

The Heavens 721

Chapter 721: World Ascension: Rank Five Martial Art

Everyone knew that the best time to advance to the Martial Dipper Realm was during the fusion of the worlds.

The experts of the various Holy Lands and even some scattered cultivators didn't miss the chance, but no one knew how many succeeded and how many failed.

Regardless, the number of experts who had the qualifications to attempt a breakthrough to the Martial Dipper Realm during the fusion of the worlds was pretty much known to all.

It was especially so for the Tongyou Institution. They were a power that was making a meteoric rise, and it was a key faction of scrutiny for those of other factions.

Before the Tongyou Mysterious World became the Tongyou Paradise, they couldn't hide the phenomenon when someone broke through to the Martial Dipper Realm.

Moreover, the institution was in a precarious situation. They would be more than happy to expose their strength to the rest of the world. In the eyes of other experts, there was no need for them to hide the birth of a new Martial Dipper Realm expert!

That was why no one understood how a fourth Martial Dipper Realm Ancestor appeared in the Tongyou Institution. Moreover, what was more confusing was the fact that the fourth Martial Dipper Realm expert was ShangXia!

As a talent of the later generation, Shang Xia was like a shining star on the rise. The various powers paid a lot of attention to him. That was also why even though he was at the grand completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm the last they checked, they felt that he wouldn't break through anytime soon.

At the very least, they felt that the possibility of Shang Xia entering the Martial Dipper Realm was lower than that of Yun Jing or Yan Su'er.

The reason was simple. One needed strong foundations and deep accumulations before attempting a breakthrough to the Martial Dipper Realm. Shang Xia hadn't been in the Martial Extermination Realm for long! It hadn't even been 10 years since he entered the Martial Extermination Realm!

The way of cultivation wasn't a simple game where everyone strived to blindly increase their cultivation. One needed to pave their own way and come up with their philosophy of cultivation. Everything required a lot of experience and knowledge.

What's more, one needed to refine a fate dipper they were compatible with along with a bunch of high-level spiritual treasures and herbs to craft their advancement medicine.

Also, Shang Xia was just too damn young! It had been barely over 10 years since he stepped onto the path of cultivation. Without mentioning accumulations and knowledge, the institution shouldn't be pouring resources into him, a third generation disciple! They shouldn't even be thinking of it...

However, the truth was laid out before them. The youth who was overflowing with life force to the point he could make those Martial Dipper Realm jealous of him had easily nullified Yuwen Changqing's fist intent!

Only Martial Dipper Realm experts had the ability to deal with other Martial Dipper Realm experts!

Under such hopeless circumstances, the Tongyou Institution once again surprised everyone and overturned what everyone thought of them!

In the air above the You Continent, Shang Xia could feel several gazes shifting away and disappearing.

In the air above the Bing Continent, Yuwen Changqing finally managed to catch up to Feng Yezi who ran away at the key moment. Or perhaps, it was more accurate to say that Feng Yezi allowed him to.

Naturally, Yuwen Changqing wouldn't be able to stop Feng Yezi if he was hell-bent on running. After realizing there was no danger, Ye Fengzi slowed down.

"If you didn't run away and attacked the Tongyou Island with me, that kid wouldn't have been able to stop us! Also...

Yuwen Changqing hadn't completed his sentence when he was interrupted by Feng Yezi. "So? They have 4 Martial Dipper Realm experts!"

Feng Yezi was even more exasperated than Yuwen Changqing. "Do you understand what I'm saying?! There are 4 of them! I shouldn't have been goaded by all of you to take action. From this day forth, I will never step into your Bing Continent! I hope I never see you again!"

He turned into a light wind and disappeared right after speaking.

Standing at the edge of the continent, Yuwen Changqing stared in the direction he left and yelled, "Are you really going to let it go?! Is a mighty Martial Dipper Realm expert like yourself going to live in fear and hide for the rest of your life?!"

"Give up. Kou Chongxue will definitely seek revenge. There's no doubt about it." The whistling of wind turned into a voice that rang in Yuwen Changqing's mind.

It didn't take long for the wind to disappear and the weather around them to clear up. Not a trace remained.

It was also then when the eastern coast of the You Continent emitted a loud rumble.

The rumbling didn't seem to be caused by intense shifts of the land, but the soundwaves were transmitted extremely far away. Even Yuwen Changqing who was at the other edge of the Bing Continent could hear it clearly.

The Tongyou Island was successfully integrated into the world!

...

In the skies above the You Continent, Shang Xia who had been holding the Tongyang Needle in his hand heaved a sigh of relief before putting it away.

He was finally able to relax.

When Yuwen Changqing broke the void and sent his fist intent over to the You Continent earlier, Shang Xia noticed the presence of another Martial Dipper Realm Ancestor besides the person who made his move.

If the other Martial Dipper Realm expert made his move earlier when Shang Xia was dealing with Yuwen Changqing's fist intent, the consequences would be disastrous!

Shang Xia didn't know why the other party didn't make use of the opportunity, but he was fortunate that it happened. He could also tell that the other party ran away at the last second, allowing the You Continent to no longer be threatened.

He seemed indifferent as he observed the situation around him, but he was circulating his inner qi with everything he had. It would be impossible for him to deal with any other threats that might happen.

The experts of the various factions who had their eyes on the Tongyou Institution might have been frightened away by the appearance of a fourth Martial Dipper Realm expert when Shang Xia made his move earlier. No one else tried to interfere with the process when the island was placed into the body of water to the east of the continent.

Once the Tongyou Island was placed into the water, it turned into a part of the You Continent. The expansion of 800 or so miles wasn't without benefits. Shang Xia felt as though a mysterious power was about to descend on him.

It was impossible for one to find an opportunity like that so easily, and the peculiar feeling wasn't foreign to Shang Xia at his current level.

"Is this the World's Will?" Shang Xia muttered to himself. Since he made a connection to the World's Will back then, it was easier for him to do it again. He once again sank his consciousness into the strange land.

The endless lake seemed exactly the same, and there were multiple connections to the various Holy Lands and Elysiums. He could also see the origin essence of the Manyu Continent pouring into the lake.

It might be extremely beneficial to the new world, but at the same time, they seemed to be somewhat rejecting each other. The assimilation of the world origin from the Manyu Continent didn't seem to be going too smoothly.

The instant the Tongyou Island integrated itself into the You Continent, Shang Xia noticed that the rate of accumulation increased by a tiny amount.

It was then that he realized that the ascension of a world didn't just rely on world origin and origin essence. The various continents also played a huge role! World origin wasn't the only thing they had to increase. The world needed an all rounded upgrade, both inside and out!

When Shang Xia understood the intricacies behind it, the space that surrounded the giant lake seemed to undergo some transformation. It was as though it was about to merge with his body.

No... That wasn't exactly it...

The origin in the lake wasn't trying to merge with him. Instead, it was trying to form a special connection with his dantian! That was right, it was trying to form a connection with the origin in his dantian!

An epiphany struck Shang Xia. If he compared the endless lake before him to the origin in his dantian, the various Holy Lands and Elysiums would be like their organs and meridians.

Foreign origin essence from the Manyu Continent was like impure heaven and earth spiritual qi or world origin cultivators absorbed and had to be assimilated into their bodies...

He was basically looking at a complete diagram of how the origin of a true dipper expert worked.

That was the strange feeling he was getting earlier!

Inspiration struck him at that moment and he seemed to have found a way to work on his rank five martial arts! Even though it was a mere frame of what he had to do and had a lot of room for improvement, he had found a way to make a complete circulation of dipper qi through his body!

That was the reward the World's Will gave Shang Xia!

Chapter 722: World Ascension: Rank Five Martial Arts (Cont)

When the Tongyou Island landed in the water and increased the area of the You Continent, the assimilation of the Manyu Continent's origin essence increased slightly. As such, the You Continent received a reward from the World's Will.

Throughout the process, Ji Wenlong, Shang Bo, and Shang Xia had the greatest contribution and received the greatest benefit.

Even Kou Chongxue, who was in the Celestial Remains, managed to feel a little something. Unfortunately, it was unable to help him achieve some sort of breakthrough and he could only use it to strengthen his foundations.

Of course, the reward from the World's Will had to be split between everyone who participated in the return of the Tongyou Island. When the effects were finally felt, it didn't lead to an obvious increase in strength.

From a certain standpoint, the reward from the World's Will could be seen as an opportunity if used well. Like what happened to Shang Xia when he managed to create the base of his rank five martial arts. He worked on its development for a long time and managed to think of a way to start. The reward from the World's Will gave him the flash of inspiration he needed and saved him some time.

Of course, even without the reward, he would be able to get it sooner or later. It would only take a little more time.

The reward of the World's Will didn't just extend to the cultivators of the You Continent. Following the integration of the islands, the cultivators of the various continents also received the blessing of the World's Will.

However, whatever came next was an interesting sight. The Tongyou Island might be of a fairly average size compared to the other islands, but the amount of world origin they absorbed was only lower than the 3 Elysiums and several extremely strong factions.

Those factions who obtained more world origin than the Tongyou Institution used a lot more experts, and there were at least twice or thrice the number of experts involved.

As for the size and number of continents of the You Continent, they were ranked dead last. In other words, even if the rewards given by the World's Will couldn't match up to the rest 3 Elysiums or several extremely strong factions, they had much fewer people to share it with. The benefits each cultivator of the You Continent received was probably the most!

One could only imagine how much cultivators of the You Continent would improve after what happened.

However, the Tongyou Institution's plan wasn't complete. Fragments of land that were brought back from the Manyu Continent were still falling towards the water. There were close to a hundred of them as they turned into islands that lay close to the Tongyou Island.

Those scattered islands might not be able to bring the same amount of benefits as the integration of the Tongyou Island, but Shang Xia could still feel an increase in the density of heaven and earth qi over the You Continent after they had fallen.

During that period, Shang Xia also controlled his dipper qi to circulate according to what he learned earlier, increasing the efficiency of moving those fragments of land.

When they were finally done, the Heavenly Screen was restored to its original state. Ji Wenlong worked with Shang Bo to seal the weakness and the pavilion returned once again. It returned to being the gateway between the Tongyou Paradise and the Beyond Heavens Pavilion.

Because of the complicated situation between the Liao Continent and the Ji Continent of the Azure Spiritual World, Shang Xia remained on the Tongyou Island even after it was integrated into the You Continent. He started cultivating on it in case an accident occurred.

Actually, the development of his rank five martial arts had something to do with why he had remained on the Tongyou Island. There was too much to improve and with the flash of inspiration he had earlier, he didn't wish to miss the chance to strengthen his rank five martial arts.

In the current state of the world, there was no clear definition of how great a rank five martial art was. Perhaps, there might be some classification out there, but experts of the Tongyou Institution had no idea what they were. Kou Chongxue was no exception.

