

The Heavens 921

Chapter 921: The Sealed Mountain

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The Spirit Abundance World had existed for a long time, and its martial arts inheritance was far more complete than worlds of the same level.

A long time ago, the Spirit Abundance World divided their world into 5 great regions for convenience's sake. It was split into the 4 general directions along with a central region. Every region had 4 to 5 continents, and the Spirit Abundance World was made up of 23 continents in total.

The Heavenly Lake Continent lay in the Eastern region, and there was a massive mountain range known as the Five Links Ridge. However, it also went by the name of the Five Solitary Peaks.

Even though they were 5 separate mountains, they lay on the same ridge and it was said that thousands of years ago, the entire structure was a majestic mountain. It was supposed to be the highest peak in the Eastern region and one of the tallest mountains in the Spirit Abundance World.

No one knew why, but a mysterious supreme being appeared one day and sent a punch from the heavens. The majestic mountain crumbled and a circular crater appeared in the middle of the mountain. Because of the crater, the earth veins were affected and water burst forth from beneath the earth. Eventually, the crater was filled with water and a majestic lake was formed.

Cultivators discovered that the lake was filled with abundant energy and started to flock over in droves. They formed the first signs of inhabitants on the mountain ridge.

With several generations of accumulation and hard work, the power that established itself around the heavenly lake grew strong. Eventually, the reputation of the Solitary Peak Heavenly Lake started to spread through the continent, and eventually, the Eastern region.

Due to the special properties of the heavenly lake, cultivators eventually established a Mysterious World there before transforming it into a Holy Land. Finally, they ascended to an Elysium. They produced their Martial Void Realm True Immortals, and established a rank six inheritance. With that, they managed to ensure a constant supply of Martial Void Realm experts and solidified their position as one of the strongest powers of the Spirit Abundance World.

In the 3 or so years that passed, the Solitary Peak Heavenly Lake, which stood as one of the 9 great powers of the Spirit Abundance World, seemed swept up by a massive storm.

3 years prior, the 9 great powers of the Spirit Abundance World gathered their experts to launch an expedition to a foreign world. They were confident of their victory as the other party wasn't even a developed Spirit World, but they suffered a catastrophic defeat. Based on their calculations, close to 40 percent of the Martial Dipper Realm experts they sent fell. The moment the news came back to the Spirit Abundance World, it raised massive waves.

However, any news regarding the foreign world was sealed by the higher-ups of the Spirit Abundance World. Even the Martial Dipper Realm experts who took part in the expedition refused to say a single word about it.

As such, the various powers became even more curious about what happened.

Oh... Actually, not all news about the foreign world was sealed. In fact, the experts of the Spirit Abundance World learned about what happened to Dugu Yuanshan. The only Martial Void Realm expert of the Solitary Peak Heavenly Lake, a mighty third tier Martial Void Realm expert, failed to make it back from the foreign world!

After news of what happened spread, a commotion even greater than when they learned about their failed expedition broke out.

The smaller powers that were getting excited due to the failure of the great powers fell silent almost instantly. Under the peace and quiet seemed to hide massive undercurrents that caused one's heart to palpitate with fear.

Since the expedition failed 3 years ago, the Solitary Peak Heavenly Lake had been pulling back their strength and the massive entity whose influence spanned 3 continents in the Eastern Region recalled every single one of their experts to their home base.

Even then, the Heavenly Lake Continent was basically ravaged by anyone who had the ability to run rampant in the Spirit Abundance World.

... A shadowy figure descended on the Five Links Ridge in secret and a few tens of miles before stopping in a secluded forest. Strange fluctuations started to emerge from his body and a moment later, the figure seemed to discover something as soft footsteps appeared from another side of the forest. A middle-aged man with unassuming features emerged and after seeing the shadowy figure, he stopped. Standing dozens of feet away, both figures stared at each other.

“Huang Yu? I didn't think that Young Master Lou would send you over!” The voice that came from the shadowy figure seemed a little unsteady, but the surprise they felt was evident.

The middle aged man was precisely Huang Yu, but this time, he concealed his cultivation completely. When he heard the shadowy figure, he forced a smile and responded, “Of course... I am only able to get where I am today with the Young Master's help. Brother Ying, you've been hiding in the Solitary Peak Heavenly Lake for so many years now and you definitely gained a lot of merits. The moment you return, your position will soar. When that happens, I will have to trouble you to look out for me...”

Turning serious, the shadowy figure muttered, “I have to thank Young Master Lou for his care as well. However, the reason I was sent undercover in the Solitary Peak Heavenly Lake isn't because of any individual or faction. It was a directive from our Emptiness Drifting Mountain...”

Huang Yu chuckled in response, “I truly admire Brother Ying's dedication to the Emptiness Drifting Mountain. However, Young Master Lou is about to enter the Martial Void Realm. What's the difference between choosing to support him and choosing to stand by our sect?”

The shadowy figure fell silent for a moment before muttering, “Let's talk about this after he enters the Martial Void Realm.”

“Brother Ying, you decided to contact me with a secret transmission. Is something the matter?” Seeing as there wasn't much else he could say, Huang Yu decided to get to the point.

The shadowy figure paused for a second before straightening his back. After some time, he responded. “The Solitary Peak Heavenly Lake is about to seal the mountain!”

“Seal the mountain?! They’re gonna isolate themselves!” Huang Yu reacted quickly. “Is there... Is there something that happened on their side?”

The shadowy figure sighed in an indistinct voice, “I have a feeling they made a decision...”

“Is there news about that person?” Huang Yu gasped.

“Sometime after sunset, Lu Qinghuan, who had been guarding the Middle Hall, rushed into the Heavenly Lake Palace. Soon after, the 3 of them ordered for the mountain to be sealed.” The shadowy figure explained.

With a slight change in expression, Huang Yu asked, “That would mean that ‘that person’s’ origin lamp was extinguished, right? That means that his soul has been completely exterminated...”

The shadowy figure nodded in response. “Even though there hasn’t been any specific order 3 years ago, other than Lu Qinghuan who was left to guard the Middle Hall, no one was allowed to enter as they wished. Other than the death of ‘that person’, I believe nothing else can make them panic to such an extent.”

Huang Yu sighed softly in response and he seemed a lot more relaxed. “We already expected as much and now, it seems like we have confirmation. Then again, ‘that person’ has an impressive cultivation level. His divine soul should have already fused with his void origin. He went missing for 3 short years, but his soul had already been eliminated...”

The shadowy figure shook his head and sighed, “News has already gotten out. The Solitary Peak Heavenly Peak will be sealed at midnight today. I have to get back before then and I don’t have time to listen to you chatter away any longer...”

Huang Yu raised an eyebrow at what he heard. “Are you still going back? Since the death of Dugu Yuanshan has been confirmed, you can complete your mission now and leave. I was planning to bring you back to the Emptiness Drifting Mountain anyway...”

The shadowy figure sniggered in response. “Our Emptiness Drifting Mountain chose me to infiltrate the Solitary Peak Heavenly Lake and I have long since prepared to sacrifice myself. If I’m not mistaken, the news of ‘that person’s’ death will quickly spread among the upper echelons of the various powers. There are definitely spies from the other factions in the Solitary Peak Heavenly Lake and it won’t be long before the Solitary Peak Heavenly Lake truly experiences a massive storm. I might even be able to obtain unexpected benefits by staying...”

When Huang Yu was still shocked by what he was hearing, the figure had already disappeared into the night skies. After some time, a soft sigh escaped his lips. “He... He’s the true definition of a Death Warrior...”

The very next day, the Five Links Peak looked exactly the same. However, when the outer disciples tried to climb up the mountain, they discovered that they had been walking around in place as they failed to make their way up no matter how hard they tried.

Only then did the spies of the various powers realize that the Solitary Peak Heavenly Lake had already sealed themselves in. Inner disciples who failed to make it back were completely abandoned.

Chapter 922: Flying Ship, Spatial Pouch, and Teleportation Formation

Back in the Twin Void Marsh

The appearance of the flying ship immediately attracted the attention of the cultivators who ventured in to look for opportunities to grow stronger.

In recent years, the appearance of flying ships in the Spirit Luxuriant World became pretty common, and it wasn't shocking to hear of one.

However, there weren't too many cultivators who actually saw one for themselves. It was especially so in a deserted region like the Jiao Continent. After all, there weren't any powerful factions there capable of creating one.

The size of the flying ship that appeared didn't seem too large, but it was exquisitely crafted. It soared through the air without making a single sound and it was clear it was of extremely high quality. Anyone who could ride on flying ships like that was bound to have an impressive background.

Indeed

After the flying ship arrived at the top of Millstone Mountain, several experts disembarked. The person in the lead was a female cultivator, and the moment she appeared, her aura clashed with the remnant energy there. Space around them twisted unnaturally.

As it turned out, she was a Martial Dipper Realm expert! Those who appeared behind her weren't exactly weak either. With the exception of 2 young female cultivators who were at the Martial Intent Realm, the others were all Martial Extermination Realm experts.

At the moment, the Tongyou Institution's Teleportation Formation, Flying Ships, and Spatial Pouches were all the rage in the Spirit Luxuriant World. They might not be the only ones with flying ships, but they were definitely the faction with the highest number of them. The flying ships they had also varied greatly with different designs and purposes.

Among all the flying ships possessed by the Tongyou Institution, there were those that were purely massive and could contain a bunch of people. There were some that flew extremely quickly, and others that were easy to control and moved nimbly through the air. Of course, there were also ordinary ones, but super luxurious ships could be found in their lineup somewhere. Some could even fly through the heavenly screen deep into space!

Formation Grandmaster Chu Jia had long since been researching how to build flying ships. Even before the Azure Ascension World attempted to ascend, and before Kou Chongxue led various experts to the Azure Flame World. Her experiments succeeded to a certain extent and during Shang Xias stint in the Azure Flame World, he managed to grab a lot of treasures from the core region of the Yanlin City and he even obtained the inheritance of flying ships from the higher ups of the Yanlin Clan.

Sun Haiwei and the others even managed to get their hands on a damaged flying ship which they brought back to the Spirit Luxuriant World.

In the 3 years that passed since the battle ended, Chu Jia managed to fuse the method of crafting flying ships together with what they already developed, and with the help of the Artifacts Hall, they started to produce flying ships of all shapes and sizes. Most of them were used by the Outreach Division, and some were even sold to other factions.

The flying ships crafted by the Tongyou Institution had already become a specialty product of the Spirit Luxuriant World.

Of course, that wasn't all the Tongyou Institution was known for producing. They were also able to make a lot of Spatial Pouches.

The Tongyou Institution's possession of a flock of Mutated Rain Swallows was no longer a secret that was kept from the other factions.

They weren't able to produce too many Spatial Pouches and thus, they sold them in limited quantities. However, ever since Kou Chongxue entered the Martial Void Realm, the experts of the Tongyou Institution no longer saw a need to hide their secret. They started to sell Spatial Pouches openly during the trade fair that was held on the Three Unity Island.

