

Time 121

Chapter 121 - 121 The top 100

"Let's go and see my parents before we return back to the sect."

After entering the main hall, Shun Long saw Shun Fang and Shun An sitting next to each other as they were chatting and laughing.

When they heard the doors of the main hall opening, they both turned to look at the person who had arrived.

Seeing Shun Long entering the hall, Shun An and Shun Fang stood up as they approached him happily. Shun An then hugged him as she said

"Long'er! Thanks to your miraculous pills, your mother has already reached the peak of rank 1 in earth grade!"

Shun Long smiled as he heard this, and looked at Shun Fang who was showing off by floating in the air in front of him

"What do you think son? Amazing right? Your old man is now a Heaven grade expert!"

Shun Long nodded his head as he gave a thumbs-up to Shun Fang and said

"Good job, old man!"

Shun Fang's eyes widened as he heard Shun Long addressing him as 'old man' while Shun An started chuckling.

Shun Long looked at his parents and with a smile on his face he said

"Dad, mom, I have to return back to the 'floating cloud sect'."

Both Shun Fang and Shun An stopped laughing as they heard this but Shun Long continued

"It may take longer than a year or two until I return home. After all, I don't plan on just staying in the 'floating cloud sect' for the entire time."

Shun Fang and Shun An both fell silent when they heard this. They both understood that since Shun Long had said something like that, then it was very likely that it would take years until he returned home.

Shun An then took a step forward and hugged Shun Long as she said

"Long'er, just be safe..."

Shun Fang then also stepped forward, and patting Shun Long's shoulder he said

"...And don't forget, that you have a home to return to if things get tough."

Shun Long nodded his head as a warm feeling spread through his heart.

After hugging his parents, Shun Long exited the main hall and saw little Black still waiting for him outside.

After riding on top of the dragon's back, Shun Long said

"Let's return back"

Little Black then spread his black wings, as he flew upwards.

Shun Fang and Shun An watched Shun Long riding on little Black's back, as they flew higher and higher, and eventually disappeared in the sky.

An hour later, high above the clouds, Shun Long and little Black had arrived in front of the barrier that divided the 2 worlds.

Without any suspense, little Black's talons instantly tore the barrier open before they entered inside.

Shun Long then sighed as he once again felt the difference of the qi, in the air of the 'cultivation world' and the 'mortal world'.

After little Black returned inside the 'Stone of Time', Shun Long walked for a few hours until he arrived outside of the 'floating cloud sect'.

Since Shun Long saw that night had almost fallen by now, he decided to wait for a few more hours before entering the sect.

Finally, 2 hours later, Shun Long donned on his black robes, and arriving at the city walls of the 'floating cloud city'. Opening a space tear, he walked into it and returned back inside the sect.

The moment that Shun Long came out of the space tear, he heard a voice shouting at him from the distance

"HEY! WHO ARE YOU?"

Turning his head around, he saw 2 outer disciples that were patrolling around near the city walls, now running towards him with 2 spears in their hands.

Shun Long circulated his 'Monarch's Hourglass' before activating the 'Monarch's Domain'.

The two rank 1 earth grade guards were instantly frozen, while Shun Long then walked in the direction of the 'Mystifying Fragrance pavilion'.

After he had walked far enough, the guards could finally move again.

However, in their own perception, they had never stopped running, so they were stunned to see the black-robed man disappear like he never existed.

As the 2 guards were busy trying to verify whether there truly was someone out there or not, Shun Long had already changed back to his outer disciple robes as he entered inside the 'Mystifying Fragrance pavilion'.

After having a meal on the 3rd floor, he then walked up to the 6th floor and entered his room.

Instead of cultivating, this time Shun Long decided to spent the night learning how to control the power of his 'Monarch's Eternal body' better.

Shun Long had already understood that if he could utilize the power of the space tears properly during his fights, then his fighting prowess would rise even more.

Night soon passed and as the sun started to rise, Shun Long's sect jade then lit up.

After taking a look at it, Shun Long saw that this wasn't an arena challenge, but a message that said

"5 hours from now, all outer disciples that are still in the top 100 of the arena rankings, are to gather in front of the 'inner city gates'."

Shun Long continued to practice his control over the space tears for the next 3 hours before deciding to stop.

Leaving his room he then walked out of the 'Mystifying Fragrance pavilion' as he headed towards the 'inner city gates'.

30 minutes later, when he arrived in front of the gates, Shun Long saw a huge crowd that had already gathered here.

There were already more than 2000 disciples here, and the number was still growing.

The crowd had formed a half-circle around the 'inner city gates', while the disciples in the top 100 that had already arrived at the scene, were waiting in front of the gates.

Just as Shun Long was walking through the crowd, a girl's voice sounded as she screamed loudly before she pointed at a handsome blue-haired young man that had just arrived there

"LOOK! It's Jin Chuanli!"

When the crowd heard her, everyone turned towards the man that the girl pointed.

Shun Long had also remembered this name, as this person was ranked 4th in the arena rankings.

The man seemed to have noticed Shun Long among the crowd as he nodded his head at him.

Shun Long was surprised when he saw that this, was the same blue-haired man that he had met in the arena the day he fought with Lei Pong.

The person ranked 4th in the arena Jin Chuanli.

Both Jin Chuanli and Shun Long found their own places to sit as they waited for the 'inner city gates' to open.