According to what he came up with, Shang Xia felt that the efficiency of circulating inner qi was poor beyond belief. It was a crude method and he only had a vague outline of how it could be done. He would require close to 12 hours in order to complete one cycle.

As he tried to circulate his Five Elements Dipper Qi, he kept thinking of ways to make improvements.

No one knew how long had passed, but Shang Xia managed to complete a dozen or so cycles of his inner qi. Yun Jing and the others finally arrived and Shang Xia was startled awake. He noticed that he only needed 10 hours to complete one full cycle.

"Why are you here?" Shang Xia gasped, "Are things stable on the northern front?"

"10 days have already passed. The situation in the north is alright. The Changbai Holy Land and the races of the Liao Continent no longer pulled any stunts. That might be because of your advancement to the Martial Dipper Realm. It was enough to intimidate them to stop whatever they had planned..." Yun Jing chuckled.

"That's great." Shang Xia felt a lot more relaxed. He laughed, "Actually, we have to thank Patriarch Kou's unparalleled greatness for that. Otherwise, even if I entered the Martial Dipper Realm, our empty city stratagem wouldn't have worked so well."

Yun Jing broke into laughter immediately. When she calmed down, she continued, “Yan Su’er is taking charge of the northern border. We need to station experts over here at our eastern border and the others are still on their way. I just arrived earlier than the others.”

“Everything is fine here. After all, everyone needs some time to react to the new changes.” Shang Xia explained. Pausing for a second, he continued, “From this, we can see that the situation between the 3 powers here will become a lot more complicated in the future. You will need to spare more effort to deal with them...”

“Martial Dipper Realm experts like you are dealing with the most difficult issues for us. The matters here can’t be considered much!” Yun Jing smiled.

Shang Xia chuckled in response. It was true. Facing the threat of an external invasion, the Martial Dipper Realm experts would greatly restrain themselves to conserve their strength to deal with the Spirit Abundance World. The conflict between the continents would be led by those in the Martial Extermination Realm or below.

Facing the extremely complicated situation regarding the Liao and Ji Continents of the Azure Spiritual World, Yun Jing would be left to deal with it alone.

After several introductions about the situation in the You Continent, a light flashed in Shang Xia’s eyes. He asked, “Have you found a chance to enter the grand completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm?”

Yun Jing shook her head calmly and smiled, “That’s not what I was looking for anyway. Our Tongyou Institution is now overseen by 4 Martial Extermination Realm experts. My life is much easier.”

Shang Xia nodded slightly. He knew that she probably had something else she wanted to say and he asked, “What about Granny Yan Su’er? Did she manage to repair her damaged foundations?”

Yun Jing forced a smile and replied, “How can it be that easy? Even though the World’s Will rewarded us and she managed to gain some benefits, it would be difficult for her to gain the qualifications to attempt a breakthrough to the Martial Dipper Realm.”

“However, everyone else managed to gain quite a lot. For example, Liu Qinglan. She should be able to enter seclusion after this to start refining her fourth extermination origin. Shang Lubing and Bu Jingshuang would also be able to take a step forward on their path of cultivation.”

Chapter 723: World Ascension: The Accident

After hearing that Yun Jing and Yan Su’er were both unable to reach the point where they could attempt a breakthrough to the Martial Dipper Realm, Shang Xia was slightly disappointed.

However, he quickly realized he was thinking too much. The rewards had been split into many parts. Even if it gave each individual great benefits, it wasn’t enough to bring them to the entrance of the Martial Dipper Realm.

“Other than them, there were many experts in the institution who managed to increase their cultivation. Actually, I arranged for some of them to enter the Tongyou

Paradise before coming over. It won't be long before a new batch of Martial Intent Realm and Martial Extermination Realm experts is produced."

The Tongyou Institution basically poured a good majority of disciples into the battlefield between the two worlds in order to obtain the advantage they had. The You Continent was basically sapped dry during that period of time. Ji Wenlong, Shang Bo, and Shang Xia were basically the only experts who were supporting the continent while the others were fighting in the battlefield between the two worlds.

Even though the institution had been expanding the past few years, their foundations were far too lacking when compared to the other factions.

"How were our losses in the battlefield between the two worlds?" Shang Xia asked with concern.

"We lost far less than the 3 Races of the Liao Continent and the Changbai Holy Land..." Yun Jing laughed at his question. "It's all thanks to the battle formation you came up with. It showed its might during the conflicts in the battlefield between the two worlds and many of our students used it in the critical moment to save their lives. Some of them were able to turn the situation around and kill opponents stronger than them. We can only imagine how many students will start practicing your battle formation in the near future."

Shang Xia nodded slightly in response.

Afraid he wouldn't be able to understand what that entailed, Yun Jing couldn't help but ask again, "Do you understand what this means?!"

Shang Xia continued nodding and muttered, "Deputy Patriarch Yun, there's no need to worry. I will definitely show my face around the Teaching Division more in the future. After all, I'm still a teacher of the Inner Division."

"Oh, we used up a good portion of rank two, three, and four talismans back in the battlefield between the two worlds. We would need to trouble you to replenish them soon..." Yun Jing added.

"Looks like it's going to get a little busy." Shang Xia chuckled bitterly.

Yun Jing seemed to have thought of something and her expression changed slightly. "Did you hand a rank three talisman seal to your clansman?"

"Huh?" Shang Xia was slightly taken aback. He might have realized something and he asked, "How do you know about that? Did Uncle Quan use it to craft talismans already?"

Before leaving for the Celestial Remains, Shang Xia passed Shang Quan the rank three talisman seal and instructed him to nurture it with his divine sense day and night. He wondered if the process was already complete.

If that was true, Shang Xia would feel way more excited than when he heard about the widespread acceptance of his Yin Yang Extremity Formation.

Yun Jing grinned after seeing his reaction. “Looks like it’s true. I might not have seen him or the talismans created with the sea, but I heard that a batch of rank three talismans appeared at the critical moment and turned the tides of battle in our favor.”

“If that is true, that would mean that it’s possible for me to craft rank three talisman seals. In that case...” Shang Xia mumbled happily to himself.

“If that’s the case, I’m afraid many people will have their eyes on the rank three talisman seal from now on...” Yun Jing interrupted.

The smile on Shang Xia’s face faded slightly.

However, Yun Jing wasn’t done. She continued, “From how you refined 4 extermination origins to enter the Martial Extermination Realm, to your breakthrough to the Martial Dipper Realm without an Origin Dipper... Now, you successfully created talisman seals, you enabled non-Talisman Masters to craft talismans. There’s also the battle formation for low-level cultivators of the institution. Little Xia, you displayed an entirely new cultivation path. Do you understand what that means?”

Chuckling softly, Shang Xia sighed, “Yeah. That was why I was trying to enter the Martial Dipper Realm as soon as possible. Luckily I succeeded.”

“Yeah, fortunately, you’re a Martial Dipper Realm Ancestor now.” Yun Jing nodded slightly in response.

Shang Xia’s lips trembled slightly. That was how they classified it, but his cultivation realm was actually called the Five Elements Realm. He wanted to mention it, but he decided to change his words at the last second. “Disciple can’t be considered an Ancestor when compared to you.”

Sniggering under her breath, Yun Jing changed the topic. “Alright, go do what you have to. I’ll handle things here.”

Before he left, he didn’t forget to remind her, “Deputy Patriarch Yun, you need to pay attention to those islands created by the fragments of land. If anything were to happen, those islands might be the fuse that starts it all.”

...

After bidding farewell to Yun Jing, Shang Xia returned to the Tongyou Island.

With his cultivation at the Martial Dipper Realm, he could travel through space and cross thousands of miles at once. He was able to create a spatial tunnel to the Beyond Heavens Pavilion from wherever he was if he so wished.

However, he didn’t head immediately towards the Tongyou Institution. After leaving the east, he went over to the south before traveling west along the Thousand Leaf Mountain Range. He didn’t conceal his aura during the process.

Currently, there were countless spiritual beasts residing in the Thousand Leaf Mountain Range. They escaped from the battlefield between the two worlds back then, and there were several high-level spiritual beasts among them.

If those high-level beasts were to band together, they would be able to cause a beast tide on a massive scale. It would pose a significant threat to the continent.

The reason Shang Xia traveled across the Thousand Leaf Mountain Range was to give them a warning and suppress them slightly with his aura.

When he arrived at the spot where Kou Chongxue's sword qi cleaved a huge ravine through the mountain range, he lingered for a little while more. He even tried to feel the changes in the heaven and earth qi in the surroundings caused by the destruction.

By the time he returned to the Tongyou Paradise after his 'tour' of the Thousand Leaf Mountain Range, he discovered that many disciples of the institution were in closed door seclusion.

He couldn't be bothered to inspect them one by one as he discovered Ji Wenlong and Shang Bo gathered under the Nine Blossom Jade Formation Disc.

When he arrived where they were, he shot a glance at them and asked, "What's going on?" Surprisingly, his question wasn't directed to either of the old men. He was speaking to Chu Jia who had also arrived.

She looked at the formation disc before explaining, "More than two-thirds of the world origin and origin essence we retrieved from the Manyu Continent has been absorbed by the World's Will."

"So?" Shang Xia couldn't understand what that meant.

Shang Bo turned to look at Shang Xia the next moment and mumbled, "Little Chu thinks that the World Ascension wouldn't be too successful looking at how things are going right now."

A deep frown appeared on Shang Xia's face. "Don't we still have a third left? I don't know how much world origin and origin essence the other factions have, but the 3 Elysiums and the stronger factions would definitely have more than us."

"Yeah? But there aren't many factions with more origin essence than us. Unless some of them held back intentionally, my prediction should be correct." Chu Jia said confidently.

"Are you certain?!" Shang Xia turned serious.

Chu Jia turned to him and muttered, "Do you know what rewards I received from the World's Will earlier?"

Shang Xia's curiosity was piqued after hearing her question. That was because as the Formation Grandmaster of the Tongyou Institution, Chu Jia's contribution might not be any lesser than the Martial Dipper Realm experts present.

"I saw a complete formation diagram with the World's Will at its center. It was connected to the various Holy Lands and Elysiums and the connections depicted the full diagram." Chu Jia explained.

Shang Xia's eyes widened slightly. That seemed familiar. In fact, it was pretty similar to what he had seen.

Instead of a formation diagram, he managed to see a way to circulate his inner qi.

Did everyone comprehend different meanings from the same scene?

"Because of the diagram, I was able to determine the amount of world origin and origin essence coming from the other factions. I can say for certain that the amount we have isn't enough to complete the World Ascension!" Chu Jia concluded.

Despite what she said, Shang Xia didn't have time to care about her deduction. Instead, he touched on another important point. "How do you even know how much origin essence and world origin there are? Are you also able to determine where each faction is by their connection to the World's Will and the amount of world origin and origin essence they have left?"

