## The Heavens 951

Chapter 951: Five Element Ring and the World Pearl Pt.2

The True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World weren't using a battle formation like their opponents. Instead, the new divine weapon that appeared had a miraculous ability to gather the strength of their experts. It also transformed into a streak of five colored light that shattered the beam of light flying at Kou Chongxue's Hidden Frost Sword.

As it destroyed the beam of orange light, the five colored light scattered.

Only then did the True Immortals of the other world realize that there was a ring that was flashing with five different colors hovering beside the experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World.

Indeed... It was another divine weapon! Moreover, that wasn't all. It didn't matter if it was Meng Yuanxiu or the other experts he was working with, or the people who plotted behind the scenes. All of them didn't expect their meticulous plan to fall through, and they found it hard to accept.

With their combined assault broken, Meng Yuanxiu and the rest didn't know what they should do next!

Their chaotic state of mind didn't stop the experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World from counterattacking!

With everything that happened, the experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World weren't stupid. If they couldn't tell that someone was plotting against them, the Spirit Luxuriant World might as well self-destruct. Kou Chongxue suffered greatly from the exchange before and even his divine weapon suffered grave injuries.

Because of everything that happened, the Spirit Luxuriant World even had to reveal their trump card to their enemies!

That was right. The Five Element Ring could not only adjust the inner qi of the experts in their battle formation. It could also gather their energy to unleash a joint attack!

Of course, it would only be able to perform its second function in the hands of an expert in the Martial Void Realm.

Even if Shang Xia personally made a move, he might not be able to properly adjust the Void Origins of the Martial Void Realm True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World!

By the time the five colored light scattered, Zhang Xuansheng's Jade Tortoise was the first to launch a counterattack. A formless soundwave was sent into the enemy's ranks.

Liu Jingsheng relinquished some control over the giant wave that he was using as it started to smash into the enemy without restraint.

Li Jidao's short blade seemed to be dancing about randomly, but it summoned a flurry of slashes that was directed at every expert on the other side. There was no order in the attacks as it lashed out in a frenzy.

Yang Taihe's palm no longer tapped in the void to send out concentrated means. Instead, he closed all four fingers into his palm before flicking them out in unison. 4 beams of energy shot at the

snake, the Jade Hairpin, the Rounded Jug, and the orange flame. The only thing he didn't attack was the World Pearl!

The True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World launched their counterattack, but to the untrained eye, they seemed too chaotic and seemed to be all over the place. All of their opponents were under attack at once, but with their energy so spread out, it was hard to threaten anyone.

After being thrown into a fluster for a moment, Shen Bihuan finally reacted. "No! They're just trying to confuse us! True Immortal Meng... That's right! True Immortal Meng is their real target!"

Her warning immediately caused everyone else to raise their guard. However, a crisp crack was heard the next moment and the sound of a shell shattering rang through the skies.

Shen Bihuan and the others felt their hearts sinking. They might not be able to see what was going on due to all the chaos, but the spatial tunnel that connected to the Azure Oddity World trembled violently. True Immortal Meng's heart-wrenching cry rang through the skies, "You... You guys are really vicious..."

By the time the words rang in their minds, the spatial tunnel that was connected to the Azure Oddity World was sealed off completely. His World Pearl also disappeared from the battlefield.

Only then did Shen Bihuan and the others react. By the time they looked over, they saw the damaged Hidden Frost Sword rapidly retreating to the safety of the True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World.

Silence fell upon the Star Relay. Shen Bihuan and the others might have been busy blocking off the flurry of attacks earlier, but the True Immortals gathered around the Star Relay saw what happened clearly. As Meng Yuanxiu's World Pearl lost the protection of the other experts, Kou Chongxue's Hidden Frost Sword smashed directly into it!

The Hidden Frost Sword, the Five Element Ring, and the World Pearl were divine weapons. They should be ranked the same, but if they were speaking about the materials that made them up, the Five Element Ring paled in comparison to the Hidden Frost Sword. However, the World Pearl was even more fragile!

"Ah... Fellow experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World, you just are truly amazing. I admire your strength!" Shen Bihuan spoke suddenly before turning to Zhuge Xiang before anyone else could react. "Commander Zhuge, it seems like the experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World won!"

Zhuge Xiang turned to stare at her with a profound gaze and eventually muttered, "Hm. The best outcome would be to know your limits and stop when needed. True Immortal Shen, since you have conceded, what do the fellow experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World think?"

This time, the person who spoke on behalf of the Spirit Luxuriant World wasn't Zhang Xuansheng. Instead, Kou Chongxue muttered, "Since that's the case, many thanks to fellow cultivators for giving us the win!"

The experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World allowed the others to see their true power and acknowledge their position. As such, they would be able to gain a stable foothold in the sea of stars in the future.

What came next was congratulations from other True Immortals and a short dao lecture by Zhuge Xiang. However, what was supposed to be a grand occasion that happened once every hundreds of years had been spoiled by whatever happened and the True Immortals of the various worlds didn't seem too interested in everything that happened next. They quickly bid their farewells to Zhuge Xiang before returning to their worlds. The True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World were no exception.

In the skies above the Star Relay, Liu Jiuzhen couldn't help but turn to Zhuge Xiang. He hesitated for a moment before muttering in low spirits, "Commander... Brother Zhuge, about True Immortal Meng..."

Zhuge Xiang sighed softly. "I thought that the exchange only happened because of the Spirit Abundance World's dissatisfaction with the Spirit Luxuriant World for repelling them twice. I thought it would end after they made the True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World look bad, but I never thought that there would be such a massive scheme behind it! The person they were plotting against might have been True Immortal Kou, but it might also very well have been Meng Yuanxiu! The Azure Oddity World… They're in trouble now…"

Zhuge Xiang turned to stare at Liu Jiuzhen the next moment. "We can't do anything to help True Immortal Meng. Our Star Origin City is only able to solidify our position in the sea of stars because of our neutrality. We're only here to maintain communication between the various worlds. As such, we don't have to do anything, and there's nothing we can do…"

...

Outside the Star Relay, Shang Xia supported Captain Feng as they hobbled out.

Star Origin Guards had been waiting outside for some time now, and the moment they emerged, the guards quickly ran up to help. Huang Jinghan and the others also rushed over.

"What happened in there?" With no time to waste praising how long Shang Xia managed to last in there, Huang Jinghan quickly asked about the outcome of the exchange.

Shang Xia saw many people gathered around as they awaited news of the exchange. A lot of them turned their attention to him but he didn't plan to keep the news hidden. He started to speak in a loud voice, "We suffered a little, but we managed to eke out a win in the end. With this, our Spirit Luxuriant World should be able to gain a firm footing in the Star Origin City. However, the details of the battle are extremely messy and this is no place for us to speak about it..."

Huang Jinghan and the others were also elites of the Spirit Luxuriant World and they were able to hear the hidden meaning in his words. They started to leave to look for a more private area to talk.

However, before they could leave, Captain Feng of the Star Origin Guards seemed to have regained a portion of her strength as she stepped over to ask, "Young Master, I am Feng Ziyuan, the captain of the third squad of the second camp. How should I address you?"

Shang Xia cupped his fists respectfully and replied, "I am Shang Xia of the Tongyou Institution in the Spirit Luxuriant World."

Feng Ziyuan nodded slightly and muttered, "Many thanks for Young Master's help in the Star Relay earlier!"

"It's nothing much. Captain Feng, there's no need to be so polite." Shang Xia responded in a firm voice.

Captain Feng didn't stop there as she quickly added, "If there's a chance in the future, Young Master Shang can come over to our camp. I'll bring you around. If you run into any trouble in the city, you can look for me."

A smile quickly appeared on Shang Xia's face. "Since Captain Feng is so generous, I won't stand on ceremony!"

"Alright, farewell for now." Captain Feng swept her gaze over Huang Jinghan and the others the next moment and muttered, "Are these your fellow cultivators from the Spirit Luxuriant World? Since the spatial tunnel between your world has been connected, you guys should quickly head back after the True Immortals in the Star Relay finish speaking."

Turning to give Shang Xia a slight nod, she turned around to return to her squad before they left.

Speaking of the Star Origin Guards, the other 4 were much more familiar with them than Shang Xia. However, that was only relative to the experts in the Spirit Luxuriant World! None of them would be more familiar with the Star Origin Guards than Luo Qi, Shang Xia's guide!

Because of his cultivation, Luo Qi had retreated from the Star Relay a long time ago!

Of course, he didn't just leave. He waited patiently for Shang Xia to come out. He never expected Shang Xia to last all the way to the end before supporting Feng Ziyuan out of the Star Relay.

Luo Qi clearly understood what had happened. His determination to stick close to Shang Xia became even more firm.

As they made their way back Shang Xia didn't seem too focused. Instead, a deep frown could be seen on his face as he glanced at his surroundings.

Shang Xia's abnormal actions quickly attracted the attention of the other 4.

Yifeng was always one to speak before thinking properly and he simply asked, "Brat, what are you looking for?"

"It seems like someone has their eyes on us. Actually... There seems to be more than a single party taking interest in us!" Shang Xia replied.

Yifeng almost roared with laughter. "What's so weird about that? Our Spirit Luxuriant World is the fifth Spirit World to establish a spatial tunnel to the Star Origin City in the past hundreds of years! We're also a newly ascended Spirit World! Our identities had long since been revealed to the powers situated in the city when we applied for the establishment of the spatial tunnel! After the commotion in the Star Relay, they would obviously pay more attention to us!"

Shang Xia nodded slowly. He understood that there was no need to hide the fact that they had connected their world to the Star Origin City, and there was no need to hide anything like that. It was no surprise they would attract attention from the various sources.

Yifeng wouldn't let Shang Xia off so easily now that he started. With a shit-eating grin that was filled with the intention to gossip, he giggled, "Hehehehehe, little one, what the hell did you do with Captain Feng in the Star Relay? Both of you managed to stay all the way to the end and there was no one to keep an eye on you two... How did the both of you get so close suddenly?"

Chapter 952: Captain Feng Ziyuan

"Hehehehehe, little one, what the hell did you do with Captain Feng in the Star Relay? Both of you managed to stay all the way to the end and there was no one to keep an eye on you two... How did the both of you get so close suddenly?" Yifeng asked with a shit-eating grin on his face.

Waving his hands casually, Shang Xia mumbled, "You saw everything that happened. Captain Feng was unable to withstand the shockwaves of the battle and the pressure brought on by the divine souls of the Martial Void Realm True Immortals. In the end, we had to support each other to get out of the Star Relay successfully."

"Is that it?" Yifeng stared intently at Shang Xia as though wanting to see through his lies.

Shang Xia was too lazy to bicker with the crazy asshole who could come up with some random nonsense theory even if there wasn't one. He knew that the more he denied any accusations, the more excited Yifeng would get and the more intensely he would be grilled. If he ignored the fellow, he would eventually bubble out of excitement and no longer harp on the topic.

About Captain Feng's attitude, Shang Xia had his guesses. The main reason behind her improved attitude was probably because the Spirit Luxuriant World won. The collective strength of the Spirit Luxuriant World was recognized by the other worlds, winning them a lot of support. Of course, the main reason was most likely because Shang Xia showed that he was able to withstand the pressure of the divine souls and the shockwaves of the battle between 10 Martial Void Realm True Immortals!

In the eyes of Captain Feng, Shang Xia was most likely someone who would definitely become a True Immortal in the future!

The position of the Star Origin Guards was special, and they didn't need to try kissing up to anyone specifically. However, that didn't mean that it would be useless to get to know someone who would definitely become a True Immortal in the future.

Shang Xia's gaze eventually drifted to Luo Qi who was leading the way at the very front. "Brother Luo, you were once part of the Star Origin Guards. How much do you understand about Captain Feng Ziyuan?"

Luo Qi was an ordinary Star Origin Guard in the past, and due to his botched ascension, he had no choice but to leave the service. Shang Xia was just asking casually and he didn't actually expect Luo Qi to know too much.

However, reality was amazing at throwing curveballs as Luo Qi replied casually without even turning his head. "There's no one who doesn't know about Captain Feng in the Star Origin Guards!"

"Huh?" A trace of interest flashed in Shang Xia's eyes. "Brother Luo, why don't you tell us more? Oh... Just tell us what you can. There's no need to mention secrets of the Star Origin Guards."

Huang Jinghan and the rest stared at each other with strange looks. They arrived in the Star Origin City much earlier than Shang Xia, and their understanding of the city should be much greater than the youngster! They knew that the Star Origin Guards were the ones who kept the city in check. They possessed horrifying power!