More and more disciples in the top 100 had started gathering in front of the 'inner city gates', when suddenly, the crowd exploded in an uproar

"IT'S SENIOR BROTHER WEN!"

Chapter 122 - 122 Secrets of the Vermilion realm

"Senior brother Wen!"

When Shun Long heard this name, his attention was piqued as he turned to look at the person who had just arrived.

As the crowd opened the way, a huge man over 2m(6.5ft) tall with a very muscular body appeared.

This man seemed to be around 20 years old, with brown hair and a plain-looking face. His eyes however were looking at the crowd around him, like a giant that was looking down on ants.

This was the outer disciple who was ranked 1st in the arena rankings, Wen Zihao.

Little Black's voice sounded inside Shun Long's head as he said

"Master, this person definitely possesses a unique physique, and it even seems to be one that is suited for close combat."

Shun Long nodded his head as he had already heard rumors about Wen Zihao possessing a unique physique, and knew, that people who were born with these unique physiques were much stronger than the average cultivators.

After Wen Zihao arrived, a few other people shortly followed suit, and soon, everyone from the top 100 rankings had appeared in front of the 'inner city gates'.

An incense stick of time later, the enormous gates opened, and the sect master along with many Elders and inner disciples appeared from the 'inner city'.

Shun Long was surprised to see Liu Mei and a white-haired man walking behind Liu Jian.

Although this man's hair was white, it was obvious that it wasn't due to aging, as he barely looked a day above thirty. His handsome face that greatly resembled Liu Jian's, instantly allowed Shun Long to guess his identity.

Indeed, this was the number one genius of the 'floating cloud sect', Liu Changpun.

The moment that people saw the sect master arriving, all the discussions died down and silence permeated the scene.

There was a serious atmosphere in the air, as Liu Jian's eyes scanned the disciples in front of him. After confirming that everyone had already arrived, Liu Jian nodded his head as he said in a loud voice

"I will not waste much time speaking since you all know the reason you are here. It's because you are at the top 100 of all the outer disciples in the sect.

Today, by standing here in front of me, you have earned a once in a lifetime opportunity for yourselves... to enter the 'Vermilion realm'."

As Liu Jian finished speaking, he waved his hand, and 10 'rank 3 red-winged condors' appeared from the sky as they all landed in front of him.

Liu Jian then turned his head to look at the inner disciples and Elders behind him as he said in a commanding voice

"Get on!"

The 200 inner disciples and Elders behind him immediately mounted the rank 3 'red-winged condors' without a question.

The sect master then looked at the 100 outer disciples in front of him as he continued

"Where there is fortune, danger also lies. The 'Vermilion realm' isn't a place for vacation. There are boundless fortuitous opportunities for you all, but death also lies in every corner.

If you are not afraid to lose your life, then you can also sit on the condors."

As soon as Liu Jian's words ended, Wen Zihao was the first one to jump on a condor's back.

Shun Long also didn't need to think about it as he too climbed on one of the condors.

In the end, there wasn't a single outer disciple that was scared off, by Liu Jian's words.

Seeing that none of the disciples had hesitated, Liu Jian nodded his head as he said

"Good! Since no one of you is scared then let's go!"

After he gave the command, all of the 'red-winged condors' flew up in the sky in a straight line, as they quickly left the sect.

The crowd that was still in front of the 'inner city gates' was shocked by how brief the sect master's appearance was.

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Liu Jian who was sitting on the forefront condor's head, looked at the restless disciples and Elders and said

"There is no reason for you all to be anxious. We still need 10 days until we arrive at the Lightning Wasteland. The 'Vermilion realm' will also open in half a month from now, so there is still plenty of time."

An outer disciple named You Huan who was ranked 98th in the arena rankings, looked at Liu Jian and asked stutteringly

"S-Sect m-master! Will you also enter the 'Vermilion realm' with us?"

It wasn't just You Huan who had this question in his mind but many other disciples as well.

Liu Jian looked at everyone around him and shook his head as he said

"The 'Vermilion realm' is a very special secret realm. Only cultivators at the peak of rank 3 in Heaven grade and below can enter inside. If anyone above that level tries to enter, they will face punishment from the secret realm itself."

An Elder at the peak of rank 3 in Heaven grade looked at You Huan then mockingly as he said

"If everyone could enter inside without restrictions, considering that the sect only has 300 spots, do you really think that it would be your turn to enter now?"

You Huan lowered his head in shame after getting berated by this Elder, while Liu Jian's voice sounded once again

"Although what Elder Qiu said may sound harsh, it is the truth.

The treasures inside the 'Vermilion realm' are coveted even by experts above the Spirit realm, let alone earth or Heaven grade cultivators like you all. After all, there have been many experts who have managed to break through their limits and ascend to a higher realm, all thanks to a fortuitous opportunity found inside the 'Vermilion realm'!"

Just as Liu Jian was explaining how precious the treasure inside the 'Vermilion realm' really were, little Black's voice sounded inside Shun Long's head as he said

"Master, this 'Vermilion realm' may actually be an even bigger opportunity than I originally estimated. If the laws of a secret realm attack cultivators above a certain level, then that can only mean 2 things.

Either the laws of the secret realm cannot contain an existence higher than that level of cultivation, or...

...this is most likely a man-made secret realm created by a Dao King!"

Chapter 123 - 123 Wen Zihao and Kang Sun's answers

"A Dao King? Is that the stage above the Spirit realm?"