Chu Jia was slightly taken aback by his question. "I might not be able to determine that, but the World's Will can. It seems like the World's Will is drawing origin essence from the various factions proportional to the amount they have left. As such, I made a deduction and can somewhat find out how much world origin and origin essence each faction has..."

"So that's it..." Shang Xia nodded in realization. He became even more curious the next moment. "In that case, do you know how our Tongyou Institution fared compared to the other factions? Where do we rank in terms of amount of world origin and origin essence we absorbed from the Manyu Continent?"

Chu Jia seemed to have been taking note of that since a long time ago. She didn't hesitate for a second and gave Shang Xia an answer immediately. "We're either the sixth or seventh ranked faction when it comes to the amount of world origin and origin essence obtained from the Manyu Continent."

In other words, other than the 3 Elysiums, the Tongyou Institution was ranked extremely highly in terms of how much they gained from the Manyu Continent.

Seeing as Shang Xia and Chu Jia were getting further and further away from what Shang Bo mentioned previously, Ji Wenlong interrupted their conversation. "Hey! We're talking about the World Ascension here! Are you planning to stop providing the world with origin essence and world origin since the ascension is bound to fail anyway? Are you telling us to use the rest to strengthen the foundations of our Holy Land?"

Shang Xia thought for a second before asking, "Would that cause a backlash from the world? Is there a possibility for us to be rejected from the new world if we choose to do that?"

"That is why we should pretend that there's an accident..." Chu Jia mumbled while staring at the few Martial Dipper Realm Ancestors before her.

Shit! She's really gutsy alright...

Shang Xia thought about how daring she was before wondering what type of accident they could cause to...

Rumble...

Cracks started to form on the surface of the Nine Blossom Jade Formation Disc the next moment. The transmission of world origin and origin essence to the new world was interrupted immediately.

When the Nine Blossom Jade Formation Disc came under attack and was damaged, Shang Xia seemed to have thought of something. His eyes widened in fright and he stared at the bunch in front of him. "Damn! You guys are ruthless!"

Chapter 724: World Ascension: The Rank Three Talisman Seal

Even though Shang Xia was in the Tongyou Paradise, he was able to learn of what happened out there.

A meteor that appeared in the Beyond Heavens Pavilion slammed heavily into them and smashed into the Nine Blossom Jade Formation Disc. Even the pavilion that acted as the gateway between the Tongyou Paradise and the Beyond Heavens Pavilion was half destroyed by the impact.

One had to know that if the pavilion was truly destroyed, the meteor would crash directly into the Tongyou Paradise. It might even cause direct damage to the world if things were to get serious.

For the meteor to slam accurately into the pavilion and thus affecting the Nine Blossom Jade Formation Disc, they had to be taking a huge risk.

It was no wonder Shang Xia cried out when he learned of what had happened.

The pavilion was no ordinary structure. It was how the institution suppressed the weakness of the world before the Tongyou Paradise took shape. It was only built after expending a lot of high-grade treasures!

There would also be experts standing guard there usually. Who would have thought that Ji Wenlong and Shang Bo would be missing that very moment? When the Martial Dipper Realm Ancestors were absent, the meteor slammed directly into the Beyond Heavens Pavilion. The impact affected the Nine Blossom Jade Formation Disc and it even managed to cut off the connection the Tongyou Paradise had with the World's Will.

Everything seemed like a serious accident alright...

Shang Xia noticed the portion of world origin and origin essence left in the Nine Blossom Jade Formation Disc and asked, "How should we make use of them?"

"Heh, obviously, there are many ways we can make use of them. They're extremely useful to us and even if all else fails, we can turn them into high-grade essence crystals." Chu Jia chuckled.

Using the origin essence in the Nine Blossom Jade Formation Disc definitely had something to do with the secrets of the art of formations. Even though there was nothing Chu Jia had to hide, Shang Xia might not understand what she was talking about even if she were to mention them. As such, Shang Xia decided to leave it at that.

After everything that happened, the Tongyou Institution's plan seemed mostly complete. In fact, they might even have exceeded what they planned to do in some aspects.

Because of their sufficient preparation and everything that happened when the Tongyou Mysterious World underwent its transformation to become the Tongyou Paradise, it was of extremely high

quality. It could even be compared to several factions that had the strongest foundations in the new world.

The You Continent also managed to undergo large scale expansion. They increased their landmass to the north and east. Even though the You Continent was still the smallest continent in the new world, they received rewards from the influx of world origin from the battlefield between the two worlds and the reward from the World's Will. Even if they couldn't be considered a blessed land for cultivation, disciples would still benefit greatly if they trained on the You Continent.

After achieving their main goals, the Tongyou Institution pulled another massive stunt where they cut off the connection of world origin and origin essence to the World's Will. The World Ascension wasn't something that would happen in a day or two, and with the higher-ups of the institution feeling that the new world wouldn't undergo a successful upgrade, they chose to keep the remaining origin essence for themselves.

With everything done, Shang Xia and the others finally had a chance to catch their breath.

"I wonder if the Spirit Abundance World will really come for us..." Shang Bo sighed.

Ji Wenlong snorted in response. "We might be able to determine that our World Ascension would be a flop, but they wouldn't be able to tell! In their eyes, we'll be a new Spirit World and they will definitely take the chance to stage an invasion."

Shang Bo chuckled bitterly. "Looks like we still won't be able to take things easily."

"I'll have to go around our territory and deal with the regions that we integrated into the You Continent. The connection isn't exactly flawless because of how rushed it was. I'll go and deal with them now that we have a little time to kill." Ji Wenlong muttered.

Shang Bo chuckled. "I have to enter seclusion for some time. I'll remain in the Beyond Heavens Pavilion for now and the moment the experts of the Spirit Abundance World arrive, I'll head out there to join the battle."

After speaking their gaze landed on Shang Xia.

His original intentions were to enter seclusion to continue working on his rank five martial arts. After thinking for some time, he spoke, "I'll head back to the Talisman Hall for now. I heard that we used up a lot of talismans in the battlefield between the two worlds before the fusion of our worlds. Let's see if I can cook up another batch."

With their minds made up, the 3 Martial Dipper Realm Ancestors of the Tongyou Institution split up to deal with the matters at hand.

When Shang Xia arrived in the Talisman Hall, he caused quite a huge ruckus.

Everyone noticed him when he blocked Yuwen Changqing's fist intent in the air above the You Continent. If they didn't see it for themselves, none of them would think that the youngest Talisman Grandmaster of the institution would also become the youngest Martial Dipper Realm expert of the institution!

According to the concepts of cultivation, an expert in the Martial Extermination Realm was capable of establishing their own faction! They were existences who were classified as Ancestors of a sect!

Even though Shang Xia was treating everyone the same way as before when he greeted them, the respect they once had for the Martial Extermination Realm Talisman Grandmaster turned into reverence for a Martial Dipper Realm Ancestor. Everyone seemed a little uneasy around him.

Feeling helpless, he could only dismiss all of them. When everyone was gone, he instructed Fan Yuanhui and Lou Zizhang to bring over all the rank four talisman paper and a portion of rank three talisman paper before entering the room he was used to.

Not too long after returning to the Talisman Hall, Shang Quan who received news that he came back ran over hastily. He was closely followed by Ren Huan.

The reason Shang Quan was looking for Shang Xia was because of the rank three talisman seal and the moment they met, he brought out the completed Void Breaking Bamboo Talisman Seal.

“I didn’t think that it would be done so quickly...” Shang Xia glanced at it and noticed that the missing stroke was already complete. Even after careful examination, he couldn’t tell the difference between the final stroke that was complete after Shang Quan nurtured the seal and whatever he made before.

Noticing the slightly surprised expression on Shang Xia’s face, Shang Quan looked at the seal in his hand and explained, “I have no idea what happened either. I followed your instructions after you handed the seal to me and nourished it with my divine sense day and night.”

“I took part in the conflict in the battlefield between the worlds in the meantime and I heard a soft crack one day. By the time I noticed the seal again, I saw that it was complete.”

After speaking, he took out several shards that fell off from the seal after he heard the crack. “I thought that you left it behind to be complete after the nourishment of the talisman seal was complete...”

Shang Xia shook his head slightly and muttered, “Looks like I underestimated the talisman seal. Uncle Quan, keep it and continue to nourish it with your divine sense. I thought that you would be able to use it a few hundred times or so after it was complete. From the looks of it, it should be able to last even longer.”

A look of excitement appeared on Shang Quan’s face after hearing Shang Xia’s evaluation. “That would be great! Speaking of the conflict in the battlefield between the two worlds, the talisman produced with the seal seems extremely well received by the others!”

“Oh?” Shang Xia raised an eyebrow and laughed, “Oh right, I’m getting a little curious. I heard that you managed to gain a lot of credit back there. This seal produces the Void Breaking Bamboo Talisman and shouldn’t possess any combat abilities...”

Shang Quan looked extremely pleased with himself as he explained what happened in the battlefield between the two worlds.

Ren Huan, who was a Martial Extermination Realm expert, also took part in the battle. He added some of his own experiences after Shang Quan's recount.

When they were done, Shang Quan chose to take his leave. After he was gone, Ren Huan finally couldn't hold back any longer and he quickly reminded Shang Xia, "Brother Shang, your talisman seal developed its own spirit and it's something that only divine weapons possess! Why didn't you remind your uncle to be wary of that?"

"Brother Ren, when did we start acting so formally when talking to each other?"

Shang Xia glanced at him and joked.

Slightly taken aback, Ren Huan eventually chuckled in response, "I might have thought too much about the matter with the talisman seal. Brother Shang, I hope you don't find it strange."

Shang Xia cackled softly, "With my uncle's careful personality, if he learned that the talisman seal he's using is comparable to a pseudo divine artifact, he won't be able to live his life peacefully any longer. He'll probably be all jumpy and overcautious in everything he does. Well, the talisman seal will only respond to his divine sense anyway and no one else would be able to make use of it, not even me. He also has the protection of the Shang Clan and he shouldn't be afraid that others might scheme against him to get their hands on it anyway."

Nodding, Ren Huan continued, "I understand. As long as news about how he's the only one who has the ability to use the talisman seal spreads, those who might be plotting against him would probably stop..."

"Brother Ren, did you come over to deliver good news?" Shang Xia finally changed the topic.

Retrieving 2 sealed spiritual cases, Ren Huan opened them one by one. The first contained several rank four talisman papers and the other also contained a case full of papers. However, the paper in the second case seemed to be made from leaves and there were only 5 of them in total.

Shang Xia casually glanced at the stack of rank four talisman paper before staring intently at the case with the 5 leaf-shaped talisman papers. "5 rank five talisman papers... Brother Ren, you're amazing alright!"

Ren Huan didn't seem too comfortable receiving Shang Xia's praise. "You gave me 5 pieces of leaves from the Starry Tree back then. They're of amazing quality to begin with and even without much work from me, they were turned into rank five talisman paper. .."