In the 3 years that passed, the Tongyou Institution sold more than 50 Spatial Pouches of different sizes.

Even though the number didn't seem small at all, that was only considering the number they sold. There were a lot of pouches that were refined by experts in the institution.

According to rumors going around, the Formation Masters and Blacksmiths of the institution were researching a way to create bigger pouches. It was said that they had already made several breakthroughs. In the future, they might be able to create Spatial Pouches with 7 or even 10 cubic feet of space!

Other than flying ships and Spatial Pouches, the other project that the Tongyou Institution was working on that caught the attention of the experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World was the Teleportation Formation! The formation could allow a stable spatial tunnel to be created for some time.

Even though researching the Teleportation Formation required a ton of resources and the higher-ups of the institution had been hesitating for a long time, Chu Jia was just too persistent. She was fighting for a chance to continue research on it, but even so, the higher-ups of the institution weren't too keen on making the decision.

In the end, Kou Chongxue personally appeared to make his stand. They would first attempt to create a short-distance Teleportation Formation between 3 cities in the You Continent before trying anything else. Only after they made progress and had a certain level of knowledge regarding Teleportation Formations would they be allowed to try extending the range.

They might only be short-distance Teleportation Formations, but they allowed the Tongyou Institution to strengthen their control over the You Continent by several times!

One had to know that the You Continent was extremely lacking in population. Even with Tongyou Institution nurturing experts for tens of years, they were still stretched extremely thin.

After the Spirit Luxuriant World took shape, the You Continent increased in size once again.

When the world pulled the asteroid belts and nebula from the depths of space into itself, hundreds of islands appeared around the You Continent, giving them a lot more land.

No matter how much the Tongyou Institution recruited experts from the You Continent, they were unable to fill their requirements for talent.

With the appearance of the Teleportation Formations, they would be able to react rapidly in case any other part of the continent ran into trouble. The appearance of the formations caused those who were harboring evil intentions to feel mighty dejected.

It was even said that the appearance of the Teleportation Formations caused the Divine Capital Sect to choose to back off from the Bing Continent. With the Five Mountains Alliance working with the Tongyou Institution, they pincer the powers backed by the Divine Capital Sect in the Bing Continent. Chu Jia pushed for the Teleportation Formation to be laid down in the Bing Continent, but due to heavy restrictions from the higher-ups of the institution, she was unable to fully carry out her plan.

Even so, the threat of the Teleportation Formations was enough to make other factions back away. The movement of mid to high-level experts of the institution through the continent was much easier, and even foreign cultivators who came to experience life in the You Continent would pay to experience the Teleportation Formation for themselves.

So These people should be from the Tongyou Institution, right?

There were many people on Millstone Mountain at the moment, and there were plenty of experts in the Martial Extermination Realm who possessed the qualifications to ask questions like that.

Their leader should be Sun Haiwei of the Tongyou Institution, the institutions newest Martial Dipper Realm expert. That person behind her Hey! Isnt that Formation Grandmaster Chu Jia?! Someone gasped in shock.

Who?! Isnt Chu Jia the institutions Formation Grandmaster who designed the flying ships and the Teleportation Formation? Someone else added, What are they doing here?!

Dont tell me they also heard about the mysterious properties of the Three Footed Peak and want to obtain the fortune located here?

Hehe, looks like well be in for a good show then! Do you think they will be able to ascend the Three Footed Peak?

Its hard to say Theres a Martial Dipper Realm expert among them

Heh, so what! We might be able to watch them make a fool of themselves today!

Hurry, look! Theyre about to make their attempt Huh?! Whats going on?! How are they able to climb up so easily?!

Chapter 923: The You Continent's Lack of Population

After the flying ship from the Tongyou Institution docked at the top of Millstone Mountain, the experts of the Tongyou Institution went to climb the Three Footed Peak and attracted the attention of many experts all around. They were waiting for the batch of experts of the Tongyou Institution which was second only to an Elysium at that point to embarrass themselves.

The Three Footed Peak was an extremely strange place. No matter what type of movement art was used, no one would be able to climb up the mountain.

However, there were several Formation Masters who deduced that there was no Space Restriction formation or anything of the sort on the peak.

One would only be able to try to ascend on their own feet.

However, even if someone reached the grand completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm, they would be forced to retreat when they made a little progress.

Not only couldnt one fly over the Three Footed Peak, but one would also have to endure massive pressure when making their way up. When the pressure exceeded whatever they could withstand, they would be forced back down the mountain.

The experts of the Tongyou Institution didnt seem to pay any heed to the gazes thrown their way as they quickly strolled up the mountain.

When everyone was ready to watch them embarrass themselves, Sun Haiwei and the rest didnt seem hindered in the slightest as they went straight up towards the peak. They quickly disappeared from everyones sight, leaving them with tongue-tied expressions.

They They went up just like that?! Someone rubbed their eyes in disbelief.

Did the resistance disappear? The eyes of another expert lit up as he tried to climb the Three Footed Peak like the experts of the Tongyou Institution.

One had to know that ever since the Five Peaks Ridge was discovered in the Twin Void Marsh, everyone had been able to venture further with the weakening energy that shrouded it. They would gain a lot the deeper they went, and that only increased their desire to venture further. When the first explorers arrived at the top of Millstone Mountain, they managed to improve significantly.

Seeing as the experts of the Tongyou Institution had ascended the Three Footed Peak at the top of Millstone Mountain, everyone tried to follow in their footsteps.

Unfortunately, it didnt last for long as all of them were quickly forced back down by the pressure surrounding the Three Footed Peak.

What the hell? Does the mountain actually care about the people who are climbing it?! Someone grumbled angrily.

There were some who stared at Sun Haiwei and the others with a look of contemplation. The Three Footed Peak might not be able to let specific people up if it was a natural structure, but what if there was someone controlling everything to begin with?

Right Its said that even after the Twin Void Marsh was discovered, hardly any experts of the great powers came exploring, right? Someone asked suddenly.

We cant say that there arent any at all, but youre right. There were hardly any of them. However, with our Spirit Luxuriant World fully taking shape, treasures should be forming everywhere. Those powers are rich and powerful, and they shouldnt be interested in this backwater place Someone else replied.

That might not really be the case What if they already knew the secrets of the Twin Void Marsh? The first person who asked the question seemed to have thought of something.

Do you mean Do you mean to say that this place already belongs to a particular faction? Did the Tongyou Institution already occupy this entire region? That shouldn't be the case, right? With how tyrannical the great powers act, if the Tongyou Institution really owns this place, they won't allow us to do as we wish

That was the Tongyou Institution they were talking about! They had True Immortal Kou Chongxue, a Martial Void Realm expert as their leader! Even though they didn't have an Elysium, they were comparable to the other Elysiums in terms of strength!

Maybe the Tongyou Institution isn't like the rest? Another expert who seemed a little more well-versed in worldly affairs quipped. It's said that the You Continent is sorely lacking in experts and they can't even control their own territory properly. With the You Continent and half the Bing Continent under their control, they're stretched too thin. Maybe that's the reason why they didn't stop anyone from exploring the Twin Void Marsh even if they already conquered the Three Footed Peak

Don't the Tongyou Institution seem a little too greedy? They're biting off more than they can chew. Someone else mumbled in dissatisfaction. The moment the words left his lips, everyone around him, including his friends, instantly distanced themselves.

Whatever it was, the Tongyou Institution was an existence akin to the Elysiums. Even if they only had a Holy Land, wandering cultivators like those in the Twin Void Marsh weren't qualified to criticize them.

There were even many cultivators who had their own thoughts of joining the You Continent after their adventures in the Jiao Continent.

It was said that due to the lack of experts in the You Continent, the Tongyou Institution enrolled many methods to get experts to take root there. It was especially so for those with special skills. They could even enter the Tongyou Institution directly and take on teaching roles!

What was more, because of the Tongyou Institution's rapid rise, they didn't have the bad habits of older sects where they would only pass down a single inheritance. They adopted an attitude where they were willing to learn anything that was of value before sharing it with their members.

For cultivators who had incomplete cultivation inheritances or those who were stuck at some strange bottleneck, the Tongyou Institution's approach was extremely tempting.

What was more, they also had their specialty items like flying ships, Spatial Pouches, and Teleportation Formation. With the Tongyou Institution as their foundation, the You Continent gradually became the go-to trade hub for high-level cultivators in the North.

Even though the Five Peaks Ridge was dozens of miles across, any Martial Dipper Realm expert would be able to encompass the entire area with their divine will.

When Sun Haiwei and the others disappeared while climbing up the mountain, they arrived within the Stellar Cauldron.

When everyone was looking around curiously, Sun Haiwei had a strange feeling and she quickly turned to stare at Shang Xia who appeared in front of them at an unknown time.

Senior Sister Sun, were you intentionally guiding their intentions out there? Shang Xia grabbed everyone's attention the moment he spoke.

Sun Haiwei chuckled in response, I dont have a choice. This is our deputy patriarchs intention. In the past 3 years, our You Continent has been expanding greatly. Along with half the territory in the Bing Continent, we need a lot of manpower to take care of our land. No matter how hard we tried to recruit experts, were still extremely shorthanded

Shang Xia nodded slowly in response.

If the Tongyou Institution had its reservations about recruiting talents from other continents, now that Kou Chongxue had entered the Martial Void Realm while Yun Jing and Sun Haiwei broke through to the Martial Dipper Realm, they no longer had such concerns. Moreover, the institution had a lot more Martial Extermination Realm experts than before.

Did you really stay here for 3 years without going anywhere?! Chu Jias voice rang through the cauldron as she stepped out from behind Sun Haiwei. She stared at Shang Xia and muttered, There seem to be a lot of changes in the Stellar Cauldron!

Yeah, it changed quite a bit. After our world completed its transformation, the cauldron formed a powerful connection to the World Origin Source through the Jiao Continent. Thats the reason behind the change Shang Xia chuckled and explained.

Even though Sun Haiwei seemed to be their leader because of her cultivation realm, Chu Jias authority in the Tongyou Institution was far too high. She even taught Sun Haiwei and Shang Xia in the past. When she spoke, Sun Haiwei merely stood at the side and chuckled at Shang Xias misfortune.

Pointing at a plant in the corner, Chu Jias eyes widened in surprise. Whats that? It seems new

The smile on Shang Xias face grew wider. You might not have seen it before, but youre no stranger to it. Thats the Starry Tree

Starry Tree?! Chu Jia gasped in shock, and so did Sun Haiwei. The experts who came with them who heard about it were also surprised as they sized up the strange plant in the corner.

As for those who didnt know what the Starry Tree was, they could guess it was something amazing from Chu Jias expression. They started to examine the plant properly as they whispered to each other.