Little Black nodded his head as he started explaining

"Right! I forgot that master doesn't have any memories regarding the cultivation stages. Above the Heaven grade is the Spirit realm and above that is the Nascent soul stage. Then, above the Nascent soul is the Dao King.

Master knows that when cultivators enter the Heaven grade, they then start comprehending a Dao that they has an affinity with. As the cultivators advance deeper in the Heaven grade then, their affinity and control over their Dao becomes stronger and stronger."

Shun Long nodded his head as he already knew about this as little Black continued explaining

"After that, comes the Spirit realm. In the Spirit realm, a cultivator has to strengthen his spirit sense and spiritual strength, all in preparation for the Nascent soul stage.

When a cultivator enters the Nascent soul stage, their spiritual sense then transforms into soul sense and can finally leave their body, much like my soul sense can.

Not only that, but a cultivator in the Nascent soul stage can even send his soul to possess another body, if his own body has already been killed but his soul has survived.

That is why the Nascent soul stage is also called the Nirvana stage. Because even though this isn't true rebirth, a cultivator can still regain a new chance in life."

Little Black then took a moment to stop speaking as he allowed Shun Long to digest all the information about the cultivation stages.

After a while, Shun Long sorted out his thoughts and asked

"Then what happens in the Dao King realm?"

Little Black then answered seriously

"In the Dao King realm, a cultivator has already attained control over their Dao. In other words, if a Heaven grade expert who has comprehended the Dao of Water can bombard the enemy with attacks, a Dao King realm expert can summon a tsunami with a wave of his hand and drown an entire city. This is why Dao King realm experts are also considered kings, among cultivators.

Powerful Dao King realm experts who reach the end of their lifespans, will sometimes opt to open a secret realm and leave behind some of their treasures behind some trials."

"This is my son, as well as the young lord of the 'floating cloud sect', Liu Changpun.

Since you are all members of my 'floating cloud sect', I expect that all of you will listen to his orders inside the 'Vermilion realm'."

It wasn't just Shun Long's brows who frowned as he heard this, but everyone else in the top 10 of the arena rankings as well. It was obvious that Liu Jian wanted everyone here to become lapdogs for his son inside the secret realm.

Liu Changpun then took a step forward, and looking at the 'outer disciples' in the top 100, he introduced himself in a proud voice

"I am your future sect master, Liu Changpun.

Although father has said that he expects you to listen to my orders, in reality, most of you will be dead weight when we enter in the 'Vermilion realm'."

Then, pointing at 3 people he said

"Aside from Wen Zihao, Kang Sun and Tong Yueying, the rest of you 'outer disciples' can move as you please when we enter inside."

Most of the outer disciples had their faces painted with anger after being called dead weight, but the angriest out of everyone was Wen Zihao and one other man who had both stood up. Wen Zihao then, looked at Liu Changpun as he asked in a loud voice

Shun Long also saw the other man that Liu Changpun had pointed at earlier, who was now looking at Wen Zihao and nodding his head at his words. This thin and bald young man, who seemed to be around 25 years old and was a head shorter than Wen Zihao was Kang Sun, the person ranked 2nd in the arena rankings.

Then, turning his head, Shun Long also saw Tong Yueying, a somewhat pretty short-haired young woman who was looking at Liu Changpun with infatuated eyes.

"INSOLENCE!"

The same Elder Qiu that had mocked Hou Yuan before now shouted at Wen Zihao in rage.

Displ.e.a.s.u.r.e had also filled Liu Jian's face, but Liu Changpun simply smiled as he said

"Today, I, as the future sect master of the sect have offered you a chance to become my followers in front of everyone here, because I recognize your strength.

If you agree, then there will certainly be bouts of good fortune waiting for you in the future.

However, don't misunderstand things!

It is the sect that has offered you the chance to enter the 'Vermilion realm'. If you don't agree to become my followers, then you can sit outside as you watch the rest of us enter."

Become his followers, or lose their chance to enter the secret realm? Liu Changpun was certain that they knew what the best choice was.

The first one to step forward was actually Tong Yueying who was ranked 3rd in the arena rankings. Looking at Liu Changpun she smiled coquettishly before she bowed and said

"I hope that the young lord can take good care of Yueying from now on."

Liu Changpun laughed as he heard this, while a burning gleam flashed through his eyes as he looked at Tong Yueying's body and said

"Of course! Don't worry, as I will make sure to personally protect you."

Tong Yueying had a bright smile on her face, while Liu Changpun then turned his attention to look at Wen Zihao and Kang Sun as he waited for their answers.

Shun Long was also curious to see what the 2 of them would choose, but he was also shocked by the brashness that Liu Changpun showed when he asked the 3 of them to follow him. It was obvious to everyone by now, that in Liu Jian's eyes, everyone that wasn't Liu Changpun was expendable.

Wen Zihao and Kang Sun were now staring at each other, before they both gave their answers at the same time

"I agree!"

Chapter 124 - 124 Arriving in the Lightning Wasteland

"I agree!"

"I refuse"

These 2 different answers had shocked everyone.

Liu Changpun looked pleased as he looked at Wen Zihao, but his face turned stern as he stared at Kang Sun and asked

"Are you certain about your answer?"

Kang Sun however didn't reply to him as he looked at Wen Zihao with wide eyes and asked instead

"You! The person ranked 1st in the arena rankings, the one who was born with the fighting ape physique, are contented with becoming someone else's dog?"