"It doesn't matter! It's great regardless." Shang Xia kept the cases before exchanging some pleasantries with Ren Huan.

Understanding that Shang Xia was likely really busy, Ren Huan quickly bid him farewell.

Suddenly thinking of something, Shang Xia asked, "Brother Ren, you have entered the Martial Extermination Realm for some time now... How has your refinement of your first extermination origin been?"

"It's going pretty well. During the transformation of the Tongyou Mysterious World to the Tongyou Paradise, the heaven and earth qi became much denser. I received quite

a few benefits from it too. I was able to hasten the refining of my extermination origin quite significantly. From the looks of it, I should be able to complete the process in a month. If I'm fast, I might be able to finish it in ten or so days..." Ren Huan smiled.

Shang Xia nodded and continued, "You should be able to make it then. With the successful transformation, our Tongyou Paradise should be able to produce a batch of extermination origins. Brother Ren, you should be able to get yourself a spot on the list. Why don't you go ahead and try your luck?"

Ren Huan was surprised by Shang Xia's revelation, and he quickly revealed a grateful expression. "Hahaha! I'm really lucky indeed. Looks like I will have to head over to the Tongyou Paradise in a little while!"

With Shang Xia's current cultivation level and position, allocating a strand of extermination origin or two could be done with a single word.

Actually, Shang Xia was planning to make another rank three talisman seal for Ren Huan. However, he thought about it again and realized he didn't have much time. Moreover, Ren Huan seems a little talented in the way of cultivation. Shang Xia felt that giving him the chance to improve was better. After all, cultivation was the root of everything, it was the basis of everything a cultivator could achieve.

After Ren Huan left, Shang Xia finally turned his attention to the bunch of rank four talisman papers and 5 rank five talisman papers.

He didn't have to worry about crafting rank four talismans and wasting rank four talisman papers. Before he entered the Martial Dipper Realm, he already achieved a 60 percent success rate when crafting rank four talismans!

Now that he crossed the gateway of the Martial Dipper Realm, His abilities increased greatly. He even had the experience of crafting a rank five talisman with Kou Chongxue's help back then! His skill in talisman crafting naturally reached a new level.

The only problem that plagued him was the type of rank five talisman he should craft with those rank five talisman papers.

He had a total of 6 rank five talisman papers at the moment and one of them was leftover when he made the Abyssal Emptiness Talisman back then.

Of the rank five talisman inheritances possessed by the institution, there were only the Abyssal Emptiness Talisman and the Substitution Talisman. In fact, it was even appropriate to say that every single one of those inheritances belonged to Shang Xia.

Logically, Shang Xia should try crafting an Abyssal Emptiness Talisman because he had the experience of successfully creating it.

If nothing went wrong, the Spirit Abundance World would definitely act to stop their Azure World's attempt to ascend and a massive battle would happen between the high-level experts of both worlds.

The Abyssal Emptiness Talisman would assist them when they tried to escape from battles at the crucial moment, but a Substitution Talisman could be used to protect their lives when faced with a direct threat.

In the end, Shang Xia made up his mind to craft Substitution Talismans with the rank five talisman papers he had at his disposal.

Chapter 725: World Ascension: Substitution Talisman

In the room Shang Xia used for crafting talismans, his brush danced about as he completed a rank four talisman in a short period of time.

Everything happened in accordance to his expectations. After entering the Martial Dipper Realm, his ability to craft talismans experienced a sharp increase.

The most obvious sign that he managed to improve his craft was the fact that he required a lot less time to create a single rank four talisman.

The institution provided 8 rank four talisman papers in total and Shang Xia used them to craft the strongest and most difficult rank four talismans he knew. In the end, he ruined 2 pieces of rank four talisman papers and his success rate surpassed 70 percent.

Actually, if Shang Xia chose to craft weaker rank four talismans, it was possible for him to not fail a single time.

Those talismans were quickly retrieved by the members of the Talisman Hall. They were split evenly among those who were stationed in the north and east.

If one looked at the bigger picture, the number of Martial Extermination Realm experts of the institution and the You Continent was severely limited. Even so, they were able to gain the upper hand in the battlefield between the two worlds. One had to know that the 3 Races of the Liao Continent had joined forces with the Changbai Holy Land. Even so, the Tongyou Institution managed to gain an advantage in their battle for territory.

How were they able to achieve what they did?

The simplest reason was the sheer number of talismans they expended. Rank two, three, and four talismans that had been collected by the talisman hall for a long time were brought out and used against their opponents in order to gain the upper hand.

It wasn't as though the Changbai Holy Land didn't have their own Talisman Grandmaster. However, their Talisman Grandmaster was far too lacking when compared to Shang Xia.

That was also why the Tongyou Institution dared to pour a huge amount of resources into the Talisman Hall. Shang Xia's freakishly high success rate and efficiency in crafting talismans would allow them to make the greatest use of their resources!

With the support of the institution, Shang Xia's many talisman inheritances, and his personal demonstration in the Talisman Hall, the number of Talisman Masters in the institution shot through the roof. They produced 3 new rank three Talisman Masters and it basically doubled the number of rank three Talisman Masters in the Talisman Hall. There were 8 new rank two Talisman Masters and a whole bunch more rank one Talisman Disciples.

The number of craftsmen also increased. Grand Craftsman Ren Huan even managed to grasp the method of crafting rank five talisman paper and if several rank three Ink Craftsmen worked together, they would be able to produce a certain amount of rank four talisman ink. Even though the amount they produced wasn't over the top, it was more than enough for Shang Xia to keep crafting talismans.

The Talisman Hall also worked with the Weapons Hall to produce 2 mid-grade brushes. It was a shame crafting a high-grade brush involved extremely intricate work and no one dared to give it a shot.

All in all, Shang Xia single handedly raised the standard of the Talisman Hall. Their improvements in recent years could be said to be visible to the naked eye.

Now that he had experience of crafting rank four talismans and having run through the process of crafting a rank five Substitution Talisman in his head countless times, he was convinced he wouldn't make any major mistakes. When he finally returned to his peak state, Shang Xia decided to start the crafting process.

Before he did, he specially headed over to the Tongyou Paradise to ask Chu Jia for a breakdown of the current situation in the You Continent.

According to her observations, the new world seemed pretty calm for the time being. However, she couldn't shake off the feeling that it was just the calm before the storm.

Because of the 'accident', the Tongyou Institution managed to sever their connection to the World's Will. Not too long after that, the various factions also noticed what was going on. They started to cut off their provision of origin essence to the World's Will to save a little more for themselves.

Shang Xia shook his head and chuckled bitterly. They weren't the only smart ones out there... There were many others who weren't lacking either.

Returning to his room, Shang Xia's attention returned to the rank five talisman. Unfortunately, he wasn't able to step into his special state of mind.

It was a shame he couldn't craft the talisman in his special state as that would increase his chances of success, but that didn't matter. His main goal was to evaluate his current abilities at crafting a rank five talisman.

He didn't find a chance to fix his White Bone Brush ever since it was damaged during the crafting of his first Abyssal Emptiness Talisman and he could only borrow the Purple Bamboo Brush from the Talisman Hall for the time being.

He had a little rank five ink left from his previous attempt but he only had enough to craft a single rank five talisman.

Shang Xia requested for the Talisman Hall to start collecting rank five talisman ink a long time ago but it was easier said than done. Rank five talisman ink wasn't something they could find wherever they went, and they hadn't been able to collect even a single portion. Luckily, they were able to produce a steady supply of rank four talisman ink. With a few trades here and there, they were eventually able to get enough rank four talisman ink for him.

Dipping the Purple Bamboo Brush in ink, his Five Elements Dipper Qi was evenly distributed into the brush as he calculated the location and time his brush was supposed to touch the talisman paper by tapping the fingers of his left hand together.

His calculations were quick and when he was finally confident his judgment was correct, his brush landed on the rank five talisman paper. It flowed seamlessly on the piece of paper as he continued to make his calculations on his left hand.

Even though he ran through the process several times in his mind, every single piece of rank five talisman paper was unique. The timing of his strokes would be different and he would have to adapt to the changes as he went along. As such, he would have to change his strokes during the process and that was why crafting talismans was so difficult.

Shang Xia might have entered the Martial Dipper Realm and could control his inner qi and divine will at a level difficult for others to reach, his first attempt at crafting the Substitution Talisman failed without much suspense.

Shaking his head lightly, Shang Xia waved his hand and scattered the broken pieces of the rank five talisman paper before him.

Even though he failed halfway through the crafting process, he only used 3 short days. From what he experienced when he crafted the Abyssal Emptiness Talisman with Kou Chongxue, he would need close to 6 days in order to complete a rank five talisman. As he got more familiar with the process, it was possible to reduce the time taken to make one.

Compared to the time he was in the Martial Extermination Realm when crafting the Abyssal Emptiness Talisman with Kou Chongxue, Shang Xia found it much easier to craft rank five talismans at his current level.

With only 5 rank five talisman papers left, Shang Xia naturally became a lot more careful.

He took 3 days to restore his inner qi to its peak state before taking 2 more days to run through the crafting process in his mind. After learning from his mistakes, he started his second attempt.

This time, the crafting process lasted for 5 days. A good portion of the talisman was complete before it was ruined due to a slight imbalance in the energy flowing about its surface.

Shang Xia wasn't dispirited by his second failure either. Instead, it allowed him to grasp the key of balancing the energies between the connection of the runes he had drawn.

There were 3 key connection points between the runes and they were the key to the embodiment, substitution, and death replacement aspects of the talisman.

Taking 5 more days to restore his condition, Shang Xia summarized his mistakes before starting again.

He was pretty assured of his success when he started the third attempt, but reality proved that he had overestimated himself. The difficulty of the Substitution Talisman obviously surpassed the Abyssal Emptiness Talisman.

With half of his rank five talisman papers wasted, Shang Xia was starting to feel the pressure.

After all, he didn't know when he would be able to gather enough rank five talisman papers to craft rank five talismans again.

Under such circumstances, Shang Xia understood that remaining calm was all the more imperative. Otherwise, the situation would just become worse.

This time, it took him 7 days before he restored himself to his peak state.

When he picked up his brush for the fourth time, a strong premonition filled his mind. He was certain he would be able to craft the Substitution Talisman!

With the brush in hand, Shang Xia observed the tip of the brush carefully and noticed that it wasn't really damaged even after 3 attempts to craft the Substitution Talisman. He finally heaved a sigh of relief.

It seemed as though one's cultivation played a key part in the whole operation.

During his fourth attempt, not a single thing went wrong. Everything flowed perfectly and on the sixth day, Shang Xia completed his final stroke. A Substitution Talisman was successfully made!

