, they wouldn't give up a chance to obtain the Origin Holy Artifact that belonged to the destroyed power!

Perhaps... That might be the best chance Kou Chongxue would get to swoop in at the last second to steal all their benefits.

Of course, it wasn't as though Kou Chongxue had no choice but to turn the Yuanchen Sect into his enemy...

"Sigh..." Kou Chongxue carefully navigated around the regions of twisted space and the traps that lay within. When he finally found a place he thought was safe, a slurry of world origin nearby started to move. It was as though they had found a way to escape the void they were trapped in as they flowed towards Kou Chongxue's back.

He, who had been deep in thought, was rudely interrupted. He knew that he definitely activated some sort of formless restriction earlier without noticing it.

Realizing that things were turning south, he quickly made several hand seals and tried to seal the space behind him.

Unfortunately, they were useless. The surging world origin shattered the space he was trying to seal and the current became stronger and stronger. Gaining a frightening amount of power, even Kou Chongxue was swept away.

"Oh shit!" Kou Chongxue's heart sank. With the massive disturbance he was causing, he didn't even have time to worry about whether the experts from the Yuanchen Sect would be able to detect what was going on. The entire region itself would probably be affected, and the change might be powerful enough to threaten him!

In no position to care if he would be discovered by others, he burst forth with a frightening amount of power and retreated away from the giant current of world origin.

The moment he moved, his divine will seemed to notice something...



Backing away from the rift in space, Kou Chongxue made a slight gesture and 3 balls of world origin were grasped tightly in his hands.

“These look like essence crystals born from the world. It might not be complete, but it’s something like a fate dipper fragment...” Kou Chongxue thought to himself.

The next second, a giant surge of world origin interrupted his thoughts. He was powerless to resist it and was swept up in the current as he flowed into the dangerous region of space.

...

Shang Xia collected several more clumps of extermination mist with his Spirit Extermination Gourd before raising his head to look at Kou Chongxue’s Clone. He noticed a serious expression hanging on the clone’s face.

Shang Xia’s heart sank and he quickly approached. “Patriarch Kou, did something happen?”

“Huh?” The clone responded. “My true body might have run into some trouble...”

“Do we need to head over to meet up with him?” Shang Xia asked.

After thinking about it, Kou Chongxue’s Clone muttered, “Not for the time being... My true body isn’t in any danger.”

Shang Xia heaved a sigh of relief at his response. “That’s good to hear...”

“Have you collected everything in the area?” Kou Chongxue’s Clone swept his gaze around before chuckling in amusement.

He was met with a nod from Shang Xia as the youngster continued, “This place truly deserves its position as an Elysium of the past. There are treasures everywhere!”

Kou Chongxue’s Clone broke out in laughter, “It’s just several small clumps of extermination mist. They’re not fate dipper essence... If you had 10 more years, you would be gathering extermination origins!”

“If we had to wait, I’m afraid I won’t be able to get any of them...” Shang Xia mumbled.

Kou Chongxue’s Clone shook his head and chuckled, “That might not be the case. You should be able to enter the Martial Dipper Realm soon and when the time comes, you will definitely be qualified to enter the Celestial Remains when it opens for real.”

Shang Xia tutted softly in response, “Well, at least I’m able to keep all of these treasures for myself now!”

“Heh, you’re only a little faster than the others. Now that those people have entered, there will be even more following behind them. Your time to loot the Celestial Remains alone is drawing to a close.” Kou Chongxue’s Clone shook his head and broke down the situation for Shang Xia immediately.

Shang Xia could only sigh softly, “It’s a pity we haven’t seen a fate dipper essence after so long, much less an Origin Dipper.”

Kou Chongxue's Clone pressed his lips together and sneered, "Even when everyone enters the Celestial Remains during its occasional opening, they will have to look for stuff like that in the more dangerous regions. Damn brat, you gained a lot so far. Stop acting like you're poor or something..."

Shang Xia's eyes lit up the next second. "Patriarch Kou, did your true body and the other clone head to those dangerous regions? Can you bring me to look for those places too?"

"Don't bite off more than you can chew! Do you think you can go to those places however you like? No matter how strong you are now, you won't be able to enter those places without the cultivation at the Martial Dipper Realm!" Kou Chongxue's Clone snapped at him.

Not deterred, Shang Xia continued, "Patriarch Kou, aren't you here? Actually, it's a waste for you to bring me around. If we don't head over to those dangerous regions, what's the point of bringing me into the Celestial Remains?"

Shang Xia had long since discovered that Kou Chongxue's Clone had only been protecting him the entire time. He wasn't leading the way to anywhere that posed significant threat to the life of a Martial Extermination Realm expert.

In a collapsed Elysium, the only thing it didn't lack was areas of extreme danger.

God knew how long ago the Celestial Remains had been discovered, and there were countless batches of Martial Dipper Realm experts who came to look for treasures. There wasn't much left in those safer areas.

Even if there were, those treasures were probably left behind by the Martial Dipper Realm experts because of their ability to continuously produce treasures.

Shang Xia's main goal when he risked his life to follow Kou Chongxue into the Celestial Remains was to obtain the spiritual treasures and fate dipper essences he needed, but he only managed to find the treasure so far!

The Yi Wood Fate Dipper Essence and Gui Water Fate Dipper Essence was nowhere to be seen!

Seeing how determined Shang Xia was, Kou Chongxue's Clone chuckled, "What a coincidence. If my memory serves me right, we're close to one of those dangerous regions. Since you wish to take a look, let's make a trip over."

The Celestial Remains no longer had any fixed spaces. Other than those dangerous regions that were fixed in their positions due to the many remnants of powerful formations in them, the rest of the space could shift around any way it liked.

Since they knew that there weren't many Martial Dipper Realm Ancestors in the Celestial Remains at the moment, Kou Chongxue's Clone and Shang Xia were much more bold when it came to their exploration. They had no need to be afraid that they would walk straight into an ambush.

With Kou Chongxue's Clone leading the way, they quickly made their way around a pile of random shattered rocks. The moment they did, the scene before Shang Xia's eyes changed. A sky full of stars stared him in the face and gave him a great shock.

“This... This shouldn’t be a gap in the Celestial Remains that leads to the outside world, right?!” Shang Xia blabbered instinctively.

Kou Chongxue’s Clone laughed, “That’s not possible. If it’s truly a gap to the outside world, why would I need to go to such great lengths to blow a hole through the entrance? There’s a formless spatial barrier here and if it’s possible to create an entrance, someone would have done it a long time ago.”

“So, this is...” Shang Xia turned to stare at Kou Chongxue’s Clone.

Turning around to look at the pile of rocks they passed earlier, Kou Chongxue’s Clone explained, “There are some who suspect that this was an observatory built in the Elysium.”

“Observatory?” Shang Xia mumbled softly. “What are they observing?”

“I would also like to know what they were observing, alas...” Kou Chongxue’s Clone sighed.

He pointed at the pile of rocks and continued, “It’s a pity it crumbled a long time ago!”