Wen Zihao then looked at him expressionlessly as he answered

"Between following the next sect master and entering the 'Vermilion realm', or having to watch as everyone else around me grows stronger, I obviously know which one to choose!"

Kang Sun looked at him mockingly as he said

"So you are willing to become anyone's dog as long as you get stronger, is that it? I must have been blind to think of you as my rival for the past 3 years!"

Then, turning his head to look at Liu Changpun, Kang Sun said

"I refuse. I, Kang Sun, am a man who would rather become stronger by myself, than having to place my life under someone else's hands!"

Liu Changpun nodded his head as he said

"Very well! I admire that you choose to stick to your beliefs.

However, since you refuse to follow the sect's orders, I now officially revoke your right to enter the 'Vermilion realm'!"

Kang Sun's eyes twitched when he heard this, but he still held his head high, showing that he didn't regret his choice in the least.

Shun Long looked at him admiringly as he nodded his head.

"Idiot! No cultivator ever grew stronger by saving his pride!"

Elder Qiu's voice then sounded as he mocked Kang Sun.

Kang Sun however didn't respond to him, and Elder Qiu simply closed his eyes as he started cultivating.

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10 days soon passed while Shun Long and the rest were flying on top of the red-winged condors, when a boundless barren land appeared in the distance.

Liu Jian opened his eyes as he looked at the disciples behind him and said

"We have arrived in the Lightning Wasteland. Soon, we will meet with many other sects like us who are waiting for the 'Vermilion realm' to open."

An inner disciple with short black hair, looked ahead in the distance and couldn't help asking

"Sect master, why is it called the Lightning Wasteland since there is no lightning at all?"

Liu Jian looked at the inner disciple who had asked this question and smiled as he said

"Wait for a few more days and you will understand."

The rank 3 condors then continued flying forward, and a few hours later, they had arrived in front of a large campsite.

Looking at the campsite in front of them Liu Jian explained

"Down there are the sects that are going to be entering the 'Vermilion realm' along with you. Our sect will also set up camp as we wait for the opening of the secret realm so make sure to follow the Elders' instructions! "

As the condors flew closer to the campsite, Shun Long noticed the insignias of many different sects on each camp. He estimated that there were at least 400 different sects that would be entering the 'Vermilion realm' along with the 'floating cloud sect'.

The rank 3 'red-winged condors' then landed in an empty patch of land inside the campsite, as the Elders then gave a small tent with the insignia of the 'floating cloud sect' to each disciple.

After Shun Long set his own tent, he saw a smiling fatty walking towards him.

Fatty Fu had a huge grin on his face as he gave Shun Long a bear hug and said

"Hahaha! Congratulations brother! When I heard that you had beaten Peizhi in the arena I couldn't stop laughing. If my grandfather hadn't put me on house arrest, I would have come to find you much sooner."

Shun Long looked at the smiling Fu Li and was astonished to find out that he had already broken through to the peak of rank 8 in earth grade.

Laughing, Shun Long patted Fu Li's shoulder as he said

"Congratulations fatty! Reaching the peak of rank 8 is a cause for celebration!"

Fu Li smiled bitterly as he said

"Brother, you have no idea how much I have suffered. My grandfather didn't even allow me to leave the house once in the past few months. We definitely have to drink today!"

Without waiting for Shun Long's answer, Fu Li then ran inside Shun Long's tent.

Shun Long smiled as he saw Fu Li's antics before he too walked inside.

Fatty Fu then took out a small table and a big bottle filled with wine from his spatial ring, before he showed it to Shun Long and said

"What do you think brother? Finally my stingy grandfather gave me a spatial ring!"

Shun Long laughed as he said

"It would have been really amusing if everyone else here had a spatial ring except for you, the young master of the Fu family."

Fu Li nodded his head seriously as he agreed with Shun Long.

Then his eyes turned serious as he said

"Brother, I didn't just come here today to drink wine with you. There is also something important that you must know about the 'Vermilion realm'."

Shun Long looked at the serious fatty who then continued

"My grandfather said, that in the center of the 'Vermilion realm', an extremely high-level senior has left his inheritance. Liu Changpun has gathered a lot of manpower, including the Elders of the Liu and the Meng families, in order to get his hands on this inheritance."

Shun Long's eyes widened as he had finally confirmed that little Black's guess was correct.

The 'Vermilion realm' was most likely a secret realm created by a Dao King level expert.

Just as Fu Li's words ended, a huge clamor sounded from the crowd outside as a huge flying whale over 100m long could be seen in the sky.

The whale's shadow had completely covered the 'floating cloud sect's' campsite as little Black's voice sounded inside Shun Long's head as he said in astonishment

"Master, a Nascent Soul expert has arrived."

Chapter 125 - 125 Opening of the Vermilion realm

Both Shun Long and fatty Fu then quickly exited the tent, as they stared at the flying whale above their heads.

On the whale's back, there were many bald monks dressed in golden robes.

The whale that the monks were on, kept flying forward until it stopped in an empty patch of land in front of the 'floating cloud sect's' campsite.

Fatty Fu looked at the golden robes of the monks and said

"Brother! This, is one of the biggest superpowers of our Desolate East, the 'Golden Buddha temple'!"

Shun Long had never heard of the 'Golden Buddha temple' before, but based on the fact that they had a Nascent Soul level expert, as well as a rank 4 'Flying blue whale', he understood that this temple was far stronger when compared to the 'floating cloud sect'.