Even the most ordinary captain of the Star Origin Guards would be an exalted existence! With the exception of True Immortals, they wouldn't bother about anyone else.

The Eternal Palace, Divine Captial Sect, and the Northern Sea Mystic Sect had established themselves some time ago, and they managed to plant some of their foundations in the Star Origin City. Even so, the Star Origin Guards was an existence too far out of their reach!

Now...

What the fuck are we looking at?! Isn't this the kid's first day in the Star Origin City?! Not only did he manage to form a good relationship with one of the captains of the Star Origin Guards, but even the person acting as his guide was a Martial Dipper Realm expert who had retired from the Star Origin Guards!

What the fuck kind of luck is this?!

Luo Qi naturally didn't know what the others were thinking, and he started to think of a reply after hearing Shang Xia's question. A moment later, he muttered, "The Star Origin Guards are made up of 7 camps, with 7 squads in each camp to make a total of 49 squads. Other than the Camp Commander's squad which would possess an average cultivation level of the Martial Dipper Realm, the Second Squad of the First Camp, and the Second Squad of the Second Camp are both led by Martial Void Realm True Immortals. The weakest member in their squads possesses a cultivation level in the Martial Dipper Realm. Captain Feng leads the Third Squad of the Second Camp and her squad is the only other squad with only Martial Dipper Realm experts."

Jiu Du gasped once and continued, "In other words... Captain Feng is either exceptionally talented or has an extraordinary background. Otherwise, she wouldn't be able to lead a powerful squad like that..."

Luo Qi thought for a moment before he mumbled, "If that's the direction we're thinking... She probably has both!"

Before anyone else could ask, Luo Qi started to elaborate. "Captain Feng's origin has always been a mystery. It's said that other than the few True Immortals in the Star Origin Guards, no one knows where she came from. Moreover, her cultivation realm is really high. She's at the grand completion stage of the Martial Dipper realm at the moment and she has terrifying combat strength. It's said that no one under the Martial Void Realm is her opponent. At the very least, none of the Martial Dipper Realm experts in the Star Origin Guards can defeat her. Everyone feels that Captain Feng is the most likely candidate in the Star Origin Guards to break through to the Martial Void Realm in the future."

"That's not all. Captain Feng is really good to her subordinates. She would go all out when helping them. There were several times when she risked her life in order to save them. She would give resources and rewards from the Star Origin Guards to her subordinates if it would help with their cultivation. Moreover, she has an extremely vast network. She gathered a lot of precious resources through her channels to help her subordinates raise their cultivation level and combat strength. Through the years, the members of her squad have been improving at a terrifying rate. Their ranking in the Second Camp quickly solidified itself in third place, behind the squads of the Camp Commander and their Martial Void Realm Captain. All 7 members of her squad were also able to enter the Martial Dipper Realm..." Luo Qi paused for a second as a trace of envy flashed in his eyes before he continued, "In recent years, there have been other Camp Commanders and Captains who felt that Captain Feng's squad's strength was too exaggerated and wanted to make some adjustments. They wanted to split up her squad to take up positions in other weaker squads, but none of them were willing to leave. They seem to be unwilling to take anyone other than Captain Feng as their leader. No matter how much the other Camp commanders, Captains, or Deputy Captains tried to tempt them to leave by raising the amount of resources they could obtain, none of them were willing to go. In the end, they could only leave it at that."

A trace of mockery flashed in Yifeng's eyes after he heard Luo Qi's introduction. "Heh... If I was in their place, I wouldn't leave her either! Such an amazing daddy figure..."

The moment the words left his lips, Luo Qi turned to glare at him. However, he seemed to recall the difference in strength and he hastily turned back to stare at the road ahead. Whatever it was, everyone could tell that Luo Qi was extremely displeased with the way Yifeng had spoken.'

Shang Xia coughed once and mumbled, "Senior Yifeng, you can't say that! At the very least, Captain Feng risked her life for her subordinates before. She even distributed her resources and rewards with them... Clearly, she is well respected by them..."

"Hehe..." Yifeng chuckled, "Of course she can do that! With her extraordinary background, she definitely has a bunch of protective treasures. She went to save them because she knew it wouldn't pose a threat to her life. As for the resources and rewards... She probably doesn't care for them!"

Shang Xia was too lazy to reply to the best shit-stirrer in the Spirit Luxuriant World. Seeing how Luo Qi was getting more and more frustrated by what Yifeng was saying, Shang Xia decided to change the topic. "Brother Luo, you wish to return to the Star Origin Guards... Have you thought of getting Captain Feng to help you?"

"It's not like I haven't thought of it. However, there's no point... Back when I messed up my ascension, my captain reported it to the superiors. The True Immortal of the First Camp came to look at my condition, and even he had no way to deal with it..." Luo Qi sighed.

Shang Xia nodded slightly, but he continued to question in a strange voice, "If even a Martial Void Realm expert couldn't find a way to help you, why would you..."

"Young Master, are you going to ask me why I'm not giving up and am so sure a Martial Void Realm expert will be able to help fix my problem?" Luo Qi interrupted Shang Xia before he could finish.

Nodding again, Shang Xia sighed, "Apologies. I'm not doubting you, I was merely curious."

Luo Qi didn't seem too affected by the question and he continued his explanation, "The True Immortal of the First Camp once told me that it's almost impossible for me to restore my fate dipper to its original state. The only way would be to find an expert in the Martial Void Realm who refined fate dippers in the Martial Void Realm related to the chaotic dipper qi in my body to personally make a move to get rid of the chaotic qi in my body. With those chaotic qi gone, I would be able to regain my original combat strength and I might even be able to improve in the future!"

A bitter smile appeared on his face after speaking up to that point. "There are 3 different types of dipper qi in my body, wreaking havoc. With my current identity, it's impossible to get a True Immortal to even take a second look at me, much less ask them to help get rid of the chaotic qi... Moreover, it's hard to find an expert who refined the same types of fate dippers. Even if it's possible to find the right person, why would a True Immortal waste their time and effort to help me?"

Yifeng's mocking sneer came from the side, "Brat, since you already know, why..."

"Ahem!" Shang Xia coughed once, interrupting Yifeng from speaking further.

The forced smile on Luo Qi's face remained, but there was no hiding the disappointment in his eyes.

Shang Xia could guess why Luo Qi had been going out to the wilderness to act as a guide for newcomers. He was reluctant to accept the fact that his cultivation path had been severed, and he was doing it in hopes of meeting someone who could help him. Even if it was a trace of hope, it was enough to give him a chance to live on.

Staring at the despondent figure in front of them, a profound light flashed in Shang Xia's eyes and a trace of five colored light flickered within.

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With Luo Qi leading the way, the 5 of them finally managed to walk out of the limelight in the city. They eventually arrived at a place called the Starry Inn.

"This place is managed by the Star Origin Guards, and no one would mess around here. Fellow cultivators, you can feel free to stay here for the time being and wait for the Star Relay to open again so you can return." Luo Qi introduced.

After learning about the background of the inn, Shang XIa instructed Luo Qi to go have some tea in the main hall to wait for them. He brought Yifeng, Huang Jinghan, Lu Wuzi, and Jiu Du to one of the isolated rooms above to speak.

"Brat, hurry and speak! What happened in the Star Relay after we left?!" Yifeng couldn't hold himself back any longer. Seeing as they were finally alone, he pressed for an answer.

Chapter 953: Meeting Huang Yu Again

Shang Xia gestured for him to calm down before recounting everything that happened during the exchange.

"We might be newcomers to the Star Origin City, but the True Immortals of the other worlds shouldn't have used such a sinister method to make an excuse to interact with us! That wasn't an exchange! It was revenge!" Huang Jinghan growled and his expression turned solemn.

A frown also formed on Lu Wuzi's face. "Young Master Shang, are you certain that the Jade Tortoise's shell was broken?"

"It didn't shatter, but there's definitely a deep crack on it. Actually, there should be a lot more tiny cracks on the shell..." Shang Xia replied.

Lu Wuzi nodded slowly, but the frown on his face became deeper.

Yifeng slapped the table they were sitting around and roared, "Fuck! As it turns out, Kou Chongxue's Hidden Frost Sword is his weakness!"

Jiu Du stared coldly at him and growled, "Shut up. Isn't your weakness your sword too?"

"This granddaddy here..." Yifeng wanted to retort, but after thinking about it, he didn't know what he should say.

"What's the matter? Did you suddenly realize that your reliance on your sword is actually stronger than the connection between Kou Chongxue and his Hidden Frost Sword?" Jiu Du sneered coldly.

Even though he was a peak-tier expert at the grand completion stage of the Martial Dipper Realm, he couldn't be more embarrassed by Jiu Du's mockery. His face alternated between annoyance and anger.

Huang Jinghan eventually sighed and interrupted the 2 of them. "It's not just Patriarch Kou..."

Of the original great swordsmen of the Azure Origin World, with Kou Chongxue who managed to step into the Martial Void Realm, there were only 3 of them left.

No longer able to control himself, Shang Xia coughed once. "Seniors... We seem to have strayed away from our original topic."

Lu Wuzi glanced at him and muttered, "The Spirit Abundance World truly deserves their name as one of the strongest Spirit Worlds. They were able to gather so many seemingly unrelated Martial Void Realm True Immortals to plot against us. Looks like they haven't given up on their ambitions…"

Jiu Du continued, "The Spirit Abundance World is undoubtedly the people behind this. Even though they managed to gather a few True Immortals this time, their actions might not represent the true attitude of the worlds behind them. After all, the Spirit Abundance World might have just bought them out. With enough resources, those individuals wouldn't hold back."

Huang Jinghan agreed. "That's probably the case. Right now, our Spirit Luxuriant World barely entered the sights of the other worlds. We have to control ourselves for now. If we choose to target the worlds behind those True Immortals because of what happened during the exchange, they might turn to the Spirit Abundance World... That's probably something the Spirit Abundance World would like to see..."

Yifeng quickly added, "Our world might have just ascended, but the Spirit Abundance World themselves isn't enough to exterminate us. If they cause us to be ostracized by the rest of the worlds before forming an alliance with them to take over and split up our resources... It's a pretty good plan."

Shang Xia couldn't help but get straight to the point he was driving at. "I'm asking about your views on the Azure Oddity World! Right now, True Immortal Meng Yuanxiu has been seriously injured by Patriarch Kou. Even though I don't know how much power of the world he can draw, there's no doubt about it. Without his protection, other worlds will be circling them like sharks!"

Jiu Du grunted once when he heard how straightforward Shang Xia was being. "Don't you think the Star Origin City will do something? After all, the extermination of a world isn't a small thing!"

Even though the Star Origin City seemed to be controlled by the Star Origin Guards on the surface, not a single world would underestimate them. Even the Spirit Luxuriant World who had just joined them wouldn't dare to look down on such a terrifying existence and mess around with the worlds connected to them.

Shang Xia glanced at Jiu Du before muttering, "I've asked Captain Feng and all the Star Origin City can do is prevent the various worlds from using the spatial tunnel connected to the Azure Oddity World for the time being. They can't possibly help directly, and all they can do is to loosen up some restrictions of trading resources for them to recover as quickly as possible. Of course, that's under the premise that all trades have to be carried out fairly. Whatever it is, the Star Origin City will maintain its neutrality!"

"How long has it been since you met... She already told you so many things about the city..." Yifeng cackled at the side.

As usual, Shang Xia acted as though he didn't hear the man.

Lu Wuzi turned to Shang Xia and asked, "Do you think our Spirit Luxuriant World has the ability to stick our foot in this matter?"

"Why aren't we qualified? After all, if not for the fact that we managed to turn the tides against their sinister scheme, the Azure Oddity World wouldn't be the ones being targeted. We might be the target of the various worlds instead!" Shang Xia snorted.

"However, Patriarch Kou's divine weapon is damaged and his strength will definitely be affected!" Huang Jinghan frowned.

Jiu Du sighed at the side, "Young Master Shang, it's not that we don't wish to butt into matters regarding the Azure Oddity World at the moment. We don't have the capabilities to do so! From the invasions we experienced, we definitely need Martial Void Realm experts if we wish to attack another world. However, the only True Immortal from our side who can leave our world is Patriarch Kou!"

Of the 5 True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World, 4 of them were bound to their Elysium. They couldn't step out of the Spirit Luxuriant World to attack someone else! Only Kou Chongxue, who didn't rely on an Elysium to ascend could enter and leave the world as he wished to venture about in the sea of stars.