That was the second rank five talisman Shang Xia ever made. At the same time, it was the second type of rank five talisman he created. With its creation, Shang Xia could be said to have grasped both rank five talisman inheritances he owned.

"It's a shame this talisman was made with rank four talisman ink. It will definitely affect the strength of the talisman and its lifespan." Shang Xia looked at the complicated runes on the talisman as he revealed a look of regret. The runes on the talisman were so complicated that weaker Martial Extermination Realm experts might damage their soul if they looked at them.

With a rank five Substitution Talisman in hand, Shang Xia no longer needed to suppress his gradually panicky heart. He entered a state of tranquility.

Resting for several days, he started his fifth attempt of a Substitution Talisman.

Perhaps it was because he succeeded once before and he no longer had any worries, but he worked a lot better. The time required decreased significantly.

Seeing as 5 days were about to pass and Shang Xia was about to complete his second Substitution Talisman, he was interrupted by a sudden burst of world origin.

The fluctuation came without any warning and the talisman paper exploded when he was distracted for that one second. However, he didn't have time to feel any rage as he discovered powerful auras emerging from 3 different directions that shot straight through the Heavenly Screen of the new world into the depths of space.

He felt the same thing when the Tongyou Island returned to the Azure Origin World back then but in the past, he was in the Four Constellation Realm. He wasn't able to feel it too clearly. This time, the feeling was much clearer.

Sixth Order of the Primary Realm... Or more accurately, a power that was comparable to one emerged once again.

Placing the Purple Bamboo Brush down, Shang Xia barely stepped out of his room before an indifferent voice rang in his mind. "The experts of the Spirit Abundance World are here. This

concerns the existence of our world and I hope everyone who has reached the Martial Dipper Realm can gather thirty thousand miles above the Heavenly Screen to face the enemy together!”

The sentence was barely complete when another aged voice rang in his mind. “Your Tongyou Institution has a total of 4 Martial Dipper Realm experts. Please send at least 2 of them to battle!”

Chapter 726: World Ascension: Spirit Abundance World's Invasion

Shang Xia approached the Tongyou Paradise while playing with a flying needle coated in a five colored light.

Shang Bo and Ji Wenlong arrived next and their expressions weren't exactly great.

“Did you hear it too?” Shang Bo looked at Ji Wenlong and Shang Xia with a gloomy look on his face.

“Those voices rang in my mind one after another. I asked around, but no one else heard anything. Only those in the Martial Dipper Realm managed to hear those voices. It's extremely possible for the owner of those voices to be different experts in the Sixth Order of the Primary Realm from 2 different Elysiums. Actually... The voices might even belong to just one of them!” Ji Wenlong muttered in a low voice.

“Unfortunately, none of us were in the Tongyou Paradise when we heard it. Otherwise, we'll be able to know whether the voice would be able to penetrate the Holy World to reach us...” Shang Xia muttered.

Shang Bo added, “We might not be able to verify whether the voices of the experts in the Sixth Order of the Primary Realm would be able to enter a Holy World, but we can be sure it can reach the entire world. They can transmit their voices accurately to multiple Martial Dipper Realm experts at once. What I find more interesting is that the experts at the Sixth Order of the Primary Realm of those Elysiums seem familiar with the number of experts we have. It wouldn't be a surprise if they knew how many experts our Tongyou Institution have because of what we did earlier, but other factions might not have fully displayed their strength.”

Ji Wenlong nodded in agreement. “If they truly managed to list the number of Martial Dipper Realm experts in each faction, everyone would probably be even more afraid of them...”

Shang Xia thought for a second before he continued, “The most important thing we have to decide right now is to decide on our next course of action. Patriarch Kou is in seclusion in the Celestial Remains and we need to send 2 experts out there to fight in the upcoming battle...”

“I'm definitely heading out there to fight. I'm afraid Chief Ji won't be able to travel so far away from the continent. After all, we're heading 30000 miles into space. Kid, I'm afraid you're going to have to join the battle with me.”

“It's a shame. Looks like I can only stay behind and protect the You Continent from any unexpected harm...” Ji Wenlong glanced at Shang Xia with a guilty expression.

Facing the invasion of experts from another world, Ji Wenlong felt that the responsibility of fighting those invaders shouldn't be shouldered by Shang Xia, an expert from the later generations.

Unfortunately, he only managed to step into the Martial Dipper Realm after relying on the Tongyou Mysterious World back then. He was unable to leave the You Continent and even if he could leave the Beyond Heavens Pavilion to travel into space, he wouldn't be able to travel too far away from the world. Now that the battlefield was demarcated to be 30000 miles away from the Heavenly Screen, he couldn't go that far.

Shang Bo chuckled in amusement, "Chief Ji, don't worry about it. The You Continent expanded to a massive scale and you have to take charge of things here. What's more, we are pretty sure the spies of the Spirit Abundance World have already infiltrated the clansmen of the Manyu Continent. Even though we saved 200 or less of them when you include the Ren Clan, we can never be too careful."

Shang Xia still had a piece of rank five talisman paper that hadn't been used and he couldn't help but mention, "There is still some time before the deadline given by the Elysiums. I don't think we have to rush over immediately..."

As soon as the words left his lips, a strong fluctuation that could only be felt by experts in the Martial Extermination Realm or higher erupted across the entire world. 3 powerful auras that eclipsed anything they had ever felt before tore through the heavens as it shot into the depths of space.

Shang Xia and the others raised their heads to take a look. They seemed to be able to see past the spatial barrier around the Tongyou Paradise to look at the direction the owners of those auras were headed.

The existences in the Sixth Order of the Primary Realm from the 3 Elysiums made their move once again. The previous time they acted was when the various factions brought their islands back from the Manyu Continent. They unleashed their power and got rid of the pursuers from the Spirit Abundance World.

Another mystical spatial fluctuation appeared above the You Continent the next moment. It slammed into the spatial barrier around the Tongyou Paradise and an expressionless voice rang in their minds. "Fellow cultivators of the Tongyou Institution, please hurry over to the battlefield within 5 days. You must not be late. If you are, the consequences are dire. You have been warned."

The spatial fluctuation disappeared along with the void and everything returned to normal. None of them could determine where they came from.

"He's threatening us!" Ji Wenlong growled in a frosty voice.

"At the very least, we know that those Elysiums are not able to directly affect matters within a Holy Land. All they could do earlier was to transmit their voices over and that would mean their estimations of experts might not be accurate..." Shang Bo forced a smile.

Shang Xia seemed to be more concerned about something else at the moment. "5 days... I have 1 final piece of rank five talisman paper. Should I give it a shot?"

"What are you even planning to do?" Shang Bo looked at Shang Xia who seemed deep in thought and could immediately tell his grandson was most likely thinking of doing something stupid.

Before he could say anymore, Shang Xia brought out the rank five talisman he made previously and handed it over to Shang Bo. “Grandpa, this is a rank five Substitution Talisman I made. Please accept it.”

“Substitution Talisman?! You actually made it?!” Shang Bo gasped. The trace of joy he was feeling couldn’t be hidden.

Shang Bo and Ji Wenlong were clear about the rank five talisman inheritances possessed by the institution.

They had seen the Abyssal Emptiness Talisman back when Shang Xia made it with Kou Chongxue’s help, and they learned of its use after Shang Xia’s detailed explanation after he returned from the Celestial Remains.

Now, Shang Xia managed to craft the other rank five talisman. Other than proving the fact that Shang Xia’s skills in crafting talismans took another step forward, the Substitution Talisman was a true trump card that could help one avoid death.

Anyone who held the talisman basically gained an extra life.

However... Shang Bo examined the talisman in his hands for a long time before finally asking, “How... How am I supposed to use this?”

Shang Bo might not understand the intricacies behind the art of talisman crafting, but with his grandson as a Talisman Grandmaster, he was pretty knowledgeable about the different types of talismans there were. Even so, he had no idea how he was supposed to use the Substitution Talisman.

Shang Xia pointed at the runes on the surface of the talisman and indicated the 3 key nodes. “You need to drip a drop of your Essence Blood on this node, pour dipper qi into another. Finally, you need to separate a portion of your divine will and infuse it into the final node. When you face a threat on your life, it will activate automatically.”

“So... It just allows me to avoid death?” Shang Bo asked with a slight trace of shock.

Shang Xia was taken aback by his response and Ji Wenlong chuckled at the side. “What the hell? Is that not enough?! Fourth Brother, you should be content with what it can do. It’s amazing enough that you can possess yet another life.”

Shang Bo laughed in response, “Of course it’s great. However, I heard the kid talk about the entire inheritance. The rank three Paper Figure Talisman has the ability to confuse others. The rank four Clone Talisman can not only copy the user’s aura, it can also possess combat strength in the Martial Extermination Realm as long as it is given enough energy. The Substitution Talisman should be an improvement on that. Shouldn’t it possess some properties similar to the Clone Talisman? If I’m able to produce another clone of me with rank five combat abilities as long as I pour enough dipper qi into it, wouldn’t that mean that I would have another Fate Dipper Clone?”

Shang Xia rubbed his chin silently at the side as he sank into his thoughts. No one knew what he was thinking of.

Even though they were given 5 days to prepare, Shang Bo decided to head over earlier after receiving the Substitution Talisman.

As for Shang Xia, he chose to make one last attempt at a Substitution Talisman even though he might not be able to make it in time.

To that, Ji Wenlong didn't seem too concerned. To quote him, he said, "So what if you're late for a few days?! In the face of a massive battle like that, the experts in the Sixth Order of the Primary Realm can't possibly blow things out of proportion just because you were delayed crafting talismans?"

That might be the case, but Shang Xia still decided to craft the talisman as quickly as he could.

The reason he was able to complete the talisman in time wasn't just based on his previous experience which only took him 5 or so days to craft the talisman. He had 1 last portion of rank five ink and that could greatly reduce his burden when controlling his energy during the crafting process. The higher the grade of the talisman ink, the more it could reduce the burden on the Talisman Grandmaster. Not only could it lessen the amount of dipper qi they would have to use, but it would also burden one's divine will less. From a certain standpoint, it could greatly increase the efficiency of crafting the talisman.

...

When Shang Xia completed his second Substitution Talisman, 4 days had passed.

In terms of quality, the talisman in his hand was much better than the one he gave to his grandfather.

Also, the successful creation of the second Substitution Talisman deepened Shang Xia's confidence in his skills.

When he continued to craft rank five talismans in the future, Shang Xia was confident he could maintain a respectable success rate.

"Kid, remember this well. You have to prioritize your life over anything else!" Ji Wenlong reminded before Shang Xia could leave.

Waving his hand to indicate his understanding, he left the Beyond Heavens Pavilion.

"Let me give you one last boost!" Ji Wenlong's voice rang vaguely in his ears all of a sudden.

Shang Xia stepped into a formless spatial tunnel the next second and by the time he emerged, he was thousands of miles away from the Beyond Heavens Pavilion.