When Liu Jian saw the huge whale stopping a few hundred meters away from the 'floating cloud sect's' camp, he immediately took a few Elders, as well as Liu Changpun, and went to pay his respects to the 'Golden Buddha temple' experts.

After seeing the bald monk who sat at the top of the 'Flying blue whale', Liu Jian bowed his head as he clasped his hands and said

"Greetings to the head priest!"

The Elders behind him all followed him as they said

"Greetings to the head priest!"

This bald monk was the head priest of the 'Golden Buddha temple', an early Nascent Soul level expert, as well as the strongest expert of the temple.

Looking at the bowing Liu Jian, the head priest clasped his hands as he said

"Benefactor Liu, no need to be so polite."

Liu Jian bowed again with clasped hands as he responded

"It's only natural for our 'floating cloud sect' to come and pay our respects to the temple"

After the 'floating cloud sect', there were many other sects who also came to pay their respects to the 'Golden Buddha temple'.

Fu Li left Shun Long's tent as well, as he too had to pay his respects to the temple with the Elders from his Fu family.

Sitting cross legged on his tent, Shun Long spent the next few days either cultivating, or trying to comprehend the Dao of Time.

Although most people would start comprehending a Dao when they entered the Heaven grade, there were still some geniuses like Fu Peizhi who had a high affinity with certain Daos and could start comprehending them earlier than the rest.

As Shun Long sat down inside his tent, little Black's words echoed inside his head

"Master, to start comprehending a Dao means to start feeling its existence around you. Most Daos, like the Dao of Water, or the Dao of Wind, are easier to sense since they exist in certain parts of nature, while others like the Dao of Ice or the Dao of Thunder are much harder to sense.

Since master wants to comprehend the Dao of Time, then this will be even harder."

Shun Long understood that, it was an arduous task for an earth, or even a Heaven grade cultivator, to start sensing and comprehend the Dao of Time. However, thanks to his golden eyes as well as the 'Stone of Time' inside his spiritual space, Shun Long's affinity with the element of time gave him hope that he could succeed.

4 days soon passed, and Shun Long spent each day either cultivating or trying to connect with the Dao of Time.

Although his cultivation was slowly rising, it would still take a few more days until he reached the middle of rank 7 in earth grade.

Finally, today was the day that the 'Vermilion realm' was supposed to open.

Liu Jian's voice sounded in everyone's ears as he shouted

"GATHER HERE!"

A few minutes later, seeing that all of the disciples and Elders had gathered in front of his tent, Liu Jian nodded his head as he said

"The 'Vermilion realm' will open in a few hours. All of you, follow me."

It wasn't just the 'floating cloud sect' who had gathered its disciples, but the rest of the sects as well.

Shun Long and the rest of the disciples, followed Liu Jian in front of a huge canyon, where the 'Golden Buddha temple' and a few other sects had already arrived.

Black clouds had already started filling the sky, when all of a sudden, an unexpected loud laughter reverberated throughout the silent canyon.

"HAHAHAHA!"

Everyone turned their heads towards the source of this laughter, and saw 2 people flying in the sky, as they quickly approached the 'Golden Buddha temple's' group.

When these 2 people arrived in front of the head priest of the 'Golden Buddha temple', everyone could finally make out their appearance.

An old man was leading the way while a black-haired young man was following behind him, both of them wearing blue robes embroidered with snow patterns.

The old man looked at the head priest in front of him, and clasped his hands as he said

"You must be the head priest of the 'Golden Buddha temple's' branch in the Desolate East. I assume that you can understand who we are."

The head priest's eyes widened when he saw the 2 men's robes and clasping his hands he replied

"Benefactors of the Snowcloud country, may this humble monk ask, what is it that you seek to find here in the Desolate east?"

The young man dressed in blue robes laughed as he heard this and said

"What we seek? Hahahaha! Aren't you all here for the same reason? The inheritance of the expert who left the secret realm?"

Every sect master's eyes widened as they heard this, before they turned their heads to look at the head priest of the 'Golden Buddha temple'.

Since the head priest was the strongest out of everyone else here, he could be considered the representative of all these sects.

The old man dressed in blue robes looked at the young man behind him and said

"Your Highness, although the rest of the sects here are puny, the 'Golden Buddha temple' does have some standing in our Eastern continent. Please allow me to handle this."

The young man thought for a bit before nodding his head.

The blue-robed old man then looked at the head priest, completely disregarding every other sect master around them as he said

"Head priest, I am certain that you know the relationship between your 'Golden Buddha temple' and my Snowcloud country. This is the sixth prince of my Snowcloud country, Yang Gongsun. If you agree to His Highness' request to enter the secret realm, then we will not forget th-."

BOOM

BOOM

BOOM

Before the old man in blue robes could finish his words, huge rumbling sounds were heard from the sky as the black clouds had all gathered above the canyon.

Finally, a huge bolt of thunder, followed by many smaller bolts of lightning bombarded the canyon.

BOOOOM

As the bolt of thunder entered inside the canyon, a gigantic pillar of light came from the canyon's depths, as it pierced through the clouds in the sky. When an Elder from one of the sects saw this pillar of light, he couldn't help shouting in excitement

"The 'Vermilion realm' has opened!"

Chapter 126 - 126 Entering the Vermilion realm

"The 'Vermilion realm' has opened!"

This sentence drew everyone's attention towards that huge pillar of light inside the canyon, before they turned their heads to look at the head priest of the 'Golden Buddha temple'.