However, the Hidden Frost Sword was damaged and Kou Chongxue's abilities definitely suffered a huge hit.

Even though they didn't know how much he was affected, sending him out to fight wasn't the best choice at the moment.

How would they know if attacking the Azure Oddity World wouldn't be a trap laid down by others? If other Spirit Worlds formed an alliance to get rid of Kou Chongxue and the Spirit Luxuriant World while they were at it, it would be too late to regret.

Even so, Shang Xia maintained his stance. "What if there is more than 1 existence from our side with combat strength in the Martial Void Realm?"

Shang Xia turned to look at the rest and a light shone in his eyes. "Seniors, all of you have been in the Martial Dipper Realm for a long time. Aren't you confident of stepping through the barrier to enter the Martial Void Realm? If 1 or 2 of you manage to succeed, no one will dare to stop us from enacting revenge! After all, the Azure Oddity World were the ones who formed the enmity with us!"

The grand completion stage Martial Dipper Realm experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World fell silent for a moment. Eventually, Lu Wuzi broke the silence, "Youngster Shang, do you think it's that easy to enter the Martial Void Realm?! Do you really think that the bottleneck is something we can break just because we feel like it?"

"Junior refuses to believe that your factions don't possess a proper rank six advancement formula. Moreover, countless years have passed and all of you have definitely been gathering rank six spiritual treasures and herbs. All of you are the candidates who have the most hope of breaking through. Don't tell me your factions wouldn't go all out to help you succeed. Since that's the case, why don't we join our forces and work together to make it happen?"

"Work together?" Huang Jinghan frowned. "How do we do that?"

A serious look appeared on Shang Xia's face as he explained, "All of us shouldn't hold back and should share all the rank six advancement formulas we own or have come up with. We'll pool our resources and knowledge and make a proper and complete rank six advancement formula and create a path to enter the Martial Void Realm!"

"HAH?" Yifeng sneered, "What a fucking genius! Is your Tongyou Institution going to be able to take out anything for us? Or are you saying that you can make the decision on behalf of Kou Chongxue?"

Yifeng's words barely left his lips when Shang Xia muttered resolutely, "I can most definitely make the decision on Patriarch Kou's behalf. What do you all say?"

As he spoke, he swept his gaze across the others. However, all of them, including Yifeng, avoided meeting his gaze.

According to the Tongyou Institution's history that only went back 30 to 40 years, there was no way they could compare to the other factions when it came to the research of rank six advancement formulas. However, even though the institution only had Kou Chongxue who seemed to enjoy the amazing treatment of their world, they couldn't deny that he managed to break through to the Martial Void Realm with his own abilities. He also broke through during the world ascension and none of them was sure if he managed to comprehend a thing or two.

As such, they weren't actually doubtful if Kou Chongxue could take out his deductions of a rank six advancement formula when Shang Xia made the suggestion earlier. Instead, they really wanted to know if Shang Xia had the ability to make that decision on the patriarch's behalf.

Now that he has spoken...

Yifeng was unwilling to be outdone by a member of the younger generation and he snorted coldly, "Hehe, are you messing with me? You say that you can make the decision on Kou Chongxue's behalf, and we're supposed to believe you? Little brat, why should we take your word for it?"

Shang Xia stared at him calmly while responding, "That's easy. I can swear an oath."

To that, Yifeng had nothing else to say.

Seeing that the situation was slowly tilting in his favor, Shang Xia continued to persuade them, "I know that all of you here aren't exactly clueless about the rank six advancement formula your factions came up with..."

A soft sigh interrupted him. "This isn't something we can make the decision on."

Yifeng raised his head and wanted to say more, but he decided to remain silent.

Jiu Du was the next to speak. "We need to discuss this matter with the Ancestors of our factions. However..." Jiu Du didn't say more after that, but everyone present knew what he meant.

Even though what Shang Xia was proposing seemed to benefit everyone and their Spirit Luxuriant World, all of them knew it wouldn't be possible for the plan to be implemented.

Knocks came from outside their isolated room suddenly, interrupting their discussion.

Shang Xia retracted the restrictions he placed before asking in a low voice, "What's the matter?"

Luo Qi's voice came from the other side. "Young Master Shang, the seal around the Star Relay is gone!"

Huang Jinghan frowned in response. "That's quick..."

"I'm afraid the True Immortals from the various factions probably can't be bothered to continue discussing the dao after seeing how True Immortal Meng and his World Pearl was heavily damaged." Shang Xia chuckled in a low voice.

After he spoke, he got to his feet. "Since the Star Relay is open again, all of us should return to the Spirit Luxuriant World to receive our new orders. I understand that my suggestion earlier might seem impossible, but I hope you can raise the idea to your ancestors."

The experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World also had no desire to continue staying in the city as they quickly bid their farewells.

When the 4 of them had left, Shang Xia decided to ask Luo Qi other matters. However, he noticed someone walking out from one of the corners of the inn towards the room he was in. He raised his eyebrows slightly. It was none other than Huang Yu, whom he had seen in the Star Relay earlier!

Chapter 954: Starry Avenue

"Were you the one following us the whole time?!" Shang Xia chuckled and let Huang Yu into the room.

"I wasn't the only one. The Star Origin Guards seem to be in control of the city, and no one dares to challenge them on the surface. However, the Star Origin City has more than 500,000 people and their cultivation levels are extremely high. Among them are thousands, if not tens of thousands of experts who came to the city from all sorts of places. There are many different powers here and some of them are backed by other worlds. There might also be some who belong to powerful clans, or others who might be controlled by True Immortals directly." Huang Yu explained.

"The connection of the spatial tunnel between the Star Origin City and the Spirit Luxuriant World would definitely attract a lot of attention. It's not surprising other people have their eyes on you." Huang Yu continued.

After the introduction, Shang Xia didn't wait for Huang Yu to continue asking before describing everything that happened in Star Relay. He didn't forget to mention what he mentioned to Yifeng, Huang Jinghan, and the other experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World.

Hearing his suggestion, Huang Yu roared with laughter, "You're thinking about it too simply! It doesn't matter whether or not they are willing to share their advancement formulas anyway. Everyone is walking down a different path and even if they are willing to take it out, it's going to be extremely chaotic when you piece the different parts of their inheritance together. You most likely won't be able to cross-reference them with each other either."

Shang Xia simply chuckled in response, "At the very least, we'll have a chance to improve on them. It's better than nothing, right? Even if we fail, there's no substantial loss."

Huang Yu laughed and no longer harped on that point. Instead, he changed his line of questioning. "Oh right, you seem to have a pretty good relationship with one of the captains of the Star Origin Guards. I heard about the famous Captain Feng. However, the Star Origin Guards are just too special and I don't have a chance to get close to her."

"What's the matter? Are you captured by her beauty?" Shang Xia hoked.

Due to the many interactions they had with each other, Shang Xia was pretty familiar with Huang Yu's personality. They worked together on multiple missions and ambushes, and Huang Yu definitely contributed a lot to the institution's progress in one way or another. Naturally, Shang Xia learned a lot about him during their time together.

Shang Xia wouldn't go so far as to say that Huang Yu was a womanizer who went for every member of the female species he saw, but he was pretty much closing in on the level. Every single time Shang Xia met him, he would have new escapades of women he formed a connection with. He left behind many seeds as well. Some of which were known to the institution, and some he mentioned in passing. However, Shang Xia was sure there were many out there Huang Yu didn't bother bringing up.

It wasn't as though Captain Feng Ziyuan was a country-toppling beauty, but at the very least, she could be considered high above the masses. She had a heroic air around her which seemed to attract members of the opposite sex.

Huang Yu didn't bother denying it. "Of course I won't give up if there's a chance. However, there's another reason behind my desire to meet her."

Shang Xia turned serious all of a sudden and asked, "What do you plan to do?"

"Actually, I thought of something after seeing how friendly the both of you were behaving. How possible do you think it will be for me to join the Star Origin Guards?" Huang Yu asked.

Completely taken aback, Shang Xia paused for a good moment before shaking his head resolutely. "Impossible."

He started to bring up everything about the Star Origin Guards he learned from Luo Qi. "Every single Star Origin Guard has to originate from the Star Origin City. Moreover, they would receive training from a young age in order to foster their sense of belonging to the Star Origin Guard. Luo Qi, who has been my guide since I stepped onto the Land of Star Origin, has been thinking of ways to return to the Star Origin Guards after his messy ascension process. His loyalty alone isn't something that can be replicated by outsiders."

A strange look appeared on Huang Yu's face. "Not only did you manage to form a relationship with one of the strongest captains in the Star Origin Guards, you even managed to get a retired Star Origin Guard as your guide?"

Shang Xia chuckled in response, "It was a coincidence."

"Hmm... Alright, why don't you find an excuse to introduce me to your guide? I'll see if I get any chances to pull Captain Feng to my side..." Huang Yu spoke after thinking about it for a moment.

"Are you seriously thinking about becoming a Star Origin Guard?" Shang Xia raised an eyebrow in shock.

"We'll see... Even if I fail to enter the Star Origin Guards, I should be able to befriend some of their higher-ups. More precisely, those who will become important figures in the Star Origin Guards in the future. That should be enough. Then again, the Emptiness Drifting Mountain should be willing to see that happen as well... They should be more than happy to give me some assistance..." Huang Yu mumbled.

"Wait." Shang Xia stared at Huang Yu with a suspicious look in his eyes. "How many plans did you come up with?!"

"Hahaha!" Huang Yu roared with laughter before getting to his feet. "Just introduce me to that ex-Star Origin Guard later. You don't have to care about anything else. 3 days later, we'll meet outside the Star Relay and I'll bring you to the Spirit Abundance World."

Seeing how confident he was in himself, Shang Xia understood that Huang Yu probably planned everything out. However, he couldn't help but call out, "Wait a moment!"

Huang Yu turned around and stared at Shang Xia in confusion even though he was halfway to the door.

"If you need my cooperation with anything, feel free to ask. Also, you can tell Luo Qi that the problem in his dantian with the chaotic dipper qi doesn't really need to be cured by a True Immortal. I should be able to do it as well..." Shang Xia added.

Huang Yu's eyes lit up and he laughed happily, "Alright! That makes things much easier then!"

As the 2 of them left the room one after another, they made their way downstairs. Luo Qi, who had finished another pot of tea, quickly rushed over to greet them.

Currently, Luo Qi's heart was pounding. He thought that Shang Xia would require a lot of assistance because it was his first time in the Star Origin City, but he didn't think that Shang Xia would meet with so many people! As soon as he entered the city back then, he met up with the other experts of his world and opened the spatial tunnel. Next, he met someone he was familiar with in the Starry Inn. Luo Qi wondered if Shang Xia truly needed him as a guide.e

However, the person who came to meet Young Master Shang revealed an excited expression while looking at Luo Qi. He rushed up to Luo Qi and asked,, "Fellow cultivator, are you the guide he has been talking to me about? You're the one who knows a lot about the city, right?"

Luo Qi gasped softly and glanced at Shang Xia before responding, "Yes... You can call me Luo Qi and I'm someone who grew up in Star Origin City. Fellow cultivator, you..."

Huang Yu interrupted before he could finish. With the same level of excitement as before he yelled, "Great, that's great! I plan on taking up long-term residence in the city and I'm not familiar with anything here. I need someone with actual power to make things easier for me. Brother Luo, do you think…"

Getting over his initial shock, Luo Qi noticed Shang Xia smiling at him. How could he not understand that he had been recommended to be the newcomer's guide? He revealed an awkward

smile and muttered, "Actually, I do have a way to help you. However, I am currently helping Young Master Shang and don't have too much time..."

Huang Yu didn't let him continue again as the grin on his face grew wider. He continued, "Don't worry about it! I'm going to leave the city for a little while before coming back to take up residence. I will definitely need Brother Luo's help when that happens!"

Luo Qi heaved a sigh of relief as a proper smile returned to his face. "Of course! That's not a problem at all. I don't dare to say that I know everything that has to do with the city, but at least I know all the proper rules and most of the unspoken ones."

A satisfied grin appeared on Huang Yu's face. "You truly deserve your reputation as an expert who was once from the Star Origin Guard. Since you're willing to help me, let's establish a proper way to contact each other. When I return to the city in the future, I'll be able to quickly locate you!"

After they exchanged a way to contact each other, Huang Yu turned to bid Shang Xia farewell.

After he left, Luo Qi cupped his fists towards Shang Xia. "Many thanks for Young Master Shang's introduction! Now, I managed to befriend another expert!"