Looking over his shoulder, Shang Xia noticed that the new world was nowhere to be seen behind him. Even so, he could feel 3 powerful connections extending from the depths of space. It eventually connected 30000 miles away from where he came from and it was probably where the Elysiums decided to fight the experts of the Spirit Abundance World.

Martial Dipper Realm experts could travel through space with their physical bodies, but the power of an existence in the Sixth Order of the Primary Realm could allow them to lock down an entire region of space.

He had a day to travel 25000 miles and that was an interesting distance indeed.

Reaching out, a five colored light appeared in a vertical arc before him.

He swiped his other hand and another ray of five colored light appeared below the arc, completing the circle.

With their successful formation, 10 different colored lights blended together to form a spatial tunnel that crossed god knew how far.

Chapter 727: World Ascension: Sealed Space

After receiving Ji Wenlong's help, Shang Xia needed to create 3 more spatial tunnels before arriving close to the appointed spot. He used a good half of his inner qi reserves before flying like a normal Martial Dipper Realm cultivator.

He even used a rank four Abyssal Void Shattering Talisman to increase his speed.

After punching 3 spatial tunnels through space, Shang Xia refined his control and gained a better grasp over his ability. He also understood where his limits lay.

When Ji Wenlong created a spatial tunnel from the Beyond Heavens Pavilion, he managed to send Shang Xia 5000 miles through space. The first time Shang Xia created the spatial tunnel, he traveled 5500 miles. The second time reached an astounding 7000 miles, and the third allowed him to travel 7500 miles through space.

After punching 3 spatial tunnels, Shang Xia managed to travel more than 20000 miles towards his destination. He decided to fly the rest of the way in order to conserve his energy.

As he flew through space, he held 2 mid-grade essence crystals in his hand to absorb the energy contained within them. Not only could he sustain his flight that way, he also managed to restore a portion of energy in his dantian.

Those mid-grade essence crystals didn't appear from nowhere. Chu Jia shoved them to him before he left the Tongyou Paradise.

After the ascension of the Tongyou Mysterious World, the Tongyou Paradise could produce far more resources of even better quality. As such, the institution became a lot more generous.

As essence crystals became widely accepted, cultivators slowly discovered what they could be used for.

The world origin it contained could not only be used to cultivate. It could also replace a lot of resources when it came to crafting treasures. As such, the difficulty of producing treasures was lowered.

An example of such would be the rank four talisman ink Shang Xia had been using. The institution ground up some mid-grade essence crystals during its production and they used several uncommon materials along with it to produce a steady supply of rank four talisman ink.

Also, from what Shang Xia learned from Ren Huan, he used some essence crystal powder during the process to turn those rank five Starry Tree Leaves into talisman paper!

...

Even though Shang Xia was traveling as quickly as he could, he took an entire day to cross the rest of the distance.

He might be using essence crystals to replenish his energy, but it wasn't enough for him to restore half of his inner qi reserves.

Also, before he arrived at his destination, someone seemed to already notice him. The person might have swept a casual glance at him, but Shang Xia felt his hair standing on end as beads of perspiration filled his forehead.

Shang Xia was absolutely sure there was no existence in the Martial Dipper Realm who had the ability to do that to him. Even Kou Chongxue wouldn't be able to achieve it with a single glance.

That could only mean one thing. The existence who took notice of him was in the Sixth Order of the Primary Realm!

Shang Xia didn't doubt that if he wasn't an expert from their side, the existence would have wiped him out with a single flick of his wrist.

That was exactly why Shang Xia obediently retrieved the five colored light around him after arriving. He didn't try to conceal his aura as he flew towards Shang Bo with the Guidance Talisman he had been given before his grandfather left back then.

He attracted quite a lot of attention along the way but this time, he managed to detect their presence. After all, they were all experts in the Martial Dipper Realm.

It didn't take long before Shang Xia noticed an interesting sight. Of the Martial Dipper Realm experts he detected, most of them were in the first element of the Martial Dipper Realm. He would only discover a few who had refined their second fate dipper. Moreover, many of them had an unstable aura and it seemed like their fate dippers weren't exactly balanced.

Shang Xia eventually found his grandfather but he also noticed several Martial Dipper Realm experts around him. All of them maintained a certain distance with each other and they seemed to be standing in specific locations. From the looks of it, they were using a battle formation.

"Interesting. The Tongyou Institution actually sent you 2 over. Kou Chongxue can't really be that foolish to do something like this. Looks like he really ran into some trouble..." A scholarly looking cultivator who wore azure robes shot a peculiar glance at Shang Xia as he spoke.

"Little Xia, this is Mister Yiguang from the Eternal Palace. Hurry up and greet him." Shang Bo introduced. After that was done, he chuckled, "Patriarch Kou hasn't left seclusion and Deputy Patriarch Ji is unable to leave the You Continent. We can't possibly go against the orders of the 3 Elysiums and we were sent to contribute in whatever way we can."

Kou Chongxue was the patriarch of the Tongyou Institution and he had a responsibility to protect his juniors. There was no way he would allow Shang Xia to risk himself by taking part in the battle. None of them present believed that Kou Chongxue was such a despicable being who hid behind juniors weaker than him. As such, there was only a single possibility left. Kou Chongxue was unable to do battle!

Despite Shang Bo's 'explanation', none of the experts present were fools.

That was precisely why after Shang Xia appeared, the imaginations of many experts started to run wild. They wondered why Kou Chongxue would be unable to participate in the battle himself!

At the same time, many people whose schemes ran deep recalled the strangeness of Kou Chongxue's sword qi. They couldn't help but get upset at Yun Lu and the others. If they were a little more ballsy and continued their assault, they would have exposed the Tongyou Institution's weakness!

It was a shame, none of them dared to make a move on the You Continent now that the dust had settled.

Shang Xia ignored the tone they were speaking in and he greeted them respectfully as a junior.

It might be because of the great battle that was about to take place, or some other strange reason, but Mister Yiguang merely shot Shang Xia a deep gaze before giving an order. "We're at the rear of the battle formation against the Spirit Abundance World. Find somewhere to slot yourself in. Hmm... Members of the Tongyou Institution, you're on your own!"

Shang Xia cupped his fists towards Mister Yiguang before shooting a glance at Shang Bo. He went to find his position and Shang Bo's voice transmission entered his ears to remind him to be careful.

As he left, he swept his gaze over the other Martial Dipper Realm experts in his surroundings. Other than Shang Bo and Mister Yiguang, he discovered another familiar face.

Yin Wanxiang of the Five Mountains Alliance in the Taihang Mountains! Who would have thought that he would have also entered the Martial Dipper Realm?!

Shang Xia thought to himself while looking at the other 2.

The first carried a long sword on his back and he exuded a faint sword qi. Unfortunately, the sword qi was nowhere near what Kou Chongxue used.

The other looked to be in his fifties. He had an imposing appearance and he looked really extraordinary. When Shang Xia's gaze landed on him, he discovered that the other party was also smiling at him. There was a trace of goodwill in his eyes.

After learning about the situation in the area, he knew that the experts in the Sixth Order of the Primary Realm from the 3 Elysiums had already sealed off the region they were in.

If the Spirit Abundance World wanted to invade their world, they would need to break through the seal created by the 3 experts in the Sixth Order of the Primary Realm! After breaking through the seal, they would have to face a battle formation made up of Martial Dipper Realm experts!

They were arranged according to their cultivation levels. The stronger one was, the closer to the front of the formation they would be. They would come into contact with the experts of the Spirit Abundance World first.

Cultivators like Shang Bo who was in the first element of the Martial Dipper Realm, or Shang Xia, who had just entered the Martial Dipper Realm, were arranged at the back.

That was probably why Mister Yiguang showed such hostility and started to grumble as soon as Shang Xia arrived.

Even though none of them really thought it was the case, there was still a slight possibility that Kou Chongxue was hiding his strength and conserving the You Continent's power by not showing up.

After all, he was one of the strongest Martial Dipper Realm experts among those from the once Azure Origin World and Azure Spiritual World.

As Shang Xia flew around slowly, he noticed that many people had already formed a team of 5. None of them would accept a newbie like him.

Back when the experts in the Sixth Order of the Primary Realm ordered them to hurry over and gave them 5 days to do so, they factored in enough time for the experts to familiarize themselves with the simple battle formation. Shang Xia clearly missed the best time to learn how to work with the rest.

As he continued to fly around, he eventually arrived at the edge of the sealed space.

“Heh, looks like you have no other choice but to come here.” A female voice caught Shang Xia’s attention.

Turning to look at her, he discovered that there were 4 Martial Dipper Realm experts gathered together. They were missing the last member to form the battle formation.

“Hey, why the hell are you dawdling around?! Are you willing to join us or not?! We’re still trying to fill up our numbers so we can start practicing the battle formation.” The lady who spoke didn’t seem older than 30. She sported tight-fitting clothes and she exuded a rather heroic air.

Shang Xia chuckled before flying over. “Looks like I don’t have much of a choice anyway. I’m Shang Xia from the You Continent. Greetings to fellow cultivators!”

“Oh? Brother Shang Xia, it’s actually you. Great to meet you.” One of the refined looking young men among them returned the greeting.

Slightly taken aback, Shang Xia stared at him and asked, “Do we know each other?”

The refined looking young man clad in white robes smiled at him, “I am Shen Changsong of the Changbai... No... You can call me Shen Baisong instead.”

Shang Xia immediately realized who he was. “So you’re the newly promoted Martial Dipper Realm expert from the Changbai Holy Land!”

Shen Baisong smiled, “I would need to thank Deputy Patriarch Shang for the assistance. Otherwise, my promotion wouldn’t have gone so smoothly.”

The young lady with the heroic air around her snorted slightly, “Looks like you already know each other...”

Shen Baisong and Shang Xia glanced at each other before sniggering under their breath. Shen Baisong eventually made the introductions. “Brother Shang, this is Young Lady Gong Xinlan from the Jiao Continent. Young Lady Gong, this is Brother Shang Xia from the You Continent.”

Shang Xia nodded slightly in Gong Xinlan’s direction. He found the way she was speaking really familiar, but he couldn’t quite put his finger on it. The only thing he was sure of was that they were meeting for the first time.

Chapter 728: Rising of Five Elements

Shang Xia was still thinking about the reason he found her familiar when Shen Baisong started introducing the other lady in the group.

“This is Yi Jingzhi from the Heavenly Star Palace in the Yi Continent. She’s a good friend of mine.”

Yi Continent... That was a continent that belonged to the Azure Spiritual World before the fusion. Now, the Yi Continent was connected to the Liang Continent of the Azure Origin World of the past and the Heavenly Star Palace was the Holy Land that reigned supreme in the Yi Continent.

Shang Xia greeted her politely but Gong Xinlan’s sneer came from beside them. “Good friend of yours? Are you sure you’re just friends?!”