It actually survived the battle?! Patriarch Kou didnt say anything about it though Sun Haiwei glanced at the plant and wondered out loud, When Patriarch Kou worked with Master Yuan Chen to fight Dugu Yuanshan, the Star Observatory was destroyed. We thought that the Starry Tree perished in the process. No Wait a second. We werent the only ones Everyone thought that the Starry Tree was destroyed!

Well It was nearly crushed by the battle, but due to the multiple layers of restrictions placed by the experts from the various powers, along with Liu Jingshengs assistance when Dugu Yuanshan went all out, the shockwaves of the battle were weakened. Patriarch Kou managed to salvage the tree before hiding it in the Stellar Cauldron Shang Xia explained,

A fire was lit in Sun Haiweis eyes when she turned to look at the tree in the corner. Doesnt that mean that the Starry Tree belongs to us right now?!

Shang Xia chuckled when he saw the experts of the institution whispering among themselves. They seemed to be sharing information about the tree as looks of excitement appeared on their faces. He laughed, Yeah From now on, you guys cant mention anything about the Starry Tree.

The experts of the institution immediately promised to keep it a secret.

The Starry Tree Starry Fruits Starry Leaves, Starlight Water

It was a source of extremely precious treasures!

It was especially so for Starry Fruits! It was a precious treasure that could increase ones chances when stepping into the Martial Void Realm!

Unfortunately, after the Star Observatory was destroyed, the foundation of the Starry Tree was harmed. Even though it received the blessing from the world like every other living creature while being nourished with Dugu Yuanshans void origin, it hadnt fully recovered.

Shang Xia spoke again, Oh right. Why did you guys come? Does the patriarch have instructions for me?

Right, we got carried away. Sun Haiwei smiled. Patriarch Kou is asking if the deed is done

Realizing his intentions, Shang Xia chuckled under his breath, Indeed They noticed the moment Dugu Yuanshans soul was exterminated!

The Stellar Cauldron should have allowed Patriarch Kou to sense what happened here better than the others Sun Haiwei added.

Is there anything else? Shang Xia asked.

With a giggle, Sun Haiwei continued, Patriarch Kou is telling you to hurry back to the You Continent if youre done with whatever you want to do. As for what he actually needs you for, I have no idea. All I can tell is that hes extremely serious. He probably has something he needs to tell you.

Shang Xia nodded in response. So, youre here to take over my position?

Sun Haiwei couldnt say anything when Chu Jia butted in with a sinister chortle. Hehe, were here to take advantage of the situation. Havent you discovered that of those who came with me and Instructor Sun, all of them are close to breaking through to the next cultivation layer?

Back when they disembarked, Shang Xia noticed their cultivation. To that, a wide grin appeared on his face. Haha, because Ive been using the Stellar Cauldron to seal Dugu Yuanshan, there have been treasures appearing around the cauldron. I kept a portion that grew a little closer to the cauldron. Those treasures dont belong to me and Ill hand them back to the institution. All of you can go look around elsewhere for treasures that suit you.

Looks of excitement appeared on their faces after hearing what he said.

A frown appeared on Shang Xias face all of a sudden and a look of realization could be seen on his face. Senior Sister Sun, have you already become an instructor of the institution?

Sun Haiwei waved her hand and muttered, Im merely taking over the position of the Upper Division Instructor for the time being.

Hahaha! Instructor Liu plans on retiring to focus on recovering. Dear Substitute Instructor, you're probably going to become the Deputy Head Instructor of the institution soon! In fact, you might be taking over the position of the Head Instructor. Chu Jia laughed at the side.

Shang Xia turned a little more serious and he asked, "Didn't Instructor Liu already recover?"

A sigh left Chu Jia's lips. She recovered, but her foundations were affected and she lost the qualifications to enter the Martial Dipper Realm. Because of that, her mentality suffered greatly and she no longer showed an interest in the affairs of the institution. She has been trying to retire from her position several times now. Haiwei came down south to take over your position while relieving the pressure of Instructor Liu from seeing her replacement all the time.

Shang Xia could only sigh and lament the fact that Liu Qinglan's foundations were damaged. He couldn't help but gripe at the tough fate of a cultivator.

Watching the mood turn somber, Sun Haiwei quickly shifted the topic. "Oh right, there's one more thing."

Chapter 924: Pointers and Advancement

Everyone from the Tongyou Institution who followed Sun Haiwei on the trip knew that they were about to receive a rare opportunity to grow.

After settling down in the Stellar Cauldron, all of them started to immerse themselves in cultivation.

The Stellar Cauldron was connected to the World Origin Source through the Jiao Continent, and because Shang Xia used to grind away at a Martial Void Realm expert's void origin, the energy contained within was extremely abundant. It was useless to Shang Xia at his current level, but the space within the cauldron could be considered a blessed land of cultivation better than any Holy Land.

During their conversation, Shang Xia learned about the situation in the Spirit Luxuriant World in the past 3 years. Sun Haiwei and Chu Jia also spoke about their other goal for entering the Jiao Continent.

Sun Haiwei started first. "I completed the refinement of my first fate dipper and reached a certain level of control over it. I am ready to refine my second fate dipper and I went to ask Patriarch Kou for advice on which type of Origin Dipper I should refine. He suggested coming to look for you for suggestions instead..." She looked at Shang Xia even more curiously after mentioning what Kou Chongxue told her.

Shang Xia wasn't surprised at how fast she had been cultivating. At most, he would praise her with an 'As expected of Senior Sister Sun'!

After a short moment of contemplation, he asked, "Senior Sister Sun, which Origin Dipper did you refine as your first fate dipper?"

Sun Haiwei seemed prepared for the question and her reply quickly came, "We obtained it by trading with the Dongjun Palace from the Ye Continent. It possesses extremely powerful Frosty Yin properties and according to Master Tianjun, it's something they obtained after killing a Fate Dipper Clone of an expert from the Spirit Abundance World back then."

“Senior Sister, do you not even know its name?” Shang Xia gasped. He was truly in awe at the fact that she had the guts to refine the Origin Dipper despite not knowing everything about it. If anything went wrong, no one would be able to save her!

Sun Haiwei laughed helplessly, “In the past, we noticed the Dongjun Palace selling this at the Trade Fair on Three Unity Island. I thought that it was extremely suitable with me and chose to use it to break through to the Martial Dipper Realm. In a fit of impulse, I bought it and went through with my plan. Fortunately, nothing went wrong. Moreover, I had the blessing of the World’s Will back then and dense world origin to assist me...”

Even though Sun Haiwei spoke extremely casually about it, Shang Xia understood the importance of following one’s instincts. To find an Origin Dipper that suited oneself was extremely rare and it was nearly comparable to a full set of advancement medicine when breaking through.

Shang Xia paused for a second and continued to ask, “Senior Sister Sun, if you don’t mind, please send a strand of your dipper qi into my palm.”

Sun Haiwei giggled when she saw Shang Xia’s outstretched hands and she sent a strand of dipper qi into it.

The moment it touched his palm, it condensed into a single crystalline drop.

Shang Xia stared at the drop with a calm expression. He could feel the powerful frosty intent contained in them, and he could even feel it trying to invade his body. It wanted to freeze his Five Element Dipper Qi.

Unfortunately, it didn’t possess the capabilities to do so. No matter how the droplet rolled about his palm, the frosty intent contained in it failed to affect him.

Sun Haiwei’s expression might not have changed, but her gaze turned a little deeper when looking at Shang Xia.

Chu Jia, who had been watching from the side, knew exactly how powerful Sun Haiwei’s fate dipper was. With her Nameless Frost Fate Dipper, she managed to challenge many Martial Dipper Realm experts of other factions and she made quite a good name for herself.

It was especially so during the conflict against the Triple Frost Palace. Sun Haiwei obtained victory after victory against their Martial Dipper Realm expert. With her Nameless Frost Fate Dipper, she completely suppressed an expert at the same level.

In the institution, even when Shang Bo or Ji Wenlong wanted to study her fate dipper, they wouldn’t dare to come in direct contact with it.

As the crystalline drop rolled about in his hand, the frosty intent contained in it disappeared some time ago without the others noticing.

“So, as it turns out, it’s called the Deep Sea Frost Origin Fate Dipper!” Shang Xia looked at the words on the Crimson Soul Tablet before chuckling softly. He eventually explained, “It was nurtured from the source of the sea and even though it seems to possess properties of frost, it’s actually considered a Water Element Fate Dipper. Hm... Actually, you can think of it as a Yin Attributed Water Element Fate Dipper.”

“So that’s where it came from...” Light flashed in Sun Haiwei’s eyes. “I heard about your philosophy of the Five Elements from Patriarch Kou. Since I refined a Water Element Fate Dipper, would that mean that I should refine a second fate dipper related to the Five Elements?”

Shang Xia chortled, “My understanding of the Five Elements isn’t perfect either. I can only try my best to come up with my own deductions”

Pausing slightly, he gave it some thought before he continued, “Even though the Deep Sea Frost Origin Fate Dipper is of the Water Element, it’s of the Yin Alignment and according to the mutual restraint and propagation of the Five Elements, your second fate dipper should be of the Yin Wood Element. Hm... Patriarch Kou’s Eternal Spring Fate Dipper won’t be suitable for you...”

Raising his head suddenly, he asked, “Of the Origin Dippers our institution has, which ones are of the Wood Element?”

When Shang Xia entered the Martial Dipper Realm, he explained the philosophy behind the Five Elements to Kou Chongxue and the 2 Deputy Patriarchs. With Kou Chongxue’s support, they had been gathering fate dipper essences related to Origin Dippers of the Five Elements from the trade fairs. Moreover, Shang Xia had already organized them when he had the chance.

Sun Haiwei was clearly prepared for the question and handed a list to Shang Xia.

“Hiss... Do we already have so many?!” Shang Xia gasped in shock.

Sun Haiwei forced a smile and muttered, “We only have fate dipper essences of most of those listed there. Our gains came from you guys in the Azure Flame World and the Spirit Abundance World... We actually don’t have too many Origin Dippers!”

Even though the successful resistance of the Spirit Abundance World’s invasion allowed a whole new bunch of Martial Dipper Realm experts to be born in the Spirit Luxuriant World, growing stronger was another matter altogether. The lack of Origin Dippers was the greatest obstacle to their cultivation!

Looking through the list, Shang Xia pointed out a few Origin Dippers that would be good for Sun Haiwei. Unfortunately, none of them could be produced as they only had fate dipper essences at the moment.

After thinking for some time, Shang Xia seemed to have recalled something as he quickly ran towards the corner.

Chu Jia had been watching his actions the whole time, and she couldn’t help but mutter to herself, “Isn’t that the Starry Tree? What are you going there for?”

Shang Xia didn’t reply immediately. Instead, he looked for the most obvious spot where the Starry Tree suffered injuries before reaching off to press on its wound. It broke apart slightly and a region that contained strange energy was revealed.

Chu Jia nearly yelled in fright, “Why are you damaging the tree even more?!”

Shang Xia chuckled in amusement before turning to Sun Haiwei. “Senior Sister, you should see if the energy produced is suitable for your cultivation.”