It was a tradition, for the members of the 'Golden Buddha temple to always be the first to enter inside the 'Vermilion realm', before the rest of the sects followed.

However, since the head priest hadn't spoken yet, although the 'Vermilion realm' had already opened, no one dared to be the first one to enter.

The blue-robed prince, Yang Gongsun, looked at the head priest as he asked

"So? What do you think? Can I enter this secret realm?"

The head priest's beady eyes, stared at Yang Gongsun for a while before he smiled as he nodded his head and said

"Since the benefactor of the Snowcloud country wishes to join us, then of course you are welcome.

However, there is only a limited quota of people who can enter inside the 'Vermilion realm', so benefactor will first have to obtain permission from one of the sects who is willing to give up their spot."

Yang Gongsun turned to look at the sect masters in front of him, waiting to see which one would take the initiative to offer him one of their spots. He didn't believe for a second that there was no one interested in forming good relations with his Snowcloud country.

Indeed, Liu Jian was the first to take a step forward, as he looked at the head priest and bowed before he said

"Then please allow me to offer a spot to this young gentleman. My 'floating cloud sect' happens to have an extra spot, since one of our disciples didn't want to enter the 'Vermilion realm'."

Yang Gongsun turned to look at Liu Jian and laughed as he said

"Hahaha! Finally, someone here who knows to be sensible. What is your name?"

Liu Jian's eyes twitched slightly as he heard this arrogant and disrespectful address, but after remembering that a Nascent soul senior was backing this kid, he swallowed it down as he clasped his hands and said

"I am the sect master of the 'floating cloud sect', Liu Jian!"

Nodding his head Yang Gongsun said

"Very well Liu Jian. I, Yang Gongsun will not mistreat you in the future!"

Yang Gongsun's eyes then swept over the members of the 'floating cloud sect', only stopping for a while when saw Liu Mei. His eyes lit up as he saw her peerlessly beautiful face, and after licking his lips, he was actually the first to enter inside the giant pillar of light.

The Elders of the Meng family were furious when they noticed Yang Gongsun's lecherous smile as he looked at Liu Mei, but Liu Jian simply acted as if he hadn't seen anything.

The head priest of the 'Golden Buddha temple' threw a meaningful look at Liu Jian before he said

"In that case, let us all enter the 'Vermilion realm' then."

Finally, after the members of the temple entered inside the light pillar, all of the other sects, including the 'floating cloud sect' quickly followed suit.

Before they entered the light pillar, Liu Changpun looked at the Elders and disciples behind him and said

"Remember, when we enter inside, we will all be split up. Spend the first 5 days looking around the outer region, as you search for our sect members. We only have 3 months inside the 'Vermilion realm', so 5 days later, no matter what you are doing, start heading towards the central region."

Liu Changpun then was the first to head inside the light pillar as the rest of the members of the 'floating cloud sect' followed after him.

Shun Long didn't immediately enter as he asked little Black

"Will there be any problems for you?"

Little Black immediately understood what Shun Long meant and after thinking for a moment he shook his head as he said

"I don't think so master. Although a Dao King is a relatively powerful expert, my aura is completely hidden inside the 'Stone of Time'. Unless I intentionally expose myself, there shouldn't be any problem"

Shun Long nodded his head at little Black's words as he then took a step forward.

The moment that Shun Long's foot touched the giant pillar of light, he could feel his body leaving the ground, as if he was getting pulled upwards by some kind of ethereal force.

Shun Long could feel that he didn't have control over his body any longer.

He felt as if he was traveling inside the light pillar until a familiar sensation suddenly coursed through his body. It was the same sensation that Shun Long felt when he traveled through his space tears, but this one was much more intense.

A piercing white light forced Shun Long to close his eyes as he felt his body abruptly landing on a solid surface.

A few moments later, after the piercing pain receded, Shun Long opened his eyes to see countless huge trees everywhere around him.

The trees were all more than 20m(66ft) tall, and they spanned as far as Shun Long's eyes could see.

Before Shun Long could even stand up from the ground, little Black's voice suddenly sounded in his mind

"Master! Be careful!"

At the same time that he heard little Black's voice, Shun Long felt a sharp pain in his right leg, as his blood spurted like a small fountain.

Shun Long was surprised to see a 30 cm(12inch) arrow that had managed to pierce through his leg.

ROAR

The moment that little Black saw this, he jumped out of the 'Stone of Time' without any hesitation, as he unleashed a furious roar toward one of the trees behind Shun Long.

Little Black's roar was like a powerful sonic wave, whose force uprooted almost a dozed of these 20m(66ft) tall trees.

5 creatures dressed in leather clothes fell down from the trees behind Shun Long, as they started foaming from their mouths.

These creatures that were barely above 1m(3.3ft) tall, had sharp horns protruding out of their heads, while their huge noses and ears made a sharp contrast with their tiny eyes.

Shun Long was shocked as he saw the 5 leathered creatures wreathing in pain on the ground, when little Black's voice sounded inside his head

"Master, these creatures are the half-fiend race!"

Chapter 127 - 127 The half-fiend race

"Master, these creatures are the half-fiend race!"

Although Shun Long's memories included many things, the half-fiend race wasn't one of them.

Little Black looked at the confused Shun Long, who was staring at the seemingly unconscious members of the half-fiend race, and said

"Master, the half-fiend race is said to be descendants of the actual fiend race. Although they aren't pure-blooded descendants, their intelligence isn't any lower than that of a human's.