Yi Jingzhi chuckled softly in response, “Lady Xinlan, please don’t tease me.”

“HAH!” Gong Xinlan snorted out once. “Lady of the Yi Family, I wasn’t directing that at you.”

Shen Baisong coughed unnaturally before introducing the final beauty of the group to Shang Xia. “Brother Shang, this is Lady Yu from the Tianya Pavilion that exists Across the Ocean.”

As it turned out, she came from Across the Ocean!

Shang Xia’s heart trembled slightly and he chuckled, “I have always wanted to meet the experts from Across the Ocean. It’s great meeting Lady Yu today and I wonder if you can introduce the situation Across the Ocean when the situation allows?”

Lady Yu covered her lips and giggled softly, “Young Master Shang, there’s no need for such formality. The land Across the Ocean is extremely barren and my knowledge is pretty limited. I will try my best to tell you what you wish to know.”

Gong Xinlan had long since lost her patience. Now that Shen Baisong was finally done with the introductions, she interjected immediately, “Enough! Since all of us know each other now, let’s not waste any more time. We should start practicing the battle formation to familiarize ourselves with it right away! Even though we’re at the edge of the battlefield, I believe that all of you don’t wish to fight alone when the experts of the Spirit Abundance World arrive, right?”

After getting to know one another and their abilities better, they got in formation and started to do some mock battles.

The battle formation might have come from the 3 Elysiums, but no one knew where it truly came from.

The battle formation wasn’t complicated at all. After Shang Xia received their explanation, he quickly grasped its core principles and the only thing left to do was to work with the others to bring out its full ability.

Under such circumstances, none of them had the luxury of going deep into the workings of the battle formation. All they could do was to learn how to work with each other to maximize its effect.

After practicing for some time, they became a lot more comfortable with fighting in a group. Of course, their true test lay ahead when they actually used it in battle.

From the looks of it, the battle formation's might came in 3 different parts. The first was the synchronization between the members, the second was a transformation in strength. Finally, their abilities would be amplified.

Compared to Shang Xia's Yin Yang Extremity Formation, the battle formation they learned relied mainly on the cooperation between the users. It wasn't exactly the most flexible of battle formations, and the principles it held weren't as exquisite as Shang Xia's Yin Yang Extremity Formation.

Well... As for the amplification factor of their abilities, Shang Xia felt that it was too insignificant to matter.

Shang Xia didn't think highly of the battle formation at all. In fact, he was slightly reluctant to use it. Unfortunately, everyone else seemed really into it and he had no choice but to meet their level of enthusiasm. After all, that was what they would be using for the upcoming battle.

After patiently running through several rounds of practice, Shang Xia thought of something while working together with Gong Xinlan to resist a round of imaginary attacks. The sudden epiphany appeared in his mind and he tapped the air before him to release a strand of Jia Wood and Yi Wood dipper qi.

Gong Xinlan barely used 30 percent of her strength in her attack and managed to destroy the target they had set.

That was because a strange dipper qi entered her body without any warning and fused together with her fist intent. The strength it possessed nearly doubled and it didn't just allow her to shatter the space before her. A tyrannical fist intent ripped through space and stopped it from recovering immediately.

The sudden change caused everyone to stop whatever they were doing immediately.

Gong Xinlan turned to look at Shang Xia who was barely a few thousand feet away and gasped, "How did you do that?!"

Everything happened in the blink of an eye and even though the others were pretty far away, they could see what had happened. They stared at Shang Xia with strange looks as they waited expectantly for him to explain what had happened.

Shang Xia naturally wouldn't reveal the secret behind his cultivation to others. He chuckled softly and quickly came up with something. "My rank five martial arts is pretty special. I haven't fully grasped it, but it has the ability to amplify other people's attacks. I was testing it out earlier and managed to strengthen Young Lady Gong's fist intent, but the key to everything came from her explosive power in the first place."

Obviously, no one would try to dig deeper into the secrets of his cultivation after what he said. However, they couldn't help but think of other implications after hearing his explanation.

After some consideration, Gong Xinlan grumbled, "Your way of cultivation is strange indeed. If you're able to amplify other people's skills, wouldn't that mean that your combat abilities would be compromised? The moment the experts of the Spirit Abundance World arrived, our battle formation wouldn't be able to last forever. You will have to rely on yourself eventually..."

Even though her words were slightly jarring to the ears, she seemed to be really sincere in giving Shang Xia a reminder that he would be on his own when shit hit the fan.

Shang Xia had no intention to pick on her tone and he smiled in response, “Many thanks to Young Lady Gong’s reminder. I will take care of myself when the time comes.”

Shen Baisong who had been listening for some time spoke up, “Brother Shang Xia, dare I ask, is your amplification only effective for Young Lady Gong? Will you be able to do the same for the rest? Also, are you limited by the distance between us?”

Shen Baisong’s question was right on the money. It was something everyone else wished to know.

Since Shang Xia was willing to reveal his abilities, he already came up with an explanation. “Of course it’s limited to a certain distance. Also, my dipper qi isn’t so freakishly amazing that I can amplify every single person.”

Watching everyone nod slightly with an expression that they had expected as much, Shang Xia grinned and changed his tone slightly. “However, from what I can tell, my abilities should work on all of you guys.”

“Oh?” Shen Baisong was slightly taken aback by the revelation. “What a coincidence!”

Gong Xinlan lost her patience once again and she snapped at the side, “If that’s the case, we have to make some arrangements to our battle formation. Let’s hurry up and use the time we have left to practice a little bit more. This grandaunt here felt his inner qi earlier and it gave me a pretty large boost to my abilities. If he provides support, the 4 of us will be able to display much stronger combat capabilities than our joint 5 man formation earlier.”

No one objected to what she said and they immediately started to make their adjustments. Once they were done, they practiced a little bit more.

Shang Xia couldn’t be happier with the outcome. With his role as the support of the group determined, the others would protect him the moment the battle started. He wouldn’t have to engage with the enemy unless he was forced to. The upcoming battle would become a lot safer for him!

More importantly, Shang Xia didn’t reveal his ability just so that he could receive the protection of others. He discovered the more he used his inner qi to amplify other people’s skills, the more he could understand the principles of mutual restraint between the 5 elements. It would greatly assist in his development of his rank five arts.

There was also an undeniable luck factor when it came to Gong Xinlan and the others. Shang Xia wasn’t bullshitting when he said he couldn’t amplify the skills of every single cultivator out there, but the 4 of them trained in one of the 5 primary elements!

Gong Xinlan’s fist intent was extremely fiery, and the fate dipper she refined was probably related to the Fire Element.

Shang Baisong held a long Wooden Ruler in his hand, and from the energy fluctuations around him, Shang Xia could determine he had a Wood Element Fate Dipper of the Yin alignment.

As for Yu Jingzi of the Heavenly Star Palace, she wielded a short golden knife. Her movements were nimble and every slash she made through space resembled a shooting star. Her fate dipper was clearly of the Metal Element.

The last person was Lady Yu who came from the land Across the Ocean. Her abilities flowed smoothly with no breaks between them. They were like massive waves that would batter against her enemies and it was pretty obvious her fate dipper was of the Water Element.

The 4 of them possessed the elements of Metal, Wood, Water, and Fire. The only thing missing was the Earth Element. Shang Xia was more than confident that with his amazing control of his inner qi, he would definitely be able to fill in for that position. He would complete the cycle of mutual restriction and amplification!

Chapter 729: Invasion!

Relying on Shang Xia's ability to amplify their combat abilities, Gong Xinlan and the rest modified the battle formation passed down by the 3 Elysiums.

As the experts of the Spirit Abundance World could come at any time, time was of the essence. They tried their best to get used to the battle formation while making their modifications.

They made significant progress and it might have something to do with the pressure for them to work together. It might also be because of Shang Xia's extremely versatile inner qi. Whatever it was, their practice went really smoothly.

Throughout the process, Shang Xia was also becoming more familiar with the transformation of his inner qi to correspond to that of the others.

Originally, Shang Xia was only able to amplify Gong Xinlan's Heart Flame Fist Intent by close to 30 percent. After several rounds of familiarizing themselves with each other, he was able to superimpose his inner qi onto hers to increase her strength by close to 50 percent.

Naturally, the sharp increase would only happen when Shang Xia was able to focus and give it his all to transform his dipper qi to resonate with her. He would be unable to fend for himself if that was the case and when that happened, their battle formation would only be left with 4 experts.

Throughout the process, Shang Xia used himself as the core of the battle formation and slowly built a formless cycle of the 5 elements among the group.

In order to do so, he had to gather the dipper qi of the Metal, Wood, Water, and Fire Elements from the others. After that, he would transform his inner qi to that of the Earth Element. He would circulate the 5 elements in a complete cycle according to the framework of his rank five martial arts.

Under such circumstances, Shang Xia discovered the speed at which he could complete each cycle increased bit by bit. He had a vague feeling that he would be able to gather dipper qi from others that corresponded to the 5 elements to cultivate if things were to keep up.

That was what he was truly concerned about.

It only served to prove the tyrannical might of his martial path. The more he refined his rank five martial arts, the further he would be able to progress on the path of cultivation. The difficulty he would face when cultivation would decrease greatly with the ability to absorb different types of dipper qi.

It didn't take long for him to restrain his greed. He no longer absorbed dipper qi from the others to strengthen himself directly. Instead, he made use of the resonance between the 5 elements inside his body and the elements that surrounded him to further improve and refine his rank five martial arts.

He knew how rare it was for him to be able to do that. Every time he completed a full circulation of his inner qi, Shang Xia could feel that the time taken was decreasing. Originally, he needed close to 10 hours to complete a single cycle. After several rounds of improvement, he shortened it by an hour...

It was a shame he wasn't able to stay in his current state for long. A strange spot of light grew larger in the distance and it felt like a giant sun towards the region of sealed space. The invasion from the Spirit Abundance World had finally begun.

"Fellow cultivators, please protect the region around you. We cannot allow these foreign cultivators to enter our world!" A boundless voice rang through the region of sealed space, into the minds of the Martial Dipper Realm experts present.

With the start of the invasion, a dim six-sided barrier that resembled colored glass materialized and resisted the power of the blinding ray falling towards them. Both sides started to grind away at each other's power.

Creaking and groaning came from the empty void around them as cracks slowly formed on the glass barrier around them. A formless stream of energy passed through the next moment and the cracks were sealed.

The powerful ray of light seemed to crash into the barrier in waves. After the initial impact was neutralized, yet another powerful blast arrived. It slammed heavily into the glass barrier.

That was an exchange between powers of the Sixth Order of the Primary Realm!

The sound of rushing waves was heard as the ray of light slammed into the barrier again and again. Cracking sounds filled the air and it seemed to directly affect the souls of those within. Every time the ray of light would crash into the barrier, their hearts would thump heavily in their chests.