A little dumbfounded, Sun Haiwei walked over to the tree. She might not understand what was going on, but she decided to trust Shang Xia. She pressed the same location as him before circulating the rank five art Kou Chongxue had passed down to her to attempt to refine the energy that emerged.

A slight frown formed on her face, but eventually, her expression started to loosen. A look of shock replaced her frown.

A second later, she stopped circulating her rank five art and stared at Shang Xia in utter confusion. “What’s going on? I feel like the Starry Tree has its own consciousness and is assisting my cultivation!”

“Hahaha! It’s not strange at all. The Starry Tree is supposed to be a rank six spiritual tree, and it might possess extremely strong spirituality. Also, you’re helping it to recover by absorbing that strange energy...” Shang Xia smiled.

A strange light flashed in her eyes. “So... That would mean that the strange energy trapped in the tree...”

“It’s called the Mysterious Yin Jade Sophora Qi. I suspect it came from Dugu Yuanshan, and it’s the main culprit that harmed the tree in the first place.” Shang Xia explained.

Chapter 925: Pointers and Advancement Pt.2

The Starry Tree looked like it withered compared to the time Shang Xia first saw it back in the Celestial Remains.

After inspecting the Starry Tree closely, Shang Xia realized that other than the damage it suffered due to the shockwaves of the battle there was a strand of energy hidden inside, preventing it from recovering. It was precisely the Mysterious Yin Jade Sophora Qi that was of the Yin Wood Element.

After sensing that Sun Haiwei needed a Yin Wood Element Fate Dipper as her second fate dipper, Shang Xia was afraid that it would be a little difficult for her to absorb the qi contained within due to how closely it had fused together with the tree. However, after Sun Haiwei came into contact with the tree, she managed to absorb the qi faster than the Starry Tree could nullify it. The situation was perfect. Not only could Sun Haiwei make use of the Starry Tree to refine her second fate dipper, but she could also extract the Mysterious Yin Jade Sophora Qi and to greatly assist its recovery.

With Sun Haiwei’s problem solved, Chu Jia, who had been standing at the side quickly yelled, “It’s my turn, it’s my turn!”

Shang Xia couldn’t help but break into laughter, “Are you also facing problems with your cultivation?! You’re at the large completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm and the only step you can take is to comprehend your martial intent to reach the grand completion stage. You can only rely on yourself to comprehend your martial intent. I’m afraid I won’t be of much help...”

Chu Jia’s expression sank instantly and she pouted, “I haven’t even said anything and you’re already shrinking responsibility... What do you mean by this?!”

Shang Xia's brain turned numb and he quickly explained himself, "I know that your cultivation in the Martial Extermination Realm is related to formations... If you wish to comprehend your martial intent, you will have to work on it from the perspective of formations. You know that I don't know much about formations..."

Sun Haiwei covered her lips and giggled to herself. Eventually, she burst out laughing. "You don't know much about formations?! Our Formation Grandmaster's progress with the Teleportation Formation, the Five Element Spirit Gathering Formation that allows our institution to gather heaven and earth qi for cultivation... Even the Five Element Spirit Controlling Formation on our flying ships... Everything is related to you!"

"Do you mean..." Shang Xia turned to Chu Jia and gasped in shock.

"Help me design a long-range Teleportation Formation. Or... We could design a formation that allows one to be transported out of the heavenly screen. It can be situated on the Three Unity Island so that our disciples can be sent over from inside the institution. I have a feeling that the opportunity to comprehend my martial intent is right in front of me. However, I can't seem to break past the final screen..."

Shang Xia might not know too much about formation, but he knew Chu Jia well. A little too well... He continued to ask, "Are you planning to comprehend your martial intent or are you thinking about becoming a rank five Formation Grandmaster?"

"Both!" Chu Jia didn't bother hiding her intentions. "I was planning to borrow the opportunity when I break through to a rank five Talisman Grandmaster to comprehend my martial intent and also step into the grand completion stage of the Martial Extermination Realm. Also..."

Chu Jia's eyes burned brightly while staring straight at Shang Xia. "I also plan on consolidating my foundations the second I step into the Martial Dipper Realm. Something like what your Lightning Bird did!"

Sun Haiwei wasn't the only one taken aback at her ambition. Even Shang Xia was too shocked for words.

Sun Haiwei stared at her and muttered, "Are you planning to advance the same way Junior Brother Shang and refine all your fate dippers at the same time?"

Shang Xia pressed his lips together and snorted, "No... She's planning to carve out her own path of advancement into the Martial Dipper Realm..."

Sun Haiwei's eyes widened in shock and she turned to look at Chu Jia in fright. In contrast, Chu Jia didn't seem too worked out about it and muttered, "It can't be considered a completely new path. After all, my dao of formations came from the institution and the Five Element Teleportation Art is something he came up with. My advancement medicine is the improved version of what Patriarch Kou used and the inspiration for my advancement came from the Lightning Bird. I'm just adding everything together..."

For her to be able to break down every aspect of her breakthrough showed that she had already run through it in her head and had some certainty of success. It was truly fitting of a Formation Grandmaster like herself.

Shang Xia couldn't help but exchange a glance with Sun Haiwei before muttering, "You need to think about this carefully. Your way of breaking through will be extremely dangerous. If anything goes wrong, you might not even be able to maintain a complete corpse."

"That's exactly why I need your help!" Chu Jia muttered with a look on her face as though she had already thought things through.

"How am I supposed to help?! Am I supposed to grab a bunch of resources from the institution to help you deploy your formation?!" Shang Xia was slightly taken aback at how confident she was. If Shang Xia openly showed his support for Chu Jia's research into long-range Teleportation Formations, he would definitely be able to get a good chunk of resources in his name. However, they weren't the only ones making decisions in the Tongyou Institution.

With the continuous improvement and refinement of the Teleportation Formations, the Tongyou Institution would definitely benefit in the long run. However, decisions in the institution had to be made after countless considerations. They had to think about the problem from many angles and even though Shang Xia's help might be of some use, it wouldn't be too effective.

Surprisingly, Chu Jia wasn't thinking about the institution at all. She stretched her hand out and grinned, "You can lend me your Five Element Ring!"

Raising his eyebrow slightly, Shang Xia was slightly surprised by her request. Sun Haiwei frowned and mumbled, "A divine weapon is a very important aspect of a cultivator's strength. I'm afraid taking it away now will greatly affect what he needs to do..."

Obviously, Sun Haiwei wasn't as clueless about what Kou Chongxue wanted to tell Shang Xia as she had let on.

In response, Shang Xia chuckled while waving his hands casually. A ray of five colored light appeared and gathered on his palm. When the light eventually dissipated, a five colored ring that resembled a bangle could be seen resting in his open hand. "I might still have uses for this, but it won't affect me much even if I don't have it. Since you need it, you can have it."

After he spoke, he handed the Five Element Ring to Chu Jia.

Glancing at him once, she immediately wore the Five Element Ring on her wrist. Her cheeks were flushed slightly as she raised her hand to shake it around. "I won't take long with it!"

Waving nonchalantly, Shang Xia mumbled, "There's no need to be in a rush to give it back to me."

Sun Haiwei looked at the Five Element Ring on Chu Jia's wrist before turning to look at Shang Xia. "Oh yeah... I'm really curious about your current cultivation level. How far have you actually gotten? Even with my divine will, all I can sense is a ball of fog when I try to sense your strength..."

Chu Jia didn't remain quiet at the side and she immediately added, "For you to not care much about a divine weapon at the level of the Five Element Ring... Could you have already entered the Martial Void Realm?"

"No, no, of course not!" Shang Xia denied it immediately.

After several difficult rounds of explanation such that Chu Jia and Sun Haiwei understood his current situation, he finally managed to leave to head over to Hai Yuanyuan and Mu Songfang who were cultivating in the cauldron.

One of them was someone Shang Xia had already planned to make his heir, and the other was his greatest fan in the institution.

Even though Mu Songfang was a little older than Hai Yuanyuan, the latter had an extreme talent for cultivation. Both of them reached the grand completion stage of the Martial Intent Realm and were about to break through once they refined their extermination origin.

"So... The reason you guys came this time..." Shang Xia carefully inspected their cultivation realms and when he was satisfied with their foundations, a wide smile appeared on his face.

Hai Yuanyuan looked at her senior sister who was at the side before muttering softly, "Uncle, Senior Sister Mu and I came to obtain the rank four advancement medicine from you..."

"When I entered the Four Constellation Realm and the Five Element Realm... Oh, I mean the Martial Extermination Realm and the Martial Dipper Realm, my seniors in the institution and the Shang Clan gathered the herbs and items required for my advancement medicine... They should be pretty clear about them... Why did you guys run all the way here to look for me?" Shang Xia couldn't help but laugh.

"Uncle, we want to follow in your footsteps and refine all 4 extermination origins at once to enter the Martial Extermination Realm!" Hai Yuanyuan continued.

Looking at the girls before him, Shang Xia chuckled mirthlessly. "Actually, I would rather you guys train properly and advance using the usual method... After all, that will be a lot safer than if you try to do what I did."

Mu Songfang, who had been quiet the entire time, finally said, "Teacher, is that because the extermination origins we use are different from yours?"

"That's one of the reasons, but that isn't really why." Shang Xia explained.

"Teacher, please enlighten us." Mu Songfang asked sincerely.

Seeing the look in their eyes, Shang Xia thought for a second before he replied. "Well, alright. But I have to give you girls a heads-up. Refining extermination origins simultaneously isn't just purely refining 4 of them and calling it a day. You need to care about the way they interact with each other and their properties. More importantly, the 4 extermination origins must possess a certain meaning. It should correspond to 4 important features that are tied in with each other. For example, the 4 seasons, the 4 general directions, or even the properties of Yin and Yang mixed with life and death.

The elements of Earth, Water, Fire, and Wind can also be one of them, and so can the 4 major constellations. I don't know everything about it..."

"As such, you can see my successful refinement of 4 extermination origins simultaneously as a massive lucky break. I was able to cultivate rapidly after I succeeded, but that was because the requirements were too harsh. If you're really stubborn and plan to take this road, you need to be extremely well prepared, and I mean you have to be absolutely certain. With your current cultivation and with how high the requirements are, your fellow companions might enter the Martial Extermination Realm ahead of you long before you find suitable extermination origins. When that happens, they might even keep their advantage all the way and step into the Martial Dipper Realm before you. It's not an easy path to take... Are you really sure you wish to embark on this journey?"

Mu Songfang and Hai Yuanyuan exchanged a glance and saw the determination in each other's eyes. They turned to Shang Xia in unison and nodded.

Seeing as they made up their mind, Shang Xia no longer persuaded them. He took out a jade book from his sleeve and handed it to them. "This is my experience after entering the Four Constellation Realm. Go ahead and study them. It might give you some inspiration and be of help on your journey."