"Don't worry about it. Everything happened to line up. He told me about his plan to stay here, and I didn't wish to be troubled by him and decided to introduce you. I have to apologize for not getting your consent before doing so!" Shang Xia laughed.

Waving his hands hastily, Luo Qi muttered, "Of course I won't blame you! This is my job anyway! I Right... Young Master Shang, where do you plan to go next? Do you have any other things to do?"

Shang Xia thought for a moment before responding. "Is there a place that sells high-level herbs or spiritual treasures?"

"Of course there is! It's not too far from the Starry Inn. Shall we head over right now?" Luo Qi introduced.

Clapping once, Shang Xia grinned, "Alright! Let me take a look around and widen my horizons!"

As they made their way down the street, they quickly arrived at a bustling row of shops. There were all sorts of pavilions and buildings on both sides, and from the looks of it, they seemed pretty ancient and their names hung on the signboard above. Shang Xia could also faintly feel the presence of many formations or restrictions along each building.

"This is the famous Starry Avenue in the city! Experts from various worlds would gather here to sell their treasures. Not only will you be able to find spiritual ingredients and treasures, you will also be able to find weapons, advancement medicines, and even inheritances! Sometimes, you can even find high-level advancement medicine. They have everything you can think of available!" Luo Qi introduced as they strolled down the street. He pointed out several pavilions along the way as though he was very familiar with them.

After walking down a little more and going into a few shops to look around, Shang Xia seemed to gain a good understanding of the prices and treasures available on Starry Avenue.

Even the random treasures that were on display were treasures of the third rank or above! There were even high-grade artifacts, all sorts of talismans, martial arts inheritances, and even some rank four advancement medicine! Everything could be bought with essence crystals!

Even rank five treasures could be seen from time to time. One could get some ordinary rank five treasures with essence crystals, but more precious ones would only be traded for items of equivalent value.

There were too many treasures on the street and even Shang Xia had to gasp in amazement at the sheer variety.

The Spirit Luxuriant World's equivalent of the Starry Avenue was the Three Unity Island, and essence crystals would only be accepted for treasures of the third rank or lower. Treasures of the fourth rank would require both essence crystals and other treasures. As for treasures of the fifth rank... One would only be able to trade for them with various treasures and there were rarely any deals being done!

The difference between the Spirit Luxuriant World and the Star Origin City was just too obvious!

Chapter 955: Starry Pavilion

There were experts of more than tens of worlds present in Starry Avenue, and there were many wandering cultivators about. All of them gathered there to trade resources, and there were all sorts of stuff available! The quality of the treasures was really high, and there were lots to choose from.

Even after Shang Xia entered many shops to look around, he couldn't help but want to buy some rare treasures that were hard to come by. Even if he couldn't use them, they would be extremely useful if he brought them back to the Tongyou Institution back in the Spirit Luxuriant World.

However, he had another task he needed to complete and he managed to restrain himself from going on a massive shopping spree. When he emerged from one of the pavilions, he noticed Luo Qi's crestfallen expression while walking ahead. A look of contemplation appeared on his face.

"What's the matter? Is something wrong?" Shang Xia asked casually.

After a short moment of contemplation, Luo Qi muttered, "Young Master Shang, the prices of everything seem a little inflated. It's not just several particular items either. Everything is more expensive now!"

Shang Xia was slightly taken aback. However, he quickly asked, "Is that true? Why is this happening?"

"If I'm not mistaken, it might have something to do with your world forming the spatial tunnel to our Star Origin City." Luo Qi muttered while turning back to glance at Shang Xia.

Seemingly deep in thought, Shang Xia wondered, "So... You're saying that the businesses in Starry Avenue and the merchants along the street are planning to rip off experts of my Spirit Luxuriant World?"

Luo Qi nodded in response. "Even though the last time this happened was close to a hundred years ago when another world connected to the Star Origin City, it's not the first I'm hearing of this.

Every time a new world makes a connection, the businesses along Starry Avenue would go crazy and go on a massive spree..."

"Before forming a connection with our city, most of the worlds out there lived in an isolated state. At the very least, they wouldn't have too many cultivation resources. When their high-level experts enter the city, it would be their first time seeing so many treasures of such high quality and level! They would be ready to spend their essence crystals on resources available, and you can only imagine how they will act when they come here for the first time. Without much knowledge of the prices, they might pay twice, or even thrice what those resources are worth. In fact, for rarer resources, they might pay tens of times the original price! After getting ripped off, they might still be celebrating their good fortune..." Luo Qi concluded.

Shang Xia nodded in understanding. Actually, if not for the fact that he had already reached the peak of the Martial Dipper Realm and couldn't care less about ordinary treasures any longer, he might be tempted to start buying treasures. Of course, having a task to complete was also a reason he didn't go on a crazy shopping spree.

From the looks of it, he needed to find a way to send the news back to the Spirit Luxuriant World. It was a shame Huang Jinghan and the rest left too early. He didn't know if they detected the inflated prices.

However, since they had just connected the spatial tunnel, it was highly unlikely they knew.

After thinking about it, Shang Xia's gaze landed on Luo Qi again. Perhaps, he could rely on Luo Qi to convey the news.

As the 2 of them continued to stroll down Starry Avenue, Luo Qi continued to introduce the specialty products of the various businesses despite Shang Xia not buying anything. He managed to gain a pretty good picture of the various merchants and businesses along the street.

Shang Xia asked suddenly, "Brother Luo, the treasures that can be bought here peak off at the fifth rank. However, I believe the Starry Avenue definitely has a place to trade rank six treasures, right?"

Slightly taken aback by the sudden question, Luo Qi burst out laughing the next moment. "Of course! Actually, I've thought about it when bringing you around. After all, you're only a step away from entering the Martial Void Realm. However... Hmm... Actually, most of these businesses probably have rank six treasures in stock. However, they won't take them out easily. They would only be willing to show those treasures to their regular customers. Moreover, the prices would usually be through the roof!"

Nodding again, Shang Xia signaled his understanding. He knew that there would be rank six treasures for sale. After all, from the battle above the Star Relay, he could tell that the main experts backing the various powers in the Star Origin City were Martial Void Realm experts. They would deal in rank six treasures, but even so, the amount was probably extremely pitiful.

"Right... It's not like there aren't any ways to buy them publicly!" Luo Qi said suddenly.

"Oh?" Shang Xia turned to look at him with a raised eyebrow. "Where do we go to buy rank six treasures?"

He didn't expect Luo Qi to know so much. He wondered if it had something to do with Luo Qi's past identity as a member of the Star Origin Guards.

Stopping in place, he pointed in a certain direction. "There. The Starry Pavilion... That's where you can get rank six treasures!"

The building he was pointing to was a majestic structure that stood tall in Starry Avenue. If Shang Xia wasn't mistaken, the giant pavilion was located right smack in the center of Starry Avenue. It was also the most eye-catching building.

"Starry Pavilion?" Shang Xia could feel a formless pressure being emitted from the building as he stood before it.

With Luo Qi leading the way, they entered the building. Shang Xia felt multiple people inspecting him with their divine wills or divine souls.

A Martial Dipper Realm expert quickly approached them with a face full of smiles. Shang Xia could tell that there was something strange with the other party's aura. He seemed to have suffered injuries in the past, but his condition was stable. He was in a much better spot than Luo Qi.

"Fellow cultivator, you should be Young Master Shang from the Spirit Luxuriant World, right? Well met!" The person who was approaching quickly cupped his fists in Shang Xia's direction while giving his greeting.

Shang Xia was surprised as he glanced at Luo Qi beside him. However, the smile on his face appeared right on cue and he muttered, "Fellow cultivator, I didn't expect you to know about me. How should I address you?"

Shang Xia's doubt couldn't escape the other party's eyes. He knew that Shang Xia was feeling a little bewildered at the moment and he quickly explained, "Young Master Shang, please don't misunderstand. Luo Qi has nothing to do with this. Your Spirit Luxuriant World managed to form a connection with our Star Origin City and it's a great event that hasn't happened for hundreds of years! Moreover, the exchange between Martial Void Realm True Immortals above the Star Relay brought a lot of attention to you guys. If I was still unaware of your identity, our Starry Pavilion's reputation which has lasted for thousands of years would go down the drain!"

Pausing for a moment, he continued, "Oh, right! You can call me Zhou Mingdao. I am the assistant manager in the Starry Pavilion!"

A look of realization appeared on Shang Xia's face. "Assistant Manager Zhou, it's an honor to meet you. I am Shang Xia from the Spirit Luxuriant World, but I believe you already know my full name. After all, your pavilion is truly amazing at information gathering..."

Zhou'. However, he had seen all sorts of customers, and his customer service ability was amazing. His expression didn't change too much and he continued laughing, "Haha! Of course... Even though there are all sorts of people in the Star Origin City which makes it a little complicated, our Star Origin City is only so big at the end of the day. Didn't Brother Luo Qi tell you about the background of our Starry Pavilion?"

Shang Xia shot a glance in Luo Qi's direction, but he noticed the extremely strange look on Luo Qi's face.

Seeing how Zhou Mingdao was also looking at him, Luo Qi eventually coughed awkwardly, "Young Master Shang, my apologies. I didn't bring it up earlier because I didn't think it would matter. Actually, many Star Origin Guards who retired went on to manage the Star Origin Guards' business in the city. The Starry Pavilion is one of them. Moreover, it's one of the most important units they possess... Camp... No, Deputy Pavilion Master Zhou was once the Camp Commander of the Sixth Camp."

Shang Xia cupped his fists again and gasped in shock. "Oh! I apologize for my rudeness. As it turns out, it's Deputy Pavilion Master Zhou!"

It was no wonder Luo Qi would show such a strange expression.

Shang Xia had already tried to overestimate the power of the Star Origin Guards the best he could. However, he realized that he was still unaware of the true strength they possessed.

Actually, he should have expected as much. The Star Origin Guards had established themselves for more than a thousand years, and the whole time, they maintained 343 members. There would definitely be some experts who retired due to their injuries or were killed in their line of duty. There would also be some who left due to various reasons. Disregarding those who were dead, it wasn't as though everyone who was no longer a part of the Star Origin Guards had nothing to do with them any longer.

It seemed as though a portion of them went to manage the Star Origin Guards' business in the city after leaving.

The person standing before him was one of them. He was once the Camp Commander of the Sixth Camp, and his status was extraordinary! However, he was only able to become the Deputy Pavilion Master in the Starry Pavilion... One could only imagine the background of the Pavilion Master!

One had to know that Luo Qi told him earlier that the Starry Pavilion was the only place to obtain rank six treasures publicly.

The reputation of the Star Origin Guards alone wouldn't be enough to stop the prying eyes of the various experts. There was only one other explanation! There was a True Immortal in charge of the Starry Pavilion!

After connecting all the dots, Shang Xia realized something else. Luo Qi seemed to be doing really badly for a member who was once part of the Star Origin Guards.

As for the reason behind Luo Qi not telling him about the Starry Pavilion's background, Shang Xia thought that he was merely trying not to expose too much of the Star Origin Guards. After all, Luo Qi still had a strong sense of belonging to them and would put their interests first.

"Sigh... What do you mean Deputy Pavilion Master... I'm just the Assistant Manager!" It might be his first time being called an Assistant Manager by someone, but he found it pretty interesting. "Young Master Shang, what are you looking for? I have some time now and if you don't mind, I would like to bring you around the Starry Pavilion!"

"It's an honor for Assistant Manager Zhou to come all the way out here to greet us, I wouldn't dare get you to bring us around. With Brother Luo here, I believe I won't get too lost. I would just have to trouble you to get any staff member to show me around."

After Shang Xia learned of Zhou Mingdao's identity, he naturally wouldn't go overboard and ask the man to bring him around like an ordinary attendant.

"It's fine, it's fine!" Zhou Mingdao grinned. He seemed to have already guessed Shang Xia's goal of coming to the Starry Pavilion and he added, "It won't matter if you are only planning to look at the ordinary treasures around the pavilion. However, if you need something more special, it would be more convenient to have me around!"

Shang Xia was slightly taken aback, but he quickly chuckled, "Since... Since that's the case, I would have to trouble you!"

Zhou Mingdao waved his hand and roared with laughter. Reaching forward, he gestured, "Young Master Shang, please!"

Watching them chat and laugh with each other, Luo Qi quickly followed behind.

Chapter 956: Starry Pavilion Pt.2

The Star Pavilion truly deserved its reputation as the merchant with the strongest foundation in Starry Avenue.