Experts with strong foundations in the Martial Dipper Realm weren't too affected, but the same couldn't be said for weaker cultivators. The longer they observed what was going on, the more likely they would be swayed. Their morale would take a huge hit and their inner qi would start to get restless.

"Everyone, calm yourself! Don't worry needlessly about the glass barrier. An exchange between experts of the Sixth Order of the Primary Realm isn't something you can make sense of!" A powerful voice came from the front of the sealed space. The person who spoke wasn't in the Sixth Order of the Primary Realm, but it was clear he was an expert in the Martial Dipper Realm with thick foundations.

Gong Xinlan and the others quickly averted their gaze from the barrier and the ray of light so as not to allow their emotion to be swayed by what was happening up there. They even went as far as to not extend their divine will over to observe the situation.

Shang Xia's Five Elements Dipper Qi could greatly reduce the mental impact of the exchange out there, but it obviously wasn't time to attract attention to himself. He lowered his head obediently but his divine will was firmly locked onto the exchange.

The Spirit Abundance World was a higher world and it didn't matter what level of experts they tried to compare. The number of experts they had in the Sixth Order of the Primary Realm and the

Martial Dipper Realm far surpassed the experts of the Azure Origin World and Azure Spiritual World.

Even so, the expert of the Spirit Abundance World projected his energy through space and no one knew how far it had to travel before reaching its intended target. A good portion of the power contained in the ray of light had already dissipated.

The new world formed by the fusion of the Azure Origin World and Azure Spiritual World might only have 3 Elysiums, but the situation was in their favor. They were defending, and they had the geographical advantage. They were able to hold off the attack coming from the depths of space for the time being.

Unfortunately, the Spirit Abundance World wasn't a higher leveled world for nothing. Even with countless miles between them, they held the initiative in their offensive. As time passed, the advantage they held became more and more obvious.

The clearest sign was the lowered rate of recovery of the cracks forming in the glass barrier.

The sound of glass cracking filled the ears of those present and the speed of recovery was slowly unable to match up to the speed of destruction. If things kept up, it wouldn't be long before the barrier was destroyed!

An unavoidable clash with the experts of the Spirit Abundance World was about to happen!

Chapter 730: To Battle

When Shang Xia was observing the glass barrier with his divine will, he managed to separate a strand of Five Element Dipper Qi from his body. It sank into a thin needle in his hand as he prepared for battle.

“What are you doing?” Gong Xinlan asked.

Even though none of them dared to observe the exchange happening, nothing stopped them from looking at their fellow companions.

Shang Xia was slightly surprised and he no longer focused on the exchange happening out there. A soft chuckle left his lips, “It's just a hidden weapon. Even though all of you are ready to protect me and I might not need to make a move in the upcoming battle, I can't possibly remain defenseless.”

Gong Xinlan pressed her lips together and sneered while looking at the needle in his hand. “Heh, you're a grown man. Why the hell are you playing with an embroidery needle?”

Shang Xia lowered his head to look at the Tongyang Needle on his hand and rolled his eyes subtly. Is there anyone who used a needle half a foot in length to do embroidery?

The next second, the sound of glass shattering came from above. The hearts of everyone present sank. The glass barrier was broken!

Shang Xia wasn't the only one. Everyone couldn't help themselves as they raised their heads to take a look at the source of the crack.

The glass barrier was illusory and even though Shang Xia and the others could faintly see it, they were unable to determine how far away it was.

The next moment, a giant hole appeared in it as a massive surge of energy poured into it. Noticing the energy fluctuations, Shang Xia and the rest could confirm that the barrier was at least 10000 miles away.

Strangely enough, the terrifying ray of light wasn't what entered through the hole in the barrier. Also, the experts of the Spirit Abundance World didn't immediately charge through it.

Even so, one of the squads that were closest to the opening had already rushed over. Not too far away, two more squads were gathering in order to deal with experts of the Spirit Abundance World.

"The experts of the Spirit Abundance World didn't take the chance to rush right in..." Yi Jingzi of the Heavenly Star Palace muttered.

Shen Baisong's expression turned incomparably serious as he analyzed the situation, "The experts of the Spirit Abundance World seemed to have expected us to react accordingly."

After he spoke, cracks came from the glass barrier again. Another ray of light shattered a different region in the barrier.

The 3 teams who gathered at the original spot quickly scattered to cover the other opening.

"They're planning to create as many openings as possible before charging in. We won't be able to stop them from rushing over that way!" Lady Yu's soothing voice rang in their ears.

Shen Baisong released a huge sigh, "They aren't rushing in yet and that means they're not done breaking the glass barrier..."

One had to know that even though they were able to shatter points in the glass barrier, it didn't mean that the opening would stay open forever. The experts of the Sixth Order of the Primary Realm from the 3 Elysiums were trying their best to seal up the gaps as quickly as possible. The experts from the Spirit Abundance World who were sending the rays of light to shatter the barrier were definitely paying a high price in order to project their energy so far away. They would have to maintain the opening if they wished for their Martial Dipper Realm experts to rush in through multiple fronts and they would exhaust a good deal of energy.

Even with their strong foundations, they wouldn't be able to sustain it for long.

A third opening was created soon and a powerful glow appeared from all 3 of them at once. The light quickly dissipated into the endless darkness but by the time they were gone, 3 spatial tunnels were formed.

Powerful auras emerged from those spatial tunnels and slammed into the experts outside the spatial tunnels.

Loud blasts came in all directions as splendid rays of light lit up the space around them. The lights were so intense that it overshadowed the sparkling stars in the distance.

Despite the sudden appearance of the powerful auras, they were quickly suppressed by the experts of the Azure Origin World and Azure Spiritual World. There was even a faint feeling that they would be able to suppress the other party before long.

“Earlier, the 3 experts from the Spirit Abundance World who arrived definitely had cultivation levels no weaker than the fourth element of the Martial Dipper Realm!” Shang Xia muttered to himself.

Shen Baisong and the others revealed strange expressions after hearing what he said.

Shen Baisong laughed dryly, “The strongest experts on our side from the 3 battle formations are made up of experts above the third element of the Martial Dipper Realm or higher.”

“Does that mean that we have at least 15 experts in the third element of the Martial Dipper Realm or higher?! If we ignore those who advanced by relying on their Holy Lands, we actually possess quite a lot of powerful experts!” Shang Xia gasped in shock.

Yi Jingzi muttered casually, “That’s not really surprising. No one knows how many Martial Dipper Realm experts the 3 Elysiums hid. Moreover, the various Holy Lands might have more Martial Dipper Realm experts than they actually let on. Most of those who remain hidden probably ran into trouble with their cultivation and had to enter seclusion in order to prolong their lifespan. In life or death situations, those experts will definitely step out and give it their all.”

Shen Baisong chuckled bitterly. Even though what she said was no secret to him, he didn’t think that she would speak about it so openly.

Gong Xinlan and Lady Yu were slightly surprised when she started speaking and wore expressions of shock. However, they didn’t think that the information she revealed was actually too shocking if they thought deeper into it.

Shang Xia had his suspicions too. Yi Jingzi merely verified his guesses.

The Tongyou Institution might be a rising star at the moment with their revelation of their fourth Martial Dipper Realm expert. It seemed as though they managed to gain the qualifications to enter the ranks of Holy Lands instantly, but the truth was, they were still lacking in foundations.

Gong Xinlan grumbled with dissatisfaction all of a sudden. “They’re fighting 5 against 1 out there. They couldn’t actually obtain victory immediately. Others are merely watching on and if we wait even longer, more of them are going to appear!”

Shen Baisong shook his head and explained, “Those who lead the charge are definitely supreme experts in the Martial Dipper Realm. They’re no cannon fodder sent in here to die. They definitely have the ability to hold out against the continuous assault. Their main goal shouldn’t be to kill anyone either. They’re probably trying to pull a greater portion of our fighting force away so their experts have the ability to infiltrate our ranks. They should be given a lot of life-saving treasures and it won’t be easy to kill them in a short amount of time. Well... As for why the others are just watching... It’s not as if things will get better if we send more experts over.”

Gong Xinlan snapped in annoyance and interrupted him. “No shit! Of course I understand what you mentioned. Do I need you to keep barking at the side?”

Shen Baisong chuckled softly and he didn’t plan to pursue the matter. After all, he was pretty familiar with her personality by then.

Shang Xia felt a jolt running through his heart and he muttered, “It’s here again...”

Everyone felt their hearts sinking as they raised their heads to look at the opening in the glass barrier. Multiple rays of light appeared as several figures protected in a layer of dipper qi arrived.

“There are 4 of them this time!” Shang Xia gasped.

Their approach this time was slightly different. The 3 experts who arrived in the first wave were stopped by 3 squads who deployed their battle formation and dragged away from the vicinity of the spatial tunnels that led them in through the opening in the glass barrier. Other squads took their place and the experts from the Spirit Abundance World who arrived seemed to have thrown themselves straight into a trap. However, they no longer acted alone. They came in pairs, and the experts from the Azure Origin World and Azure Spiritual World were taken aback by their change in approach.

Even so, the situation remained under control. Gong Xinlan’s gaze landed on Shang Xia as she examined him closely.

Feeling Gong Xinlan’s gaze on him, Shang Xia squirmed unnaturally. He sighed helplessly, “Young Lady Gong, is there something you have a problem with?!”

“How are you able to discover the changes before any of us?” Gong Xinlan asked in shock.

Stunned for a good second, Shang Xia eventually regained his composure and he chuckled in response, “It might be because the range of my divine will is larger than all of you?”

Pouting slightly, Gong Xinlan mumbled, “Looks like it’s not just a little larger than us then...”

Shang Xia acted as though he didn’t hear her as he observed the battle happening in the distance.

It was then that a heaven-shaking roar came from one of the squads locked in battle. Multiple loud explosions blasted through space and they were so loud they nearly deafened someone like Shang Xia.

The sudden disturbance disappeared as quickly as it arrived. By the time everyone could react, the region had already regained its calm. Clearly, the expert from the Spirit Abundance World who was surrounded by one of the squads had been killed.

Before everyone could rejoice, another massive disturbance came from the spatial tunnels. A deep rumbling shook the consciousness of those in the area.

The second wave of experts who came to draw the defenses away were drawn away by the squads who were sent to stop them. 2 more squads took their places, and so did the squad who killed their opponent. Shang Bo was currently part of the 3 squads preparing to stop the next wave of invaders.

2 more rounds of violent explosions swept through the region as the other 2 squads of the first wave dealt with their opponents.

Unfortunately, the next round had already arrived. This time, 6 of them appeared!

Even though the 6 of them couldn’t be compared to the few who came earlier, they were at the very least strong experts of the Martial Dipper Realm.

“Let’s go! We’re next!” Shen Baisong tried to sound as casual as possible while calling for the others to head over.