Seeing how serious they were when they received the book, Shang Xia couldn't help but point out, "Both of you need to remember this. There is no need to force yourself to follow in my footsteps exactly. It doesn't matter if you refine a single extermination origin and take things step by step, or if you refine all of them at the same time. The most important thing is to find a way that is suitable for you."

After doing everything he can to pave the way for the girls, Shang Xia accepted Sun Haiwei and Chu Jia's request to give everyone in the Stellar Cauldron a lecture about cultivation.

Currently, his cultivation realm was sufficiently high to give others inspiration and he had abundant experience. He was able to give suggestions to lower-leveled cultivators of the institution and could remind and motivate experts who were of slightly higher level.

Chapter 926: Defenses of the Heavenly Screen

7 days passed since Sun Haiwei and the others arrived and Shang Xia had been staying in the Stellar Cauldron with them the entire time.

In the days that passed, Shang Xia used his experience from the time he started cultivating to his current cultivation realm to teach others. From the time he stepped into the Essence Realm, to the Yin Yang Realm, the Triple Command Realm, the Four Constellation Realm, and finally, the Five Element Realm. He seemed to have gone through his entire cultivation journey during his lecture and even Chu Jia, Sun Haiwei, and Hai Yuanyuan who had a better relationship with him were hearing it for the first time.

He didn't stop with his cultivation experience. With everything he had seen and experienced, he just popped off and kept on speaking. He said anything that came to mind, but that was exactly what interested the experts of the institution.

One couldn't think that Shang Xia's experience was lacking just because he didn't seem too old and didn't have too much seniority in the institution. In his 20 or so years of cultivation, he has been through a lot. He might have experienced things those old monsters who lived for hundreds of years failed to go through. The dangers he faced and everything interesting he went through were exactly what those cultivators of the Tongyou Institution lacked due to their sheltered environment.

After the 7 days of lecture, Shang Xia spent another 2 days to clear up any questions they might have. He pointed out many things related to cultivation those Martial Extermination Realm experts were facing.

When he was finally done, he spent some time crafting 2 Four Seasons Samsara Soul Locking Talismans for Hai Yuanyuan and Mu Songfang. The talisman was something the Crimson Soul Tablet came up with when he was still in the Four Constellation Realm and it was something only useful for experts walking the same path as him.

Shang Xia didn't know which extermination origins they would use to break through, but whatever it was, the talisman might be of some use.

After 1 more week, Shang Xia and Chu Jia finally bid farewell to Sun Haiwei and the experts of the institution. They boarded the flying ship before rushing up North.

On the flying ship, Shang Xia scanned it repeatedly with his divine will. He also carefully inspected every region of the ship and he discovered nothing different with it.

Even though they used the method of the Azure Flame World to build the ship, it seemed to possess many characteristics of the Spirit Luxuriant World and the Tongyou Institution.

Ignoring everything else, just the speed alone was leagues ahead of the flying ships in the Azure Flame World. Especially the ship Shang Xia and Chu Jia were using. Chu Jia personally modified the ship and it could rank among the fastest ships the Tongyou Institution had to offer.

"Is this ship able to pass through the heavenly screen?" Shang Xia asked while laughing.

With a satisfied grin on her face, Chu Jia replied, "Of course it can."

After she spoke, she didn't leave Shang Xia wondering. She immediately took control of the ship and it rose higher into the skies. It quickly passed through the clouds and soared high above the Spirit Luxuriant World. Eventually, it passed through the heavenly screen. Everything below was a sea of white as stars flickered in the darkness above.

Flying above the world saved them a lot more time...

It wasn't as though anyone could pass through the heavenly screen. Martial Dipper Realm experts could definitely do so with ease, and those who were under the Martial Dipper Realm needed outside help. Not every single flying ship had the ability to do so either. One could say that there weren't many flying ships that could do so.

As soon as they passed through the heavenly screen, Shang Xia could feel the consumption of the Spirit Gathering Formation on the flying ship increase by ten or so times. The energy burned through essence crystals also shot up proportionally.

If it was any other flying ship, there wasn't a need to think if they would even need that much energy. The ship might have already broken down before they could pass through the heavenly screen.

Shang Xia stood at the bow of the ship as he stared at the world beneath him. He could see the land flashing past him and he suddenly thought of something. "If I recall, the Northern Sea Mystic Sect produced a massive ship that could send people to and from the Three Unity Island. That seems a lot bigger than our current ship."

Chu Jia could guess what Shang Xia wanted to ask and she quickly explained, "That flying ship doesn't belong to the Northern Sea Mystic Sect. They obtained it from the Land of Star Origin to keep up appearances. Even though they started producing their own, they haven't reached our standard."

Shang Xia could feel how satisfied Chu Jia was with herself.

Chuckling softly, Shang Xia asked, "Land of Star Origin? It's not my first time hearing about it. Is our institution sending people over?"

Shang Xia was no stranger to the name. Back when he obtained the Star Map, the bronze book recorded its exact position in space. Huang Yu also left him coordinates and it looked pretty close to the location recorded in the map.

Chu Jia shook her head and replied, "Not yet. Patriarch Kou only learned about it from the other Martial Void Realm Ancestors after entering the Martial Void Realm."

All of a sudden, Shang Xia discovered something strange above him. When he raised his head, he saw a massive island floating in the distance and it seemed a little familiar. Even though they were still pretty far away, Shang Xia could clearly see the island due to its sheer size.

"Three Unity Island? It looks a lot closer to the heavenly screen than before." Shang Xia smirked.

"After our world became the Spirit Luxuriant World, the heavenly screen expanded greatly. During the ascension process, the Three Unity Island was nearly sucked back in. Even though it managed to stay in space due to its grand formation, it's a lot closer now..." Chu Jia explained.

Chu Jia could see the strange light in his eyes when he looked at the island and she seemed to have guessed his thoughts. She giggled, "Did you notice the fluctuations in the depths of space already?"

"Do you know what is going on?! Initially, I thought that it came from experts from the Spirit Abundance World hiding out there..." Shang Xia gasped softly.

Even though the Spirit Abundance World was routed 3 years ago, the spatial tunnel was destroyed before all the experts of the Spirit Abundance World were sent back. Xiong Chunyang and the other Martial Void Realm experts chose to return themselves, and only the heavily injured Lu Pingyuan

utilized the spatial tunnel to leave. As it took on the burden of sending another Martial Void Realm expert back, the spatial tunnel collapsed, leaving the remaining Martial Dipper Realm experts of the Spirit Abundance World stranded. The Martial Dipper Realm experts who were left behind weren't weak either. The weakest they sent were in the third element of the Martial Dipper Realm, and if they went to hide, it wouldn't be easy to track them down without Martial Void Realm experts.

Because Xiong Chunyang and the others chose to make their way back themselves, Zhang Xuansheng and the other Martial Void Realm Ancestors didn't leave the Spirit Luxuriant World.

Right... Zhang Xuansheng and the rest couldn't actually leave the Spirit Luxuriant World due to the way they broke through, but Kou Chongxue didn't choose to head out either. That was because the location of the Spirit Luxuriant World was already exposed and they could face another invasion at any time. The Spirit Abundance World wasn't the only threat to them now that they were exposed.

As such, the various powers had been sending their Martial Dipper Realm experts to hunt down the hiding experts.

Other than patrolling the region and preventing the experts of the Spirit Abundance World from spying on them, their main task was to search through the various planets in the distance.

The expansion of the Spirit Luxuriant World didn't stop after the world ascension was complete. Even though they could continue growing slowly as their World Origin Source continued to grow, it was too slow compared to integrating giant landmasses or broken planets into their world. They could save a lot of world origin during the process.

For larger powers, they set their sights on larger landmasses out there. In order to hide the heavenly screen once again, the 5 Martial Void Realm experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World planned to create a large-scale grand formation in the void. They would shroud the Spirit Luxuriant World and prevent it from being found by even stronger powers out there.

Of course, that was a massive project and they not only needed the Martial Void Realm experts to take action, but the cultivators and experts of every single power would have to work together to make it happen.

"Actually, when Haiwei went to call you back from the Jiao Continent, she had already been gathering land masses outside for 2 whole years. Your grandfather went to take her place and continue searching, and our institution sent out 10 Martial Extermination Realm experts to assist the process." As they made their way back, Chu Jia explained what had happened in the 3 years Shang Xia spent outside.

While flying above the heavenly screen, Chu Jia taught Shang Xia how to drive the flying ship and with her guiding him step by step, he managed to fly it for some time. It didn't take long before they passed by several continents.

After returning to the You Continent, the flying ship didn't immediately return to land. Instead, it stopped at a certain location that had been prepared by the institution.

With the pavilion as its core, they not only managed to make it a proper transit point, they also renovated it completely and prepared its defenses.

Disembarking the flying ship, Shang Xia and CHu Jia didn't alert the experts in charge of protecting the transit point. They quickly entered the Tongyou Paradise through the entrance.

The Tongyou Paradise has changed greatly since he last returned. Many regions had been constructed with different functions.

After entering the Tongyou Paradise, Chu Jia bade farewell to him. With the Five Element Ring in hand, she couldn't wait to test out some ideas she had.

Shang Xia quickly arrived at the highest space in the Tongyou Paradise, and it was also where the core region of the Tongyou Paradise was located.

"You came back later than I expected... However, what you achieved in the Jiao Continent far surpassed my expectations. I believe even the other Martial Void Realm experts didn't expect you to destroy a Third Martial Void Realm expert's divine soul so quickly." A strange look was seen in Kou Chongxue's eyes when he saw Shang Xia again. It was as though he was trying to suss out the secrets the youngster was hiding.

"Third Martial Void Realm? Does that refer to a third tier Martial Void Realm expert?" Shang Xia chuckled before he continued, "I was discussing some problems with cultivation the members of our institution had. That's why I was delayed."

"Your mysterious cultivation method reached an extremely high level and even though you might not fully comprehend your path, it cannot be denied that the philosophy behind it is extremely profound. The more people working on it, the better..." Kou Chongxue muttered.

Shang Xia nodded in response before asking, "Patriarch Kou, the reason you called me back was..."

Chapter 927: Semi-Complete Rank Six Advancement Formula

In the void above the You Continent of the Spirit Luxuriant World, a deep bronze sword light emerged and instantly alarmed the Martial Dipper Realm experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World who were in charge of defenses.

A Martial Void Realm expert made a move!

With the experience of being invaded twice, they were no stranger to the power a Martial Void Realm expert possessed.

"Is the Spirit Abundance World here again?!" Many Martial Dipper Realm experts prepared for battle. They were ready as countless protection formations above the heavenly screen were activated.

The next second, a gentle voice rang through the space above the heavenly screen. "Everyone, there is no need to panic. Patriarch Kou is just testing out his skills..."

With the reassurance of another Martial Void Realm expert, the Martial Dipper Realm experts heaved a sigh of relief.