Not only did they have all sorts of treasures, but they were sorted according to their quality. There were also introductions of what those treasures could do.

From what Shang Xia could see, the Starry Pavilion didn't just seem like a massive shopping mall. It also resembled a large exhibition hall or museum that had everything one could think of.

Under Zhou Mingdao's lead, Shang Xia was brought floor by floor before eventually arriving at the fifth floor. Along the way, he was awed by everything he saw and he was even starting to feel tempted by the treasures.

The only thing that was worth noting was that the treasures in the Starry Pavilion were a level higher than most of the other shops along Starry Avenue. Along the way, Shang Xia didn't seem to notice a treasure under the fourth rank. He even saw many rank five advancement medicine and some complete advancement formulas.

"Young Master Shang, what do you think of our Starry Pavilion?" When they were done browsing the fifth floor, Zhou Mingdao asked as they started to make their way up to the sixth floor.

However, Shang Xia's gaze seemed stuck to the other end of the sixth floor and he muttered without even turning to look at Zhou Mingdao, "You have everything I could ever think of here with all sorts of quality. It's no wonder the Starry Pavilion is the most important trading hub in the Star Origin City..."

Zhou Mingdao didn't seem surprised by Shang Xia's attention to the sixth floor. He muttered apologetically the next moment, "As the sixth floor of our Starry Pavilion correlates to the Martial Void Realm, unless there is a deal waiting to be made with items in there, even I don't have the qualifications to step in there..."

Shang Xia stared at him in confusion before asking in a low voice, "So, what if I require rank six treasures?"

Zhou Mingdao couldn't help but try to probe, "Young Master Shang, what type of rank six treasure are you looking for?"

"I don't know what your Starry Pavilion has. Do you have a list I could browse?" Shang Xia muttered.

By that time, Luo Qi had intentionally stood some distance away as he didn't wish to intrude on Shang Xia's privacy. He started to look at his surroundings listlessly.

Zhou Mingdao thought for a second before speaking suddenly, "From what I've heard, the True Immortals of your Spirit Luxuriant World were about to lose during the exchange held above the Star Relay. It was because of True Immortal Kou that the tides of battle turned, right? He managed to get rid of True Immortal Meng's combined battle formation alone?"

Shang Xia realized the true meaning behind his question. The other side was trying to probe out the uses of the Five Element Ring! After all, it's something no one had ever seen before, and the Spirit Luxuriant World used it to obtain victory. Of course everyone would feel a little wary of their weapon.

Whatever the case, Shang Xia seemed to have underestimated the effect of them destroying Meng Yuanxiu's battle formation. It seemed as though their achievement shocked everyone present!

One had to know that Yuan Mengxiu wasn't just a rank six Formation Grandmaster! He managed to gather half the power of the Azure Oddity World with his formations alone and he could deter the invasion of other races with his own strength!

If Spirit Luxuriant World managed to break the formation of such an expert so easily, everyone couldn't help but wonder if they had the ability to shatter the grand formation around other worlds with the same method!

After all, the grand formation of other worlds couldn't be compared to Meng Yuanxiu's formation which could draw power from half the Azure Oddity World!

Other than that, Meng Yuanxiu had the strength of a fourth tier Martial Void Realm expert when he drew on the power of the formation. Even though he wasn't in his world, he still had considerable strength when considering the fact that the battle formation combined the strength of 5 Martial Void Realm True Immortals. For the True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World to defeat their formation... How strong would their combined might be?! Could it also be at the level of a fourth tier Martial Void Realm expert? Or could it possibly be higher...

Actually, even Shang Xia himself didn't think that his Five Element Ring would be able to integrate the inner qi of experts in the Martial Void Realm. He couldn't believe his eyes when he saw it earlier.

When Shang Xia paused, Zhou Mingdao felt that the air between them was turning a little awkward and he quickly chuckled to lighten the mood. "Young Master Shang, you might not know, but our Starry Pavilion would not provide a list of treasures for anyone to pick from. Anyone who would want to purchase something would have to make a request and we'll check if we have it in stock."

Shang Xia broke out into laughter and replied to his previous question instead. "Actually, Patriarch Kou was using a divine weapon..."

"Oh? Is it also a divine weapon that is proficient in the art of formations?" Zhou Mingdao reacted quickly and a light flashed in his eyes.

The smile on Shang Xia's face didn't fade as he explained, "Of course not. Even if it was a weapon that was created with the art of formations in mind, our Spirit Luxuriant World wouldn't have a rank six Formation Grandmaster to make use of it. The weapon he used is called the Five Element Ring, and it's just an ordinary divine weapon. It was able to adjust their inner qi to allow them to burst forth with combined strength stronger than their enemy during the battle!"

Actually, the only reason Kou Chongxue was able to use the Five Element Ring was because he listened to Shang Xia and refined the corresponding Fate Dippers in the Martial Dipper Realm...

"Five Element Ring?" Zhou Mingdao muttered to himself. However, his disbelief was evident. "Is it really just a divine weapon?"

"Indeed. It's definitely not related to the art of formations!" Shang Xia confirmed.

Zhou Mingdao knew that Shang Xia was definitely hiding a lot of secrets related to the weapon, but he knew that someone like Shang Xia wouldn't lie to him about information that had already been revealed. As such, he could only smile and praise, "I really wish to take a look at such an amazing weapon for myself. For it to not be related to the art of formations but still able to merge the inner qi of Martial Void Realm experts..."

Shang Xia didn't say any more. Obviously, he wouldn't tell Zhou Mingdao that the Five Element Ring belonged to him and he wasn't using it because he felt that it wouldn't be too useful after reaching the grand completion stage of the Five Element Realm. Neither would he hint at the possibility that their own Formation Grandmaster, Chu Jia, was planning to use his Five Element Ring to research Teleportation Formations.

There was one more thing Zhou Mingdao wouldn't know. Actually, Shang Xia might not have learned about it either. Shang Xia might have thought that the Five Element Ring had nothing to do with the art of formations, but that wasn't what Chu Jia felt. Otherwise, she wouldn't have borrowed it in the first place to research her Five Element Teleportation Formations.

Zhou Mingdao reached into the void and made a slight gesture. A sheet of paper that was partially filled with words appeared in his hand and he muttered, "These are most of the rank six treasures our Starry Pavilion has. Young Master Shang, please take a look."

Shang Xia received the sheet of paper but he didn't start reading through the contents immediately. Instead, he turned to Zhou Mingdao and asked, "Deputy Pavilion Master Zhou, dare I ask, how should I go about buying anything here if it catches my eye?"

Staring at Shang Xia with a profound look, Zhou Mingdao quickly explained, "You can trade high-grade essence crystals, and you can replace them with precious treasures to make up the difference. However, if Young Master Shang is willing to take out some unique inheritance from your Spirit Luxuriant World, or perhaps some rare treasures that can only be found in your world, We'll definitely give you a good price for them."

Shang Xia raised an eyebrow in confusion. "Deputy Pavilion Master Zhou, I'm shocked by your generosity. From what I know, other businesses and merchants have rank six treasures too, but they won't give them out easily. They would only make the deal if the price is extraordinarily high, or if they wish to gain some favors. However, you're only asking for high-grade essence crystals here..."

Shang Xia naturally wouldn't think that they were being nice to him. He knew that they had some hidden agenda in treating him that way.

Zhou Mingdao didn't bother to beat about the bush. "One of the reasons is obviously because your Spirit Luxuriant World is new to the Star Origin City. Our Starry Pavilion naturally needs to show some goodwill. Secondly, it's because of the high-level treasures that we have bought, some of them might have come from questionable sources. After our deal, you will have to handle the trouble yourself. Also... The last reason is because Young Master Shang, you're the one asking!"

"Me?" Shang Xia was a little bewildered. "I'm just a Martial Dipper Realm expert. You don't have to show me such courtesy!"

To that, Zhou Mingdao only chuckled. "Young Master Shang, there's no need to undervalue yourself. There might be many cultivators who would be able to enter the Martial Dipper Realm, but there aren't that many who manage to comprehend their martial intent to reach the grand completion stage. Even among the many experts from the various worlds gathered in our Star Origin City, there won't be too many of them! Moreover, Young Master Shang's aura is pretty much flawless. When you stepped into our Starry Pavilion, we were unable to properly determine your actual combat strength. It's no wonder you managed to last in the Star Relay till the end. If we talk about who's most likely to enter the Martial Void Realm at the moment, Young Master Shang, you will definitely be one of them!"

Shang Xia laughed and waved his hands in a haste, "Deputy Pavilion Master Zhou, you're exaggerating. I was merely lucky enough to enter my current stage during my world's ascension. Also, I wasn't the only person who lasted till the end of the battle between the 10 True Immortals. Captain Feng Ziyuan was also present!"

Roaring with laughter Zhou Mingdao continued, "Young Master Shang, there's no need to act so humble. Anyway, you should take a look at the list and see if there's anything you want."

"Alright." Shang Xia smiled and started to browse the sheet of paper he had been given.

The very first treasure on the paper was already amazing. *Three taels of Origin Yang Mysterious Copper.* 6 high-grade essence crystals.

Shang Xia didn't even care about the price as he raised his head to stare at Zhou Mingdao who still had his signature smile on his face.

During the exchange between Martial Void Realm True Immortals above the Star Relay, Kou Chongxue's Hidden Frost Sword was damaged. Less than half a day passed since the exchange and the Star Pavilion had already prepared a list of rank six treasures for Shang Xia with Origin Yang Mysterious Copper as the very first item... If they said it wasn't intentional, Shang Xia would just swallow all 3 taels of Origin Yang Mysterious Copper instead of giving them to Kou Chongxue.

Origin Yang Mysterious Copper was a priceless treasure. For them to be able to find it so quickly was a testament of their power.

Zhou Mingdao's expression didn't change when he noticed Shang Xia's gaze. "Young Master Shang, are you satisfied with our selection of treasures?"

"I am." Shang Xia didn't say too much.

A high-grade essence crystal was worth 10,000 low-grade essence crystals, and 6 high-grade essence crystals were worth 60,000 low-grade essence crystals. Was the Origin Yang Mysterious Copper expensive? Of course it was! However, was Shang Xia going to buy it? Of course he was!

That was because Origin Yang Mysterious Copper was just too hard to come by! It wasn't something that could be valued by mere essence crystals alone.

Moreover, Shang Xia would owe the Starry Pavilion a huge favor even if he bought the Origin Yang Mysterious Copper from them at that point in time...

Zhou Mingdao chuckled happily and gestured to the sixth floor. "Young Master Shang, please!"

"Please!" Shang Xia also made a slight gesture to the sixth floor, but he took the first step and strolled over. The restriction around the sixth floor disappeared the moment he started walking over.

Chapter 957: Starry Pavilion Pt.3

When Shang Xia arrived on the sixth floor of the Starry Pavilion, it wasn't as densely packed as the other floors. There were barely any things on display. Moreover, every one of them was protected by layers of restrictions that were connected to the protective grand formation around the building. As long as anyone touched those treasures without permission, they would be attacked by the grand formation.

The moment the grand formation was activated, even Shang Xia wasn't confident he would be able to get rid of it with his Five Element Dipper Qi.

Of course, he wasn't actually thinking about doing something like that.

Zhou Mingdao was the only one who followed Shang Xia to the sixth floor. Luo Qi remained back on the fifth.

After entering the sixth floor, Zhou Mingdao gave him a quick warning about not randomly touching anything before walking over to a small copper tray. There was a tiny chunk of metal resembling copper sitting on the tray, and there seemed to be a stream of pure energy swirling around the chunk of metal. It was floating in the air while surrounded by strange spiritual light that flashed from time to time and it was clear the treasure was extraordinary.

It was a small piece of Origin Yang Mysterious Copper, and from its size, it seemed just about right to repair the damage on Kou Chongxue's Hidden Frost Blade.

Just a small piece of Origin Yang Mysterious Copper like that would cost Shang Xia 6 high-grade essence crystals, and he would owe the Starry Pavilion a huge favor... However, Shang Xia wasn't thinking about any of those. In order to repair the Hidden Frost Sword, he couldn't be bothered with how many essence crystals it cost.

Zhou Mingdao tapped several points around the copper tray, and every time he did, a layer of restriction would disappear.

Shang Xia could clearly feel Zhou Mingdao using different amounts of dipper qi when tapping each point, but that wasn't all. He eventually took out another black plaque from his sleeves. The words 'Star Spirit' could be seen on them and he lightly swiped it above the tray. With a slight spatial fluctuation, a gap was formed in the space above.