Moreover, as descendants of the fiend race, their bodies can naturally cultivate what humans call 'body refining techniques', just by eating or sleeping."

Shun Long was actually shocked by this revelation as his eyes kept examining the 5 members of the half-fiend race.

Swords, shields and even a crossbow, were scattered on the ground in front of them, when Shun Long suddenly noticed that the breathing of one of the 5 half-fiend members was much weaker than the rest.

Little Black snorted as he looked at this half-fiend member, who was the one who had fired the arrow that had pierced Shun Long's leg earlier.

Shun Long then turned his attention to his right leg. Although the arrow was still on his leg, it didn't hurt as much as before, even though his leg was already painted red with his blood.

Shun Long first removed the arrow from his leg before he circulated his 'Monarch's Eternal body'.

Examining the arrow in his hands, Shun Long saw that it seemed to be no different than an average arrow. And yet, this simple-looking arrow had managed to pierce through the defenses of his middle 2nd stage 'Monarch's Eternal body'.

This was actually the first wound that Shun Long had gotten since he had become a body refiner. It was common knowledge in the 'cultivation world', that body refiners could heal their wounds very quickly, thus Shun Long decided to test the regenerative abilities of his own body.

Surprisingly, the wound in his leg stopped bleeding almost instantly, but at the same time, a strong feeling of hunger overcame him.

Shun Long took out a few of the rations that he had stored inside the 'Stone of Time', but no matter how much he ate, he found out that it was like a small drop of water trying to fill a bucket.

The wound on his leg had already closed by now, but the feeling of hunger didn't seem to go away.

After taking out a 'Profound earth fruit' from the 'Stone of Time', Shun Long decided to consume the fruit directly.

The medicinal essence from the fruit finally managed to satiate his hunger, as Shun Long could feel his body filled with energy once again.

Shun Long then fell in deep contemplation as he thought about the use of the 'Profound earth fruit'.

"It seems that the energy that my body uses when it heals me, can be directly replenished by consuming medicinal herbs!"

Just as Shun Long's thoughts were racing, the 4 members of the half-fiend race had woken up.

When they saw that one of their clansmen had already stopped breathing, they didn't seem to exhibit any emotions at all. There was neither pity, nor sorrow in their eyes, as if the death of their clansman was just a trivial matter.

However, the moment that these four, saw the black dragon next to Shun Long, an intense feeling of reverence overcame them.

They looked at little Black with a fanatic look in their eyes, as they immediately prostrated themselves on the ground while chanting something in a weird language.

Shun Long was astonished as he saw this, while little Black stared at the half-fiend members apathetically.

Then, turning his head to look at Shun Long, he said

"Master, although the half-fiend members here can't pose a threat to us, perhaps they can actually give us some clues about this place. After all, we still don't know much about this 'Vermilion realm'."

Shun Long nodded his head as he asked

"Then, do you have a way to communicate with them?"

Little Black nodded his head as he explained

"Master, it's actually very easy to communicate with the half-fiends. They share the same language as the fiend race. All dragons are proficient in the language of the fiend race from the moment they are born."

Shun Long then observed as little Black opened his mouth and uttered some incomprehensible sounds as he looked at the half-fiends.

"Aeytu etuae tuaev"

"Tuaeu etauev yeat"

The 4 members of the half-fiend race responded zealously to little Black, when they saw that he was willing to communicate with them.

Shun Long observed as the black dragon spoke with the half-fiend members for 10 minutes, before they suddenly started jumping around in excitement.

Little Black then turned his head to look at Shun Long as he said

"Master, I have gained some information from these four.

Apparently, the forest that we are in, is near the edge of the 'Vermilion realm' and is called the Forest of the Giants.

The members of the half-fiend race live in a small village inside this forest, that is around 50 miles away from our current location.

Although these four don't know much about the 'Vermilion realm', they said that their village chief has ventured out of the Forest of the Giants in the past.

Considering how much the half-fiend race reveres the dragon race, it's unlikely that they are lying to me."

Shun Long thought for a bit before nodding his head as he said

"In that case, let's go to their village."

They didn't have any other lead right now, and getting some information from the half-fiends was much better than trying to find their way around the 'Vermilion realm' blindly. Little Black could also use his soul sense to scan for any potential danger in the 'half-fiend' village as well, so even if these 4 half-fiends were lying to them, little Black would be able to detect it ahead of time.

Seeing that Shun Long had agreed, little Black nodded his head at the 4 half-fiend members, who then started chanting something before they eagerly led the way.

Shun Long could also finally sense the cultivation of these 4 members of the half-fiend race, and found out that all of them were at the early 3rd stage in body refinement.

As they were walking towards the village, little Black who was using his soul sense to scan the surroundings said

"Master, there are many hidden magic beasts inside this forest, and even the weakest of them is at least at the peak of rank 2."

When Shun Long heard this, he felt pity for any other disciple of the 'floating cloud sect' that was unlucky enough to be also sent here in this forest along with him, as they would probably end up in the belly of one of those magic beasts.

Shun Long and little Black kept following the 4 members of the half-fiend race, and finally, 20 minutes later, they arrived in front of a small village that was hidden near a small lake inside the forest.

When Shun Long's eyes fell upon this small village, they immediately shone with a greedy light as one question flashed through his head

"Is this a rank 4 'Golden Jade spirit tree'?"

Chapter 128 - 128 The village chief's request

"Is this the rank 4 'Golden Jade spirit tree'?"