However, it didn't take long for a question to form in their minds. *Even if he's testing his skills, he needs a target, right?! Is there someone in our Spirit Luxuriant World capable of being his sparring partner? It can't be another Martial Void Realm Ancestor, right?!*

Not only did their curiosity not disappear. Instead, they became even more interested in what was going on. They quickly turned into streaks of light that flew over to where they noticed the sword light.

When they arrived, they noticed several balls of light hovering above the heavenly screen while staring in Kou Chongxue's direction.

The Martial Void Realm Ancestors of the other Elysiums might be restricted and couldn't leave their regions, but flying hundreds of miles above the heavenly screen wouldn't affect them too much.

Everything took a long time to describe, but it happened in an instant. When the bronze sword light appeared, a ring of five colored light that spun rapidly also appeared to stop it.

When the sword light clashed with the five colored light, a powerful shockwave was produced. It spread dozens of miles in an instant. The next second, the ring of five colored light started to crumble. As it shattered, so did the space around it. The entire region was turned into chaotic space.

The five colored light was no match for the sword light during the clash. However, it forced the sword light back, leaving a massive scar of fragmented space.

While breaking down, the five colored light continued to grind at the sword light. Eventually, both attacks turned to nothingness as the void returned to its original stage.

Above the heavenly screen, the 4 balls of light disappeared the same time the collision ended.

Even though everything happened in an instant, several Martial Dipper Realm experts with deep foundations were enamored by the clash and were unable to pull themselves out of their enchantment.

For the rest of them, they were unable to comprehend much from the clash. However, they were extremely curious about the identities of the parties involved.

A fourth element Martial Dipper Realm elder with extremely strong foundations eventually enlightened the rest. "Patriarch Kou released the sword light and the other person was Talisman Hall Master Shang Xia!"

"Patriarch Kou is a True Immortal at the Martial Void Realm! Hall Master Shang is actually able to block his strike... Could he have already entered the Martial Void Realm? Hiss... Does the Tongyou Institution possess 2 True Immortals?!" A weaker Martial Dipper Realm expert mumbled.

"Nonsense! Hall Master Shang Xia has yet to break through!" Another powerful expert evaluated.

"Oh... Looks like they don't have 2 True Immortals... Hey, wait a second. Doesn't that mean that even without entering the Martial Void Realm, Hall Master Shang is able to stop Patriarch Kou's strike?!"

With that, chaos ensued as everyone broke out into audible gasps.

There was no doubt about it. The quick exchange between Kou Chongxue and Shang Xia raised massive waves in the Spirit Luxuriant World once again.

When they returned to the Tongyou Paradise, Kou Chongxue's gaze was filled with shock. "This old man didn't expect you to be able to block my strike after entering the grand completion stage of the Martial Dipper Realm! You far exceeded me when I was at the grand completion stage of the Martial Dipper Realm..."

Shang Xia immediately mumbled humbly, "Patriarch Kou, you're a swordsman but you didn't unleash that strike with your Hidden Frost Sword. That strike earlier should be 20 to 30 percent that it is supposed to be..."

"Damn brat, are you laughing at me right now?! I might not have used my Hidden Frost Sword, but you don't seem to be using your Five Element Ring either." Kou Chongxue pointed at Shang Xia and was just short of cursing him out.

Shang Xia chuckled, "Those are 2 different concepts. Patriarch Kou, your divine weapon directly affects your offensive ability. It greatly boosts your strength in battle. My Five Element Ring is a support artifact at best. I use it mainly for defense and control. From our weapons alone, I already obtained a huge advantage!"

"Heh, when have you ever acted this humble?" Kou Chongxue waved his hand and changed the topic. "Enough. Actually, I have an important mission for you that requires you to head out for a little..."

"Are you referring to the Land of Star Origin or the Spirit Abundance World?" Shang Xia pretty much guessed his intentions.

Slightly taken aback, Kou Chongxue mumbled, "Why can't it be the Azure Flame World?"

"Now that our world has ascended, the Azure Flame World isn't important to us anymore. If the matter truly concerned the Azure Flame World, you wouldn't have called me back." Shang Xia explained.

Kou Chongxue nodded once, but he quickly shook his head in denial. "The Azure Flame World might be chicken ribs to us right now and might not be our target, but someone there has stepped into the Martial Void Realm."

"Who is it?" Shang Xia asked instinctively. However, he quickly thought back to his time there. "Did the Yuanming Clan Leader break through? His cultivation is the highest there and he should possess the greatest possibility of breaking through!"

"That's right. He used his Elysium and borrowed the power of his world to do it. Even if I went back, I might not be able to beat him now that he has the assistance of his world. Fortunately, he ascended with the help of his Elysium and is restricted to his world." Kou Chongxue explained.

“Oh.” Shang Xia continued, “In that case, it’s not like we no longer need to interact with them. It’s just that we can’t go crazy and clash with them openly.”

Kou Chongxue finally got to his point. “I’ll deal with matters regarding the Azure Flame World. I need you to make a trip over to the Land of Star Origin.”

“Did Senior Huang Yu send some news back?” Shang Xia asked.

Chuckling in amusement, Kou Chongxue explained, “Yeah, it’s regarding the Solitary Peak Heavenly Lake. However, I’m planning to send you over to the Land of Star Origin to make some friends and familiarize yourself with the place. I was supposed to be in charge of this, but our world is still under threat. I can’t leave whenever I like and I can only trouble you to go over in my place.”

Shang Xia nodded in understanding. In the Tongyou Institution, Shang Xia was the strongest expert after Kou Chongxue. He was the only person suited for the task.

“Disciple understands. If I get the chance, I’ll try to head over to the Spirit Abundance World. With the Solitary Peak Heavenly Lake losing their only Martial Void Realm expert, the other powers will definitely set their sights on them. When that happens, I’ll join in and reap the benefits whenever possible. I will try my best to cause chaos there.”

Nodding slightly, Kou Chongxue added, “Ensure your safety before anything else. Also, never reveal your true identity.”

“I understand. I’m just going there to fan the flames and cause more chaos. I won’t place myself in danger.” Shang Xia replied.

With a wide grin, Kou Chongxue handed him a jade slip and indicated for him to read its contents.

Looking at Kou Chongxue with a raised eyebrow, Shang Xia sank his divine will into the jade slip before gasping in shock.

“Martial Void...”

Kou Chongxue nodded. “This is something I came up with after witnessing and experiencing our world’s ascension. It’s a semi-complete rank six advancement formula.”

Seeing Shang Xia’s gaze locked on the jade slip, Kou Chongxue continued, “Our Spirit Luxuriant World seems to possess enough power to protect ourselves, but we also learned that the Spirit Abundance World’s true abilities far exceeded our expectations. The Spirit Abundance World isn’t all we need to be worried about either. There are other strong Spirit Worlds out there, and there might be even stronger ones in the vast sea of stars! Our Spirit Luxuriant World isn’t safe at all.”

Shang Xia finally snapped back to reality and shifted his gaze away from the jade slip to signal his understanding.

However, Kou Chongxue wasn’t done. “Right now, you’re the only hope our Tongyou Institution has of breaking through to the Martial Void Realm in a short period of time. As such, I can only hand you the semi-complete formula. I might not know what fortune you might run into in the

future, or the method you will use to enter the Martial Void Realm, but I hope you can try your best to improve on the semi-complete rank six advancement formula.”

Shang Xia carefully kept the jade slip before thinking of something. “Are the other 4 of them also trying to find a way to enter the Martial Void Realm for their disciples?”

Kou Chongxue nodded. “They seem to understand the Land of Star Origin a lot better than I do. From what I know, they stationed some Martial Dipper Realm experts over at the Land of Star Origin. They didn’t return even during the invasion...”

Without a doubt, the other Elysiums not only knew about the existence of the Land of Star Origin, but they even went there a few times.

Oh wait, the Yuanchen Sect might be an exception.

As for the reason they didn’t recall all their Martial Dipper Realm experts during the invasion, there was 1 simple explanation. No one would place all their eggs in a single basket. If they truly fell, there would be experts to carry on their inheritance.

After bidding Kou Chongxue farewell, Shang Xia didn’t immediately head to the Land of Star Origin. Instead, he returned to the Talisman Hall.

The Tongyou Institution gained a lot after invading the Azure Flame World and resisting the invasion of the Spirit Abundance World. Of those, a bunch of treasures regarding talismans have been organized by the Talisman Hall and Shang Xia needed to personally look through some of them.

Chapter 928: Complete Advancement Formula to the Martial Void Realm

Shang Xia’s sudden appearance in the Talisman Hall caused a massive uproar.

As soon as the Talisman Masters stationed in the Talisman Hall heard the news of his return, they raced over to meet the legend himself.

3 years ago, after the Spirit Abundance World’s invasion failed, the You Continent suffered the least damage. The Tongyou Institution also managed to maintain a good portion of its strength, relative to the other great powers of the Spirit Luxuriant World. Moreover, they even seemed to grow stronger after the ordeal.

They obtained a ton of inheritances and treasures related to the dao of Talisman from the Azure Flame World and the experts of the Spirit Abundance World who were killed. Even though they had been organizing their gains, there were a lot of inheritances lower-level Talisman Masters couldn’t fully understand. As such, they required Shang Xia to personally handle them.

Just by organizing those inheritances and treasures alone, the Talisman Hall of the Tongyou Institution benefited greatly. Another rank four Talisman Grandmaster was produced and 2 more rank three Talisman Masters appeared in their ranks. Naturally, there were a bunch more rank two Talisman Masters born through the process.

After digesting the talisman inheritances from the foreign worlds, the Talisman Hall also seemed to reach some sort of bottleneck. If Shang Xia appeared to clear their doubts, the Talisman Hall would most likely climb to the next level and become way stronger than before.

However, when they arrived at Shang Xias secret chamber, they heard from Grandmaster Lou Zizhang that Shang Xia wasnt planning to meet any guests. Their legendary rank five Talisman Grandmaster seemed hell-bent on entering seclusion.

Hasnt he been in seclusion for the past 3 years

Many Talisman Masters felt a little confused. However, Shang Xias prestige was terrifyingly high. Almost every single Talisman Master or Talisman Grandmaster in the Talisman Hall received his teachings back then and none of them dared to grumble too much. Hearing that he had entered seclusion, all of them decided to leave in case they affected him.

Actually, Shang Xia hadnt entered seclusion to cultivate. Ever since exterminating Dugu Yuanshans divine soul, Shang Xias cultivation reached the peak of the grand completion stage of the Five Element Realm. There was nowhere else for him to improve unless he broke through to the next level.

At that moment, his attention was placed on the Crimson Soul Tablet in his sea of consciousness.

Words were swimming about the massive tablet and after rearranging itself, new content was produced.

That was right! Shang Xia was using the Crimson Soul Tablet to get an idea about the advancement formula to the Martial Void Realm! To be more exact, it was the advancement formula to his next cultivation realm, the Six Directions Realm!