Only then did Zhou Mingdao raise his head to look at the ceiling as a pillar of light fell from it. It clashed with the spiritual light around the chunk of metal and got rid of it. Finally, the chunk of metal fell into the tray below.

Finally, Zhou Mingdao stretched his hand out to retrieve the treasure. However, he didn't grab the Origin Yang Mysterious Copper directly. Instead, he went for the copper tray.

He heaved a sigh of relief after bringing the tray out. He eventually reached for the treasure before handing it to Shang Xia. "Young Master Shang, please take a look!"

Shang Xia had personally held the Hidden Frost Sword in the past. He even refined strands of Primal Yang Copper Fate Dipper Essence and he couldn't be more familiar with the metal. As soon as Zhou Mingdao placed the tray down earlier, he could tell that the chunk of metal was a piece of Origin Yang Mysterious Copper of extremely high grade.

Shang Xia didn't reach out to hold it. Instead, he chuckled, "There's no need for that. I don't doubt the reputation of the Starry Pavilion!"

Slightly taken aback, Zhou Mingdao eventually chuckled, "Many thanks!"

He made a simple gesture as an intricate spirit case flew over from the void and landed in his hand. Zhou Mingdao properly sealed the case after placing the chunk of Origin Yang Mysterious Copper within. Handing it to Shang Xia, Zhou Mingdao smiled, "Young Master Shang, this treasure will now belong to you."

"I am grateful!" Shang Xia retrieved the case, and he didn't take out his essence crystals immediately. Instead, he looked at the names of several other rank six spiritual treasures as he tried to match them with what was on display.

To Shang Xia, it was a great chance to widen his horizons. After all, he hadn't seen many rank six treasures to begin with.

"Sundered Star Wing... However, this just looks like a normal pair of wings! Could it be the wings from a rank six spiritual bird? Wait... Why is there only 1?" Shang Xia stared at a wing that was 30 feet long. The feathers on it seemed to be made from jade as it shone with golden light. Shang Xia couldn't help but ask as he looked at it through the layer of spiritual light.

Zhou Mingdao laughed at the side. "Young Master Shang, you have discerning eyes. This was indeed obtained from a rank six spiritual beast. Its wings are incomparably sharp and it once cut through an entire surface planet. One of the Martial Void Realm Camp Commanders 200 years ago led their entire camp to surround the creature to kill it. A total of 49 of them took action and ambushed the creature in its nest. After an intense battle, they managed to kill it. However, the only thing that was perfectly preserved was this wing..."

"Cutting through a surface planet?!" Shang Xia gasped. He understood that Zhou Mingdao was describing everything simply, but everything that happened was probably extremely terrifying.

Next, Shang Xia went to look at a seven-foot spear that was covered in many layers of restrictions.

The spear looked worn, and it had obviously been through countless battles. However, it was still pretty well preserved.

Standing before the spear, Shang Xia could feel the sharp aura coming off it despite the layers of restrictions.

"This spear is called Flaming Breath. It was once the weapon of a True Immortal. It received tempering from the True Immortal's Void Origin and it had already started its transformation to a Holy Artifact. There are even several special properties of one on it. It could be said to possess the same potential as True Immortal Kou's Hidden Frost Sword, but as of right now, it should be even better!"

Actually, Zhou Mingdao didn't need to do many introductions. Shang Xia could already tell that the spear was special.

After all, the spear had been tempered for hundreds of years with a True Immortal's Void Origin. The moment anyone obtains it, they would be able to receive a part of even the entire inheritance left behind!

Looking at the spear for a little longer, Shang Xia went towards the next treasure that was sealed in layers of restrictions. He didn't even ask about how he should go about buying the spear.

Zhou Mingdao also stopped explaining after giving a brief introduction. After all, Shang Xia didn't ask further and he saw no point in saying more.

After taking a few steps, Shang Xia arrived before a giant metal urn-like treasure that contained a bunch of stuff that looked like random rocks.

A light flashed in Shang Xia's eyes, but it disappeared as quickly as it came. He revealed a curious look as he asked, "What is this? Could it be some sort of legendary ore?"

Zhou Mingdao chuckled in amusement, "Young Master Shang, you can't look down on this pile of rocks. These are called Nayuan Spirit Nourishing Stones. It's an extremely rare rank six spiritual treasure in the sea of stars and it only has extremely limited uses. However... Young Master Shang,

you should have heard of the treasure it could be used to make. It's a Heaven Supporting Jade Pillar!"

"Heaven Supporting Jade Pillar? Could it be one of the 3 treasures required to create an Elysium?!" Shang Xia gasped.

"Exactly. Young Master Shang, you really know your stuff." Zhou Mingdao smiled.

Shang Xia ignored his praise and he continued to ask, "Deputy Pavilion Master Zhou, you said that these Nayuan Spirit Nourishing Stones could be used to craft a Heaven Supporting Jade Pillar. However, does your Starry Pavilion possess an inheritance to craft one?"

Zhou Mingdao already expected Shang Xia to ask something along those lines and he responded quickly. "We do have a way to craft it, but it's not for sale. Young Master Shang, if you or your Tongyou Institution really wishes to obtain the Heaven Supporting Jade Pillar, it's possible to commission us to make one for you. After all, it's not easy to find a rank six Blacksmith Grandmaster!"

Shang Xia glanced at him before muttering in a low voice, "Since a rank six Blacksmith Grandmaster is able to craft a Heaven Supporting Jade Pillar, looks like fixing Patriarch Kou's Hidden Frost Sword with the chunk of Origin Yang Mysterious Copper wouldn't be a problem."

"If True Immortal Kou is willing to give us the honor, our Blacksmith Grandmaster will definitely do his best!" Zhou Mingdao chuckled.

Shang Xia couldn't help but nod while sighing, "Your Starry Pavilion is truly a master of business..."

Zhou Mingdao didn't seem to care about the mockery in Shang Xia's voice and his face remained full of smiles. "Of course. It's all for the convenience of our fellow cultivators."

Shang Xia finally turned serious and he asked, "How would one obtain those Nayuan Spirit Nourishing Stones?"

Regardless if it was the Origin Yang Mysterious Copper or the Nayuan Spirit Nourishing Stone, they seemed to be treasures the Starry Pavilion specially prepared for him. Or perhaps, it would be more appropriate to say that they were prepared for Kou Chongxue and the Tongyou Institution.

Shang Xia even suspected that the wing and the spear were things that the Starry Pavilion had put out on purpose.

Even though the Origin Yang Mysterious Copper didn't seem too expensive, and they might even give them a relatively cheaper price for the Nayuan Spirit Nourishing Stone, the Spirit Luxuriant World had no rank six Blacksmith Grandmaster!

They might not even have 3 rank five ones!

Even if they managed to obtain the treasures they required, they would most likely need to get the rank six Blacksmith Grandmaster of the Starry Pavilion to make a move. In doing so, they would be further indebted to them!

One had to say that the Starry Pavilion was truly a genius when it came to doing business.

With Shang Xia's thoughts spinning rapidly in his mind, Zhou Mingdao's answer quickly came. "Nayuan Spirit Nourishing Stones might be rare in the sea of stars, but because of its limited uses, or perhaps, only to craft Heaven Supporting Jade Pillars. As such, they're not too expensive. If you have a need for them, I can trade 5 of them for a high-grade essence crystals. Young Master Shang, if you wish to take them all, you can have them for 10 high-grade essence crystals."

Shang Xia rubbed his chin in contemplation. He seemed to have made a massive decision as he grunted with heartache, "Alright, fine! I'll take these too. Even though we are still some ways away from establishing an Elysium, there's no harm in making early preparations. Otherwise, when we need to craft the Heaven Supporting Jade Pillar in the future, we'll need the patriarch to go looking for more treasures. However, I believe that this bunch of Nayuan Spirit Nourishing Stone is far from enough to craft one, right?"

Seeing as he made another deal, Zhou Mingdao's eyes lit up in excitement and he chuckled, "Young Master Shang, you're right. There's nothing wrong in making early preparations!"

Damn it, this old fox really knows how to avoid my questions... Shang Xia sighed inwardly

However, a crafty smile appeared in his mind the next moment. Heh, even if you're a wily old fox, you will never know that the Nayuan Spirit Nourishing Stone is actually what I call the Impaled Stone![1] I definitely need these to craft talisman seals in the future!

Chapter 958: Spirit of the Moon

Shang Xia was extremely confident after seeing those Nayuan Spirit Nourishing Stones that they were the same, if not extremely similar to his Impaled Stone.

Even though there could be some differences, Shang Xia was fairly certain the Impaled Stone was Nayuan Spirit Nourishing Stones that went through some processing.

From that point alone, some inference could be made. There were differences between them, but the Impaled Stone was probably the leftover product after an Elysium failed to craft their Heaven Supporting Jade Pillar.

After the failure, the stone was only left with the properties of protecting a spirit...

That was most likely why the quality of the Abyssal Blade could be maintained even though it had been many years since it was discovered.

Naturally, Shang Xia might have deduced that the Impaled Stone had been through some processing, but he didn't know what exactly.

Whatever it was, he would be able to use them to craft talisman seals. When he started researching rank four talisman seals back then, his usage of Impaled Stone sky-rocketed. The limited supply had been his greatest obstacle to creating more talisman seals As such, Shang Xia would have thought of any sort of method to get his hands on the Nayuan Spirit Nourishing Stone.

All 50 pieces that lay there were pretty much uniform in shape and size. They were far from enough to craft a Heaven Supporting Jade Pillar, but he would gain 50 to 60 more chances to craft rank four talisman seals!

Their deal was thus successfully concluded and the Starry Pavilion managed to get rid of several treasures they felt were of less importance to Shang Xia. However, to Shang Xia, the gains were

tremendous! He was the only one who understood how precious they were and both sides were happy.

"Oh? The Starry Pavilion actually has an advancement formula to the Martial Void Realm?" Shang Xia's eyes widened in shock as he stared at a golden bamboo strip that was protected by even more layers of restrictions. The words on it read, "Elysium Penetrating Blood Jade Origin Glue."

Zhou Mingdao chuckled at the side, "Young Master Shang, don't be too surprised by the name. The advancement formula is actually called the Blood Jade Origin Glue and it's a half-complete formula."

"Half-complete formula?" An idea appeared in Shang Xia's mind. "Is the complete formula still out there somewhere?"

"I wouldn't know something like that! After all, the True Immortal who came up with the advancement formula has perished. His enemy obtained this after the battle and consigned it with our Starry Pavilion." Zhou Mingdao explained.

Shang Xia thought back to what Zhou Mingdao said about how they were selling treasures of questionable origin.

With their powerful background, no one would question where it came from or cause any problems for them. However, those who bought them from the Starry Pavilion would have to deal with the trouble after the sale. They weren't as powerful as the Starry Pavilion and if someone came to take revenge, they might be in trouble.

To put it in bluntly, the Starry Pavilion was openly selling questionable goods, and there was nothing anyone could do about it!

Shang Xia shook his head slightly before turning to walk in another direction.

He already had a complete rank six advancement formula and obtaining another one wasn't too important, especially since it wasn't complete.

Thinking about it properly, if the advancement formula was complete, there was no way it would be sold in the Starry Pavilion.

According to the list Zhou Mingdao provided, Shang Xia browsed 9 rank six treasures in total. There were herbs, spiritual treasures, weapons, medicine, incomplete formulas, and inheritances...

Only after Shang Xia reached the last item did he lay his eyes upon a piece of stone that shone with gentle light. "Is this the Moonlight Stone recorded in the list? Why does it look so ordinary? Isn't this just a pebble that is shining in light?"

Zhou Mingdao hastily introduced, "Indeed... the Moonlight Stone is a pebble, but to be more accurate, it is something that has been infused with the spirit of the moon and moonlight essence. Only then would the pebble become a Moonlight Stone!"

"spirit of the moon? What does that even mean? How can it cause an ordinary rock to become a rank six treasure?" Shang Xia seemed pretty interested.

Staring at Shang Xia with slight curiosity, Zhou Mingdao eventually continued, "The spirit of the moon is more accurately described as the moonlight essence that originated during the 15th day of the 8th month of the year. Not every spirituality of moonlight can be classified as a moonlight essence..."

"Please enlighten me..." Shang Xia continued to ask. It was as though he was a young cultivator who was thirsty for knowledge after leaving his world for the first time.

Zhou Mingdao felt a little strange, but his explanation didn't stop. "It's said that the spirit of the moon is something that is gathered on a specific date and time. However, they come in different qualities. Sometimes, the spirit of the moon would enter a piece of rock, but other times, it is possible for it to enter a charging stream and infuse itself into a strand of water qi. It might even fall on a flower as it's blooming or even some stray grass... Of course, it's possible to enter any everyday object too. It could be a teapot or even a wine cup. It's not impossible for it to infuse itself into a jug of water! Whatever it is, it's extremely versatile and can appear anywhere. One might not be able to find it even if they spent their whole lives trying!"

Shang Xia listened intently to his explanation before interrupting suddenly, "That also means that the spirit of the moon would gather at a set period, right? It should gather every month when the moon is the brightest... Is that how the name came about?"

"Perhaps, but we cannot be sure. That's because the spirit of the moon appears everywhere but no one is able to truly pinpoint it before it appears. If no one manages to seal it off a month after it enters whatever vessel it chose, it would scatter and turn the object back into something ordinary." Zhou Mingdao sighed.

"Oh, so that's the case..." Shang Xia put on an expression as though he had learned a lot, but he felt his heart sinking.

He was almost certain that the spirit of the moon is a part of his Secondary Medicine required to craft the Six Direction Heaven Restoration. It should be one of the 'Spirituality of the Twelve Months and Six Directions of a Continent'!

A continent should refer to a fixed land mass, and there were 12 months in total and the spirit of the moon definitely appeared within the year...

Unfortunately, a continent was massive and the spirit of the moon could appear anywhere! If he was only given a month to look for it, there wasn't a need to mention Shang Xia. Even if he activated everyone in the institution, including Kou Chongxue, the Martial Void Realm expert, they might not be able to find it!

Shang Xia didn't even know if he needed to find the Spirituality of the Twelve Months and Six Directions of a Continent that existed in the same year! If that was truly the case, he could probably give up on the spirit of the moon.

Otherwise, it would be possible to look for dozens of years while borrowing the help of various experts of the You Continent. He would eventually be able to gather them all and get the combinations required.

Eventually, a loophole appeared in his mind and he asked again, "If the spirit of the moon is that special, what uses does it have? Could it be used to craft an advancement medicine?"

Shang Xia tried his best to phrase the last part of his sentence as a joke.

However, Zhou Mingdao revealed a profound smile while chuckling. "Young Master Shang, you must be kidding. How can you not have learned about these after the ascension of your world?"

"Anyway... You're not wrong. The spirit of the moon is indeed a special treasure needed to make advancement medicines. There are even rumors going around that if one manages to gather the spirit of the moon of all 12 months, they would be able to greatly increase their chances of entering the Martial Void Realm. It's even said that if the spirit of the moon comes from the same year, not only would one be able to enter the Martial Void Realm easily, it would greatly benefit their cultivation in the Martial Void Realm!"

"Is that true?!" Shang Xia gasped. His gaze turned heated as he stared at the Moonlight Stone before him. "How... How much is this piece of Moonlight Stone?"

Zhou Mingdao chuckled instantly. "This... We can't value a treasure like this with mere essence stones!"

His words seemed to cause Shang Xia to snap back to reality and he muttered, "How would this be sold then?"

"According to the person who wishes to sell this item, you would need to choose 1 of the 3 conditions. The first is a rank six talisman, and the second is a promise from a True Immortal to assist him once. The last is protection by a faction with an ancestor in the Martial Void Realm expert." Zhou Mingdao revealed.

Shang Xia was struck speechless by the demands.

The person who was selling the spirit of the moon most definitely got himself into deep shit. For him to use the treasure as his final bargaining chip, he might not have anything left of value!

Even though the first condition of a rank six talisman might seem to be asking for too much, it's not exactly impossible.

As for the other methods... That would mean that he would push his trouble onto another True Immortal. Not only did his intentions seem malicious, he seemed to be taking the True Immortal that would agree to his request as a dumbass!

Chapter 959: Superior World?!

Even though he didn't obtain the Moonlight Stone in the end, Shang Xia understood a lot more about the spirit of the moon from Zhou Mingdao.

He managed to get his hands on three taels of Origin Yang Mysterious Copper and a bunch of Nayuan Spirit Nourishing Stone. With that, he spent a total of 16 high-grade essence crystals. Adding the crystals he took out to activate the spatial tunnel, he basically used up the high-grade essence crystals he brought with him from the Spirit Luxuriant World.

One had to know that those high-grade essence crystals didn't really belong to him. They belonged to the institution and he was supposed to hold on to them for the time being... However, Shang Xia had no choice but to spend them after seeing the treasures on sale.

When he left the Starry Pavilion, Shang Xia was holding 2 invitations in his hand. One of them was meant for him, and the other was supposed to be given to Kou Chongxue. More accurately, the Starry Pavilion was giving it to the Martial Void Realm True Immortal of the Tongyou Institution.

The invitation was for an auction held once a year by the Starry Pavilion. They would gather high-level treasures from the various worlds for the auction. Those who could attend the event were definitely high-level experts or important powers.

...

Not too long after Shang Xia left... Zhouy Mingdao stood on the highest floor of the Starry Pavilion as he watched the departing figure. No one knew what he was thinking about.

However, a second later, he seemed to discover strange fluctuations around him and he turned his head violently. An elder clad in a long white robe with a head full of silver hair stood silently behind him.

"Pavilion Master!" Zhou Mingdao bowed the moment he noticed the figure.

The silver-haired elder nodded slightly before strolling over with his hands clasped behind his back. He eventually stood beside Zhou Mingdao and stared at the street below. He asked casually, "What do you think?"

"He's pretty shrewd, and he has the ability to restrain himself. He seems extremely knowledgeable about some things, completely unlike someone who has been living in an isolated world. He is definitely hiding some secret on him, and I feel like he didn't take a loss at all when he made those trades earlier... I seemed to be the one at a disadvantage... I just don't understand how it happened..." Zhou Mingdao muttered in a low voice.

The silver-haired elder mumbled softly, "To be given the task of establishing the spatial tunnel between our Star Origin City and his world means that he wouldn't be a fool. He's pretty impressive for someone of his age. Like you said, he's pretty shrewd. However, what is truly impressive is his ability to restrain himself. He was able to keep his calm when seeing so many high-level treasures. Also... Any world that managed to resist the Spirit Abundance World's invasion twice is definitely no ordinary world. The Spirit Luxuriant World might seem isolated on the surface, but they should be pretty different from other worlds. I managed to gain some information about the Spirit Luxuriant World before its formation. They were once the Azure Ascension World, and they were created after the fusion of 2 Azure Worlds."

"As for him hiding some sort of secret... Is there any high-level expert out here who reached their current cultivation level based on pure hard work without keeping any secrets? Heh... As for the loss you suffered from the trades. It happened because both of you knew different things. He managed to bait a bit of information regarding his cultivation out of you. Anyway, it doesn't matter. After all, our Starry Pavilion could

be said to have done him a favor by doing so. Everything you told him was for the sake of forming a better relationship with the Spirit Luxuriant World." The silverhaired elder concluded.

Zhou Mingdao didn't expect the Pavilion Master to say so much, but he seemed to become a little curious about something the elder brought up. He couldn't help but ask, "Pavilion Master, was the Azure World that ascended to the Spirit Luxuriant World really created by the fusion of 2 Azure Worlds?"

Glancing at Zhou Mingdao from the corner of his eye, the silver-haired elder chuckled, "What's the matter? Do you not believe me?"

"Of course not!" Zhou Mingdao replied with no hesitation. "I just find it a little weird. How would 2 Azure Worlds collide and fuse in the vast sea of stars with no reason?"

A sigh escaped the elder's lips. "Yeah... It's something I never heard of either. Unless there's a hidden reason none of us know..."

With his eyes widening in shock, Zhou Mingdao gasped, "Could it be... Did someone cause their worlds to meet in the vast sea of stars?"

As the words left his lips, he couldn't quite believe what he was saying.

Those were 2 different worlds they were talking about! Even if they were merely Azure Worlds, it would be near impossible for anyone to move them together! If someone was truly able to do something like that... How strong would they have to be?!

The silver-haired elder continued suddenly, "Zhuge Xiang passed down news after the exchange between the 10 Martial Void Realm experts... Throughout the entire process, he was sure that there was someone else paying attention to the battle..."

"Is it someone from a Superior World?" Zhou Mingdao gasped. "What exactly is the Spirit Luxuriant World? What secret do they hold for them to attract the attention of the monstrous Superior World that hadn't shown their face in hundreds of years?"

Even though there were 2 spatial tunnels connected to Superior Worlds from the Star Relay and a Void Hall was specially built for them, Zhou Mingdao had never once seen them being activated even when he was still a Star Origin Guard.

With how long those spatial tunnels remained unopened, there were even rumors going about that the Star Origin City wasn't actually connected to any Superior Worlds. They were merely rumors intentionally created by the city to make themselves seem more credible.

As more time passed and those spatial tunnels remained unopened, even the experts of the Star Origin Guards were starting to ignore their presence.

Who would have thought that news of their possible arrival would appear suddenly?!

Finally gathering his chaotic thoughts, Zhou Mingdao hastily asked, "Since someone from Superior Worlds made their appearance, how would the Star Origin Guards react? Would it affect the overall situation in our city?"

The silver-haired elder didn't answer him directly. Instead, he threw out another bomb. "I'm afraid the Star Origin Lord is going to emerge from seclusion soon!"

•••

After grabbing Luo Qi from the fifth floor and leaving the Starry Pavilion, Shang Xia prepared to head over to the Star Relay.

Since Shang Xia entered the highest floor of the Starry Pavilion to make his deal earlier, Luo Qi became extremely curious. He couldn't help but ask, "Young Master Shang, are you planning to head back to the Spirit Luxuriant World?"

"Yeah... I managed to obtain 2 treasures for the seniors of my institution and I should head back to hand them over. After all, our Spirit Luxuriant World just opened the spatial tunnel not too long ago and I can only make the trip back personally..." Shang Xia sighed helplessly.

He revealed an expression of heartache right after he spoke.

After all, the spatial tunnel might have been built between the Star Origin City and the Spirit Luxuriant World, but in order to activate the spatial tunnel, they would need 36 pieces of mid-grade essence crystals! Moreover, he would need to make a round trip, burning 72 pieces of mid-grade essence crystals!

Currently, there was a burning desire in him to meet Huang Yu again. It wasn't for anything else, but to obtain several high-grade essence crystals! After all, the super spy of the Tongyou Institution might be a big asshole, but he was the only one Shang Xia could trust in the Star Origin City!

Luo Qi interrupted his thoughts suddenly. "Actually, Young Master Shang, if you're not in a rush, you don't actually have to return to the Spirit Luxuriant World. It's possible to store your valuables with the Star Origin Guards protecting the Star Relay. Aren't you acquainted with Captain Feng? If you leave your valuables with them, you will be able to retrieve them after you're done with what you need to do. You can also appoint someone from the Spirit Luxuriant World to retrieve those treasures..."

"Is that really possible?!" Shang Xia couldn't help but yelp in shock.

Luo Qi chuckled. "The Star Origin Guards will make a fortune by charging for such services. It's another avenue to make money for themselves. Of course, they won't charge too much to store items with them. Normally, they would charge upwards of a few dozen low-grade essence crystals. However, they might charge all the way up to a few mid-grade essence crystals depending on the treasure."

It didn't seem expensive to store treasures with the Star Origin Guards at all! However, one needed to take into account the sheer number of people passing through the Star Origin City. Moreover, the people who could enter the city wouldn't possess low cultivation levels and they would definitely have a bunch of essence crystals on them.

Shang Xia thought about it for some time before making up his mind. He decided to do what Luo Qi said. He would store the treasures with the Star Origin Guards at the Star Relay for the time being. Originally, he was planning to head back to tell Kou Chongxue about everything that

happened in the Star Origin City. Especially about how the various merchants had raised their prices to scam the cultivators of the Spirit Luxuriant World

However, he understood that Kou Chongxue was no fool. The patriarch wouldn't just send him over and get him to do everything. There would definitely be experts from the institution entering the Star Origin City soon. Even if Kou Chongxue was unable to leave the Spirit Luxuriant World, the institution would send their Martial Dipper Realm experts over. They might even come with even more essence crystals to purchase all types of treasures.

He knew what he had to do. He wrote a report with everything he saw in the city before sealing it properly. Along with the Origin Yang Mysterious Copper he bought and the Nayuan Spirit Nourishing Stones, he paid the Star Origin Guards to store his treasures and to hand them over to the experts of the Tongyou Institution when they came over.