With his experience using the Crimson Soul Tablet, Shang Xia wasnt getting it to come up with the advancement formula from nothing. From what he knew, getting it to come up with an advancement formula from scratch would use an ungodly amount of world origin. It might cause the Crimson Soul Tablet, which recovered to a certain stage, to split and crumble once again!

He planned to use the Crimson Soul Tablet to improve on the information recorded in Kou Chongxues jade slip.

Starting something was always the most difficult. However, once the general direction was set, everything else would fall into place eventually.

When Shang Xia used the jade slip Kou Chongxue gave him as the initial direction of the advancement formula it didnt have much and all it recorded were

Name: Martial Void Heavenly Restoration

Main Medicine: Heavenly Screen Cloud, Earth Essence Milk

Assistive Medicine: The Four Extremities

Remarks: Grants Prosperity of a Continent. Requires the Spirituality of a Continent and the strength of one.

That was pretty much what Kou Chongxue came up with after observing the world ascension. That was the best time for any high-level expert to progress on their path of cultivation. Of course, the amount they could comprehend depended on themselves.

The words on the Crimson Soul Tablet outlined the general formula, but that wasnt all that was contained in Kou Chongxues jade slip. There was lots of information recorded in it, most of it being detailed information on the medicines required. For example, it contained information on the

Heavenly Screen Cloud, a rank six spiritual treasure Shang Xia hadnt even heard of. Kou Chongxue introduced it as a type of spirituality born in the void within the heavenly screen.

Unlike the Azure Ascension World of the past, the heavenly screen above the Spirit Luxuriant World was covered in a layer of dense cloud. Passing through it with flying ships would also take some time. Also, only Spiritual Worlds could produce things like the Heavenly Screen Cloud.

Similarly, Earth Essence Milk was something that could only be produced because they had become a Spirit World. Only then would the heavens and earth be able to nurture rank six spiritual treasures like it.

As for the Four Extremities, even Kou Chongxue wasnt too sure about what they could be made up of. It was a mere deduction of his, but he didnt indicate too much about them in the jade slip.

The remarks were where the money actually was. Kou Chongxue made proper introductions and explanations regarding it.

Granting prosperity to a continent meant that they had to do something that greatly benefited one of the massive continents. Moreover, it couldnt be something easily quantified like helping people or stuff like that. According to Kou Chongxues understanding, the way to grant prosperity meant that they had to strengthen the continent as a whole. It didnt refer to helping anyone or any creature specifically. The greater the benefit they could bring to the continent the better! It would be for the best if they could benefit several more continents or even the entire Spirit Luxuriant World!

As the person who pushed for world ascension and was the most important person in doing so, Kou Chongxue naturally benefited the world with his actions.

As for the part about requiring the spirituality of a continent It could be thought about the same way as the first part of the statement. Experts, especially experts of high cultivation realms, required world origin to cultivate. World origin was basically the cornerstone of the institutions cultivation inheritance as their advancement required large amounts of it.

When entering the Martial Void Realm, the world origin they required would be several times more than anything they had ever used. As such, they required the spirituality of an entire continent in order to do so.

Finally came the part about the strength of a continent. Only when one was able to move the world origin contained in the continent as their own strength would they have truly entered the Martial Void Realm.

One had to say that even though the advancement formula Kou Chongxue provided wasnt complete, it truly pointed one in the right direction. To an expert like Shang Xia who was in the grand completion stage of the Five Element Realm, it was an extremely precious guide.

Ever since the Azure Ascension World completed its ascension, the Crimson Soul Tablet had been absorbing world origin to restore itself the best it could. At the same time, Shang Xia discovered that it seemed more interested in Dugu Yuanshans void origin.

During the time spent comprehending his Five Element Yin Yang Annihilation Ring and exterminating Dugu Yuanshans soul, a portion of his void origin was absorbed by the Crimson Soul Tablet.

Shang Xia had a faint feeling that during the tablets deduction of the semi-complete advancement formula, it was relying on the void origin it absorbed. With his increased cultivation realm, Shang Xia felt a stronger connection with the Crimson Soul Tablet as it finally resumed absorbing world origin for itself.

It was then that the words on the Crimson Soul Tablet started to change again. Rows upon rows of words shone brightly and on its surface and it finally completed perfecting the semi-complete rank six advancement formula.

Name: Six Direction Heaven Restoration

Prerequisite: Grand Completion Stage of the Five Element Realm

Main Medicine: Heavenly Screen Cloud, Earth Essence Milk, Four Extremity Spirituality (Born From the Same World)

Secondary Medicine: The Spirituality of the Twelve Months and Six Directions of a Continent (Combining the Spirituality of the First Month of Spring and Autumn, the Second Month of Spring and Autumn, the Last Month of Spring and Autumn, the First Month of Summer and Winter, the Second Month of Summer and Winter, the Last Month of Summer and Winter)

Required Assistance: World Origin Sea of a Spirit World

Optional: Starry Fruit

**Remarks: 1. Advancement medicine should be split into 6 portions, taken between the change of day (11pm-1am), (3am-5am), (7am-9am), (11am-1pm), (3pm-5pm), and finally (7pm-9pm)
2. Grants Prosperity of a Continent. Requires the Spirituality of a Continent and the strength of one.**

Success Rate: Above 90%

After looking at the advancement medicine that the Crimson Soul Tablet came up with Shang Xia fell into deep contemplation.

There wasn't a need to mention the Heavenly Screen Cloud and the Earth Essence Milk since he had seen them earlier. However, the Four Extremity Spirituality born in the same world was probably something he had to find after exploring the different parts of the world.

The part about the Four Extremity Spiritual seemed to signify the heavens and earth, along with the 4 general directions, North, South, East, and West. It also seemed to refer to a world itself.

Finally, looking at his Secondary Medicine, spirituality seemed to be obtainable from different seasons and had a clear connection with time itself.

Part of the remarks also told him that he had to split the medicine into 6 parts to be taken at different points in the day. Both Time and Space seemed to be related to his rank six advancement medicine and everything pointed to the fact about how a Martial Void Realm expert would be able to create a void origin after they completed their advancement.

There wasn't much need to mention the requirement of the World Origin Sea of a Spirit World. Instead, Shang Xia became more curious about the optional Starry Fruit.

It seems to know that I possess one?

Chapter 929: Scared Land of Talismans

The Crimson Soul Tablet actually pointed out the fact that he had a Starry Fruit.

Shang Xia couldn't help but feel a little taken aback. It was as though the Crimson Soul Tablet knew he had one in the first place.

"What if I chose not to use it?" Shang Xia wondered to himself. It wasn't as though he didn't think of something like that before. He played around with advancement formulas in the past and watched as the success rate changed.

The moment he took it out, the success rate dropped sharply to 75 percent!

One had to know that when Shang Xia first saw the Starry Tree, he heard from Kou Chongxue that a mature Starry Fruit could increase the success rate of entering the Martial Void Realm by 30 percent! From the Crimson Soul Tablet's evaluation, it seemed as though the Starry Fruit wasn't as effective for him to enter the Six Direction Realm as it was for ordinary cultivators to enter the Martial Void Realm.

Of course, it was also possible that the Crimson Soul Tablet's deduction of his advancement formula was so perfect that the fruit wasn't as useful as legends had it. If a cultivator only had 30 percent chance of entering the Martial Void Realm, the Starry Fruit might allow them to raise that percentage close to 60 percent. However, if one was already 70 percent sure of entering the Martial Void Realm, the Starry Fruit might not be as effective for them.

Whatever it was, it was an undeniable fact that the Starry Fruit was an important treasure one needed to enter the Martial Void Realm.

About the Starry Fruit Shang Xia had... Naturally, it came from the Starry Tree they salvaged from the Star Observatory.

As the tree wasn't fully mature, the fruit he obtained wasn't exactly of the best quality. During the battle back then, Dugu Yuanshan destroyed the Star Observatory and attempted to crush everything in his way. As a high-level spiritual tree, it had a powerful consciousness and in its state of desperation, it decided to pour everything into its fruit to hasten its growth so that a new Starry Tree could be produced in the event it was actually destroyed.

According to some random records Kou Chongxue placed in the Tongyou Institution, after the Starry Tree reached the sixth rank, it would be able to bear 3 Starry Fruits each time.

Unfortunately, the situation was too dire back then and the tree only managed to produce a single fruit during the battle.

Along with the destruction of the Star Observatory, only the main body of the tree that was protected with countless layers of restrictions, and the Starry Fruit survived. Most of its roots and branches were turned to nothingness by the shockwaves of the battle. It was extremely fortunate that Kou Chongxue managed to shave away most of Dugu Yuanshan's strength before it struck the Star Observatory. Otherwise, the tree would have been completely destroyed.

Transplanting the Starry Tree into the Stellar Cauldron, the world origin of the new Spirit Luxuriant World continued to nurture the tree and allowed it to continue living. New branches finally started to form and a new Starry Tree started to grow. Unfortunately, it regressed back to a rank three

spiritual tree from its initial stage. Even with the horrifying amount of world origin in the Stellar Cauldron, it barely restored itself to a rank four spiritual tree.

No one knows how long it would take before it became a rank five spiritual tree again, and as for the sixth rank... God knew how long it would take.

Whatever it was, Shang Xia had a mature rank six Starry Fruit in hand.

With the complete deduction of the Six Direction Heaven Restoration, Shang Xia heaved a sigh of relief before inspecting the Crimson Soul Tablet once again.

With Kou Chongxue's jade slip that contained the semi-complete rank six advancement formula, the Crimson Soul Tablet wasn't worn out as much as if it were to come up with something from scratch. Even so, there were many new cracks on its surface.

More importantly, it used up all the void origin it sucked up from Dugu Yuanshan when Shang Xia was exterminating the old expert's soul.

In the future, restoring the tablet would only prove to be more difficult. That was because Shang Xia could feel that even though the Crimson Soul Tablet was absorbing world origin after the Spirit Luxuriant World formed, it wasn't absorbing as it was.

The world origin produced by the Spirit Luxuriant World seemed like something the Crimson Soul Tablet was absorbing because it had no choice.

The only time Shang Xia noticed the Crimson Soul Tablet reacting a little stronger was when it absorbed Dugu Yuanshan's void origin.

After sensing that, Shang Xia's resolve to head over to the Land of Star Origin strengthened. He wanted to interact with other worlds in the vast sea of stars to observe other martial inheritances out there and to see if he could find a way to fully restore the Crimson Soul Tablet. At the same time, he hoped that he would be able to dig out its secrets.

With the advancement formula complete, Shang Xia remained in his secret chamber for 2 more days before emerging to deal with matters in the Talisman Hall.

Lou Zizhang, who was in charge of matters regarding the Talisman Hall, immediately informed the other rank four Talisman Grandmasters and the other deacons. They quickly arrived to give Shang Xia a report on everything that happened in the past few years.

When the deacons finally left, the rank four Talisman Grandmasters started to ask Shang Xia for pointers regarding the dao of Talismans. He didn't brush them off as he replied every one of their questions to the best of his abilities. Even if he didn't know how to solve them immediately, he was able to give several good suggestions.