When he was finally done, he left the Star Relay. Along the way, he asked Luo Qi, "Brother Luo, is there a black market in the Star Origin City?"

"Of course, however..." Luo Qi replied hesitantly.

"Go ahead." Shang Xia's expression didn't ripple as he pressed for the answer.

Luo Qi eventually mumbled, "There are 2 different types of black markets here in the Land of Star Origin. The first is located in the city, while the other is located in the wilderness."

Shang Xia could basically guess the difference between them, and he continued, "Brother Luo, do you have a way to enter both black markets?"

Thinking for some time, Luo Qi replied, "Of course I do. However, you need to think things through. The black market in the wilderness is extremely dangerous. There are many people who are there to scam others, and cases where one was killed by the seller after purchasing the treasure are extremely high…"

Shang Xia nodded resolutely. "I understand. Brother Luo, please look for a way for me to enter the black market. However, I'm not in a rush right now. I might have to leave Star Origin City for some time, and I'll trouble you to bring me over when I return."

Luo Qi couldn't help but lament after hearing what Shang Xia said. "Young Master Shang, are you really going to leave?"

"Brother Luo, I know what kind of person you are, and I appreciate it. Even if I leave for now, I will still look for you in the future for help." Shang Xia grinned.

"Young Master Shang, you can call me anytime!" Luo Qi grinned in response.

Shang Xia didn't stop there. "There might be experts of the Tongyou Institution coming soon, and I have to trouble you to ensure they receive the item I left at the Star Relay. Also, I hope you can help them out a little when they arrive."

A hearty chuckle left Luo Qi's lips. "Young Master Shang, you are truly looking out for me! Please rest assured I will carry out your instructions well. Are you planning to leave now?"

"Not yet. I'm planning to look for a friend. Brother Luo, if you don't mind, feel free to follow along!" Shang Xia smiled.

Chapter 960: The Dog Eat Dog World

The person Shang Xia wanted to meet was someone he could trust completely. There was only 1 person like that in the Star Origin City, and it was none other than Huang Yu.

Moreover, Huang Yu once mentioned to Luo Qi about taking up residence in the Star Origin City and he made Shang Xia introduce them. He even had a verbal promise with Luo Qi.

When Shang Xia brought Luo Qi over when looking for him, Huang Yu was slightly surprised, but he truly deserved his reputation as a man with plenty of experience. He quickly started to talk to the 2 and after some time, he managed to come up with some bullshit excuse to 'borrow' Luo Qi from Shang Xia for 2 days.

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When Shang Xia finally met them again after 2 days, Huang Yu and Luo Qi seemed to be the best of buddies. It was as though they had been friends for most of their lives and they could already speak about everything under the sun.

After emphasizing how they would meet again for Luo Qi to help him with matters regarding settling down in the city, Huang Yu finally bid farewell to his new friend.

With Luo Qi finally disappearing into the distance, Shang Xia stared at Huang Yu with an extremely suspicious look and growled, "How the hell did you do that? Did you already hint at a way to assist him to restore his cultivation?"

Huang Yu looked at Shang Xia who was trying to maintain the serious look on his face and he sneered. In fact, he seemed to be lecturing Shang Xia, "Hey, don't you know how to make friends? We need to open our hearts to each other! Luo Qi isn't a sly person at all. If I treat him sincerely, he will obviously reciprocate!"

Shang Xia nodded slightly and mumbled, "So... you haven't told him about how I would be able to restore his cultivation?"

"Of course we can't rush into things like these!" Huang Yu snapped. Pressing his lips together, he reached his hand out towards Shang Xia.

Raising an eyebrow in confusion, Shang Xia growled, "What do you want now?"

"Essence crystals! Are you dumb? Brother Luo Qi is a guide and he's doing this for essence crystals! He brought me to the black markets here and got me a way in! I gave him a bunch of essence crystals earlier, including your share!"

Shang Xia opened his arms and snorted, "If I still have any essence crystals, why the hell would I look for you 2 days ago?!"

"Hah?! Are you out of essence crystals?!" Huang Yu gasped in shock. "Why is Kou Chongxue being so stingy? Doesn't he know the saying that one should spend freely when traveling outside?"

Obviously, Shang Xia didn't use up all the essence crystals he had. He was only out of high-grade essence crystals.

However, he wouldn't give up a chance to save as much as he could, especially when he was ripping off Huang Yu! Moreover, he would definitely need to utilize the spatial tunnel in the future. There was no harm in freeloading off someone else.

"Oh... Actually, I brought a batch of high-grade essence crystals with me..." Shang Xia started to talk about how he bought rank six treasures from the Starry Pavilion after that. He also mentioned the relationship between the Starry Pavilion and the Star Origin Guards, and everything in-between to Huang Yu.

A frown appeared on Huang Yu's face after hearing what he said. "Starry Pavilion... Or perhaps, even the Star Origin Guards are involved in this. They are trying to establish goodwill with Kou Chongxue, but why?! The Star Origin Guards have been controlling the Star Origin City for hundreds of years. Their position in the Star Origin City remains at the very top and it's not something they can maintain with the prestige of the Star Origin Lord who hasn't shown their face for hundreds of years..."

Shang Xia replied, "I thought of it too. It might have something to do with how Patriarch Kou destroyed Meng Yuanxiu's battle formation with the Five Element Ring. Well... I shouldn't bother with these things for the time being. All I need to do is to report this to Patriarch Kou and the other True Immortals. They can rack their brains to try to solve this."

Huang Yu also shook his head. He couldn't confirm Shang Xia's guesses either, but he added, "No matter what, the Starry Pavilion definitely knows something. By extension, the Star Origin Guards also know something about us. Hmm... I'm really looking forward to joining them now!"

Shang Xia nearly jumped in fright. "Wait, you weren't kidding?! Are you really planning to join the Star Origin Guards?! They would only accept cultivators native to Star Origin City! Didn't I tell you that every single Star Origin Guard started training from a young age? You... You're not planning to kill someone to take their identity, right? Is Luo Qi your next target?!"

Huang Yu glanced at Shang Xia from the corner of his eye and mumbled, "That's the only way... I know it's not quite possible for me to join them with my identities. Moreover, they might have some way of seeing through my disguises. It's not going to be easy to take over someone else's identity..."

Seeing the flustered look that was starting to appear on Shang Xia's face, Huang Yu chuckled, "Relax. Even if I wish to join them, I can't take over Luo Qi's identity. He did too much in order to get back into the Star Origin Guard and his goal is too damn obvious. Restoring his cultivation base alone would raise too many suspicions and he has to be the one to overcome them all. I can only think of something else..."

Huang Yu paused and turned to stare at Shang Xia. "Right. In the few days I've been hanging out with him, I pretty much understood the situation he's in. When the time comes, we'll need to set something up and you will need to cooperate with me..."

It wasn't the first time Huang Yu brought something like that up, but he seemed a lot more confident this time. Shang Xia even guessed that Huang Yu had already developed a comprehensive plan.

Receiving Shang Xia's affirmative reply, they started to make their way towards the Star Relay.

As they had to pass through Starry Avenue, Shang Xia discovered that the various shops seemed a lot more bustling than before. He seemed to recall something and he quickly spoke, "The goods in the city have been marked up by the various merchants. There are rumors going around that they plan to scam the experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World when they arrive."

Huang Yu snorted with disdain. "Can you even believe what they're saying? Do you think Kou Chongxue is dumb, or do you think there's a hole in the heads of the other True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World? If you even managed to get the news, those old foxes back in the Spirit Luxuriant World would have noticed a long time ago!"

Shang Xia couldn't help but scratch his head in confusion. "But... It's true! The prices of everything have been going up in the past 3 days!"

Huang Yu didn't even bother looking straight at Shang Xia when he replied. "That's because the Azure Oddity World is fucked. Anyone with enough qualifications to take part in the great battle that would happen when the Azure Oddity World is sieged is starting to make their preparations. As the central hub between the various worlds, Star Origin City is naturally going to be the go-to place for all trades that will happen. I'll be surprised if prices don't go up..."

"So that's why... Why didn't I think of it?" Shang Xia muttered to himself.

Huang Yu continued, "Actually, this is an opportunity for us! The Azure Oddity World has been invaded in the past, and its location in the sea of stars isn't exactly a mystery. Many worlds, including the Spirit Abundance World, will definitely be attracted to the Azure Oddity World. Our mission to infiltrate the Spirit Abundance World should go even smoother..."

Shang Xia couldn't help but quicken his pace slightly. However, he couldn't help but continue to ask, "The Solitary Peak Heavenly Lake lost their only Martial Void Realm True Immortal! Is the Spirit Abundance World still able to spare extra strength to care about the Azure Oddity World?"

Huang Yu raised an eyebrow casually. "Those 2 things have nothing to do with each other... The Spirit Abundance World has extremely strong foundations. They naturally have the ability to care about the Azure Oddity World. Moreover, in the eyes of the true peak-tier experts of the Spirit Abundance World, everything that happened to the Solitary Peak Heavenly Lake is something they could settle internally. The matter with the Azure Oddity World is of utmost priority at the moment. If you snooze, you lose. They have to grab all the benefits before other worlds join the fight. As such, there is no way they would care about the Solitary Peak Heavenly Lake more than the Azure Oddity World!"

Shang Xia seemed enlightened and he nodded happily. "So... That's how we're going to get our ticket in, right?"

Huang Yu roared with laughter and attracted the gazes of experts from both sides of the street with his sudden outburst. However, he quickly shifted the topic. "Right. You're ready to enter the Martial Void Realm. Do you have any idea how to create your advancement medicine yet?"

As they conversed, they approached the Star Relay.

Huang Yu was someone Shang Xia trusted wholeheartedly and he didn't bother hiding anything. "I have already obtained a portion of the rank six spiritual ingredients I need. However, the others are pretty hard to find. At least I managed to learn more about the spirit of the moon from the Starry Pavilion..."

There was no doubt about it. From what Shang Xia said, it was clear he already had a complete rank six advancement formula.

Huang Yu's expression didn't change despite the shocking fact. Instead, he continued to ask, "What else do you need other than the spirit of the moon?"

"I need the Four Extremity Spirituality from the same world. Actually, the part about it being from the same world isn't really the problem. Finding them would be the biggest challenge." Shang Xia mumbled.

Huang Yu started to ask about specific properties of the spirit of the moon and the Four Extremity Spirituality next. After hearing them in detail, he couldn't help but feel a sense of helplessness.

The Four Extremity Spirituality made sense, and Kou Chongxue once made a guess that it would probably be where the seasons intersected in the world to produce a special rank six spiritual treasure. He had been looking for it in various locations in the Spirit Luxuriant World. After all, how many rank six treasures would be produced in regions like that?

As long as he located one, he would just bring it to Shang Xia.

The problem was the spirit of the moon. It seemed to be something that could only be obtained through pure luck. Moreover, Shang Xia assumed that his advancement formula didn't require them to be found in the same year.

After a short moment of silence, Huang Yu turned serious. "Actually, from news I heard in the Spirit Abundance World, there haven't been too many experts who broke through with complete rank six advancement formulas!"

"Right... By that, I mean relative to every single True Immortal in the Spirit Abundance World." Huang Yu added.

Shang Xia was shocked by the sudden revelation. "Other than using rank six advancement formulas, is there another way to enter the Martial Void Realm?!"

"Did you forget how Kou Chongxue advanced?" Huang Yu reminded.

Slightly taken aback, Shang Xia muttered, "So… You're saying that they have to wait for the world ascension and rely on the blessing of the world… No. That doesn't make sense. World ascension isn't something that happens often. Could it be that they used the benefits when working to strengthen their world bit by bit to build up to its next ascension?"

With a satisfied expression, Huang Yu nodded. "Exactly! From what I heard, there is a group of True Immortals who used that method along with some sort of semi-complete advancement medicine to step into their current realm!"

A light bulb lit up in Shang Xia's mind. "That is why the Spirit Abundance World tried to invade twice. The Azure Ascension World of the past might not be able to allow the Spirit Abundance World to ascend, but after devouring the world origin of the Azure Ascension World, everyone who made it happen would receive the blessing of the world. They might have made preparations to break through when the time comes!"

Shang Xia continued to mutter to himself, "It's no wonder the Spirit Abundance World is so serious about their invasions. As it turns out, it's a method for them to progress on their martial path!"

"They're not the only ones who launch strong invasions and go out on expeditions. Every single world will have to do the same in order to grow stronger. Our Spirit Luxuriant World won't be an exception!" Huang Yu corrected.