After some discussion, half a day passed. Eventually, the rank four Talisman Grandmasters got up and bid their farewells. Not too long after they left, Ren Huan, the best talisman paper craftsman of the Talisman Hall arrived to meet Shang Xia.

Shang Xia seemed to already know that he would come and a pot of superior tea was steeping as he awaited the fatty.

“Hehe! I managed to make rank five talisman paper! Now, I can truly consider myself an important figure in the Talisman Hall!” Ren Huan roared with laughter the moment he met Shang Xia. The look of satisfaction on his face couldn’t be hidden.

Waving his sleeve, 22 exquisitely carved cases appeared on the table between them. “There’s a rank five talisman paper in every case!” Ren Huan exclaimed and pushed them closer to Shang Xia. “For high-grade talisman paper like these, even if you haven’t made them into talismans, you should store them properly in spirit sealing cases. You can have them all. When you turn these talisman papers into rank five talismans, you can keep them back in the same case!”

“22 sheets of rank five talisman paper?!” Shang Xia stared at the cases on the table and gasped. “How do you have many of them?!”

Ren Huan chuckled with glee and waved his hands casually. “These aren’t even all of them! Among these, 9 of them came from the Azure Flame World. During the invasion of the Spirit Abundance World, we managed to get 6 more from the remains of those who died. In the past few years, I made 7 more... However, we managed to find a lot more treasures used to make rank five talisman paper from the experts who were slain. If all of the resources were given to me, I should be able to make 20 more attempts to craft rank five talisman paper. With my success rate, I should be able to craft 10 to 12 sheets of rank five talisman paper... Of course, it will take some time. I will probably need 2 to 3 years in order to produce them...”

Shang Xia chuckled in response, “That’s good enough. Compared to the time when I couldn’t even gather more than a few pieces of rank five talisman paper... The situation is much better now.”

Ren Huan thought back to the time and felt a sense of nostalgia washing over him. “That’s true... Now that we have so many more high-level resources, it will be a lot easier to craft what we need... Moreover, gathering resources is only going to get easier in the future...”

“Oh? What do you mean?” Shang Xia asked.

Glancing at Shang Xia from the corner of his eye, Ren Huan muttered, “Well... We are a Spirit World now...”

Slapping his forehead, Shang Xia chuckled in amusement, “Oh! Haha!”

“Alright, putting aside matters regarding rank five talisman paper, we managed to craft a bunch of rank four and rank three talisman paper. Even though a portion was used by the Talisman Masters and Talisman Grandmasters of the Talisman Hall, we still have some leftovers. We have a lot more resources prepared to craft more, and we can definitely satisfy the needs of the Talisman Hall. It’s just...” Ren Huan continued.

Seeing the look of hesitation on Ren Huan’s face, Shang Xia sniggered, “What?”

Staring at Shang Xia, Ren Huan remained silent for some time before mumbling helplessly, “It’s just that... If the Talisman Hall continues to expand, we’re going to run out of resources no matter how much we have! We look like we have a lot of extra right now, but if we disregard what we obtained because of the world ascension, most of it came from the loot brought back from the Azure Flame World and the battle against experts from the Spirit Abundance World. The moment we use

up this batch of resources, we can only gather more from our world. I'm afraid when that happens, we won't be able to keep up with our needs!"

Shang Xia raised an eyebrow in response. "Do we have so many Talisman Masters right now? I believe our standards of recruitment are pretty high and there aren't many people who possess the talent or qualifications to join us..."

"Oh? What if everyone came over to test their talent and attempt to join us?" Ren Huan sighed.

Shang Xia didn't need to ask him what he meant by that. Ren Huan immediately added, "Our Talisman Hall possesses an extremely high status in the Tongyou Institution because of you, and we receive an astronomical amount of resources from the institution each year. We aren't just exhausting resources either. We generate a lot of income by producing talismans. As such, Talisman Masters in the Tongyou Institution received great treatment. You also provided many complete inheritances for high-level Talisman Masters to reference. Right now, our Talisman Hall isn't just well-regarded in the institution. Even in the You Continent... No, even in our Spirit Luxuriant World, we can be considered the number one sacred land of the dao of Talismans!"

Shang Xia's eyes widened in disbelief. "Aren't you exaggerating a little?!"

Ren Huan growled in a low voice after seeing the doubt in Shang Xia's eyes. "How many rank five Talisman Grandmasters do you think are in our Spirit Luxuriant World?! How many Talisman Grandmasters do you think exist in those great powers out there?!"

Chapter 930: Planning for a Talisman Exchange

The Talisman Hall of the Tongyou Institution had the legendary rank five Talisman Grandmaster, Shang Xia, leading them. There were 4 rank four Talisman Grandmasters under him, and more than a dozen rank three Talisman Masters. There wasn't even a need to count rank two Talisman Masters and Talisman Disciples as there were a bunch of them!

If they added everyone up in the Talisman Hall, they might number slightly more than a hundred, but that wasn't a small number of talisman crafters at all! In the Spirit Luxuriant World, they could be considered the number one power of talisman crafting!

Adding talisman paper craftsmen, talisman ink craftsmen, and other auxiliary roles, the Talisman Hall was a massive entity even in the Tongyou Institution! They were the largest hall under the Warehouse Division, and they possessed terrifying authority!

That was even when Shang Xia barely showed his face in the Talisman Hall. he didn't interfere with their daily affairs and his reputation wasn't exactly known among the low-level students of the institution. If Shang Xia were to use his cultivation and position to take control of power in the institution, even the Deputy Patriarchs would have to avoid clashing head-on with him in terms of decision-making...

Whatever it was, his prestige in the institution was high enough and it was still climbing. His authority was increasing proportionally and at the same time, his philosophy of cultivation had been spreading to create their own faction. It was pretty well received and it could even be said to have received widespread recognition.

After speaking to Ren Huan, Shang Xia went to look for Yun Jing and Ji Wenong who returned from beyond the heavenly screen not too long ago. He decided to speak about one of his ideas to them in detail.

“Are you planning to hold a talisman exchange in the Tongyou City for anyone who wishes to attend?! Are you even going to allow cultivators from other continents to take part in it?” Yun Jing expressed her shock. She didn’t seem able to follow his train of thought.

Ji Wenlong, who stood at the side, rejected the idea without even thinking about it. “No, absolutely not! You’re the Talisman Hall Master of our Tongyou Institution and our rank five Talisman Grandmaster! Your dao of talismans is at the peak of our Spirit Luxuriant World and we can’t impart your knowledge to others so easily! Aren’t you just helping them for free?”

Shang Xia wasn’t surprised by their reaction. After all, every faction would keep their inheritance and knowledge as private as possible. There wasn’t a need to mention trading them with others. Even speaking about it to others would most likely raise many alarm bells. It wasn’t even rare for others to become hostile the moment one mentioned learning their inheritances.

Taking a step back, even if Shang Xia successfully held the lecture in the Tongyou City and attracted many Talisman Masters over, there would be a bunch of people who would be there to leech off Shang Xia. There wouldn’t be much exchange of knowledge!

“We definitely have to set a minimum requirement before holding the exchange. We can’t let anyone sit by and listen to the lecture. At the same time, every lecture has to be split into different levels. Specialized lectures should be given for low-level Talisman Masters and high-level Talisman Masters respectively. We can even promote the exchange of knowledge among Talisman Grandmasters... More importantly, I wish to use this exchange to speak about some matters. I want to attract more resources regarding talisman crafting into our You Continent and the Tongyou City. I not only want our institution to become the sacred land of talismans for the Spirit Luxuriant World, but I also wish for all the resources to be gathered here!”

Yun Jing sucked in a deep breath after hearing what he said. “The other super powers might not be happy to watch your plan succeed. Even if they don’t personally disrupt the exchange, they might refuse to show up. Without the inheritances they possess and their Talisman Masters, your talisman exchange will become a joke in the Spirit Luxuriant World. Are you planning to hold it with just the members of our institution?”

Shang Xia broke out into laughter suddenly. “Deputy Patriarch Yun, you’re only looking at the Talisman Masters of the great powers... Our Spirit Luxuriant World has more Talisman Masters than those gathered in the various powers... They have their own inheritances too!”

Falling deep into thought again, Yun Jing continued, “Are you talking about those wandering cultivators who might be Talisman Masters?”

“What a joke... They might not even possess complete inheritances! If the other powers refuse to show their support and you only attract wandering cultivators, it will turn into an even bigger joke!” Ji Wenlong frowned at the side.

His attitude towards wandering cultivators was clear. He didn't like them at all. Since the establishment and development of the Tongyou Institution, they have been harassed by wandering cultivators countless times... Back then, those assholes even interfered with the Tongyou Institution's plan to grow stronger. They even joined the White Deer Paradise in the offensive and Ji Wenlong had to hold them all off.

After thinking for some time, Shang Xia continued, “We can obtain huge amounts of resources from those wandering cultivators...”

Seeing as Ji Wenlong wanted to interrupt him, Shang Xia quickly added, “Even though wandering cultivators might not be too rich, there are a lot of them. They're in every part of our world and if we manage to create a platform where we can obtain a bunch of resources from them during regular intervals, it won't be too difficult to supply ourselves. We can save a lot of energy scouring the lands for resources. All we need to do is to trade away some talismans and give away some less important techniques of talisman crafting...”

Yun Jing and Ji Wenlong stared at each other and they could tell how determined Shang Xia was to hold the talisman exchange. Eventually, Yun Jing replied, “You can give it a shot. I will inform the heads of the various divisions and the deacons to cooperate with the Talisman Hall. You can also use our name to invite the Changbai Sect, the Five Mountains Alliance, the Heavenly Sea Pavilion, Weiwu Institution, Jianmen Institution, and other powers friendly with us. That way, you won't have to run the entire show solo...”

“Right! You really thought of everything!” Shang Xia couldn't help but praise.

Ji Wenlong didn't forget to remind him with a low growl at the side, “Don't celebrate too early. The moment you hold this exchange successfully, there will be tons of people in the city. There will be a mix of all types of people and things might turn a little chaotic. We need to be prepared for anything that might happen. If everything goes smoothly, you will be able to host a second, third, and many exchanges in the future. However... If anything goes wrong and the results aren't as expected...”

Shang Xia responded quickly. “Of course. Disciple understands!”

After bidding farewell to them, Shang Xia returned to the Talisman Hall to inform the various Talisman Grandmasters and Talisman Masters about the exchange. He told them to prepare for it and to decide on a date.

Shang Xia didn't need to personally take care of matters like that. However, he definitely had to be the one inviting the Talisman Masters of the other factions.

After sending out the invitations, Shang Xia watched the Talisman Hall which was bustling with activity because of the idea, and couldn't help but smile. Since he had nothing left to do, he decided to take the chance to craft a batch of high-level talismans before the exchange.