Shun Long could barely restrain his excitement once he saw the golden tree at the entrance of the village.

After taking a few moments to calm down his heartbeat, he looked at little Black as he said

"Little Black, tell them to call their village chief."

The black dragon nodded his head as he then communicated with the 4 members of the half-fiend race.

"Ateuty tyuav ttaeve"

The 4 half-fiends immediately responded as they hurried inside the village.

A few minutes later, more than 100 members of the half-fiend race could be seen gathering at the village's entrance.

Shun Long was stunned for a moment when he saw more than 100 half-fiend members dressed in leather clothes, running towards little Black.

An old, white-haired half-fiend was leading the rest of his clansmen, and when he approached 10 meters away from little Black, he immediately knelt down on the ground as he prostrated himself.

The rest of the half-fiend members quickly followed suit, as they all then chanted in a loud voice

"Aytuev vatyetu vtaytue!"

Shun Long was stunned when he saw the entire village of half-fiends prostrating themselves, as he looked at little Black and asked curiously

"What are they saying?"

Little Black who was staring at the half-fiend members without any emotion in his blue eyes, like a king who was observing his loyal subjects, then turned to look at Shun Long as he replied

"They are saying "

Shun Long's eyes lit up after seeing the devotion that the half-fiends had for dragons and said

"In that case, tell them that we want to ask their village chief a few questions."

Little Black nodded his head as he then started speaking with the half-fiends.

The white-haired village chief stared at little Black in trepidation as he said

"Autyevu tyaveu vuaty"

Little Black then looked at Shun Long as he asked

"Master, the village chief asks how he can be of service?!"

Shun Long smiled as he heard this, and had little Black be the intermediary for their conversation with the half-fiends.

"We want to know more about this 'Vermilion realm'."

The village chief looked at little Black in a confused manner as he said

"I don't know what the Lord Dragon means by the name of 'Vermilion realm', but if you are referring to the king's world, then of course I will tell you all I know.

Right now, we are at the forest of the Giants.

This is a huge forest that covers more than 3000 miles of land. There is even a big quarry near our village where our clansmen extract a very durable iron. This iron is very special and easy to melt, and we even make our houses from it."

Shun Long immediately remembered the arrow that had injured him earlier. If this iron could easily pierce through his middle second stage 'Monarch's Eternal body' without any inscriptions on it, then he was certain that if he sold it to a high-grade formation master, he could fetch a hefty price for it. Shun Long had even considered to start learning the art of formation masters himself.

Continuing the conversation with the half-fiend village chief, Shun Long then asked

"Aside from the iron quarry, is there anything else in this forest?"

The village chief looked at little Black as he responded with earnestness

"There is! Towards the depths of the forest, there is a huge lake that spans more than 500 miles. The ancestors' records state that when the King created this world, he had personally created the lake as well!"

Shun Long's eyes instantly lit up as he heard this. If the king who created this world was really a Dao King realm expert, then this lake that he had personally created was probably more than just a normal lake.

At this moment, in Shun Long's mind, the decision to go and check this lake later was already set.

Looking at the village chief, Shun Long had little Black translate his words for him again as he continued

"Then, what about the place outside of this forest?"

When the village chief heard this question, he shuddered for a bit, but in the end he still responded.

"Lord Dragon, the world outside of the forest is typically peaceful but, in the depths of the King's world there are many dangerous creatures. The King is also said to have created a palace at the center of this world, but our half-fiend race doesn't ever go near it. Some of our ancestors have tried to enter the King's palace in the past, but they never returned back to our village!"

Little Black then looked at Shun Long as he said in excitement

"Master, if there really is a palace in the depths of this 'Vermilion realm', then that must be the inheritance ground of the Dao King. Any treasure that a Dao King has left behind, would prove to be of great use to master at this point."

Shun Long nodded his head as he said

"Then, tell them that we want to have a look at the iron quarry and take some iron from it. Also, ask their village chief if they are willing to trade the golden tree in their village entrance."

Little Black nodded his head as he relayed Shun Long's message to the village chief.

The village chief's expression stiffened, and his face looked troubled as he said

"Lord Dragon... there is naturally no problem if you want to take iron from the iron quarry. After all, our village has more than enough for many generations. But... the golden tree was planted by an ancestor of ours..."

Little Black stared at the village chief with eyes full of anger when he heard his refusal.

After all, dragons were prideful creatures who would never ask anything of others. It was only because the half-fiends revered dragons like gods that little Black would even bother asking the village chief, instead of taking the rank 4 'Golden Jade spirit tree' directly.

The village chief cowered back when he felt the dragon's anger, and he once again prostrated himself on the ground before he said

"Lord Dragon please forgive my insolence... However, if the Lord Dragon is willing to do a favor to our village then, not only can you take the golden tree away, but our half-fiend tribe will also give you iron from the quarry ourselves."

It seemed that although the village chief really revered the dragon race, he was still willing to haggle with little Black over something.

When little Black mentioned this matter to Shun Long, it also aroused his curiosity.

Shun Long then looked at the village chief as he told little Black to ask them what they wanted in exchange.

The village chief turned his head to look at the half-fiend members who all prostrated themselves on the ground as well before the chief said

"Please mighty Lord Dragon, help us kill the monster that lives inside the lake!"

Chapter 129 - 129 The monster in the lake

"Please mighty Lord Dragon, help us kill the monster that lives inside the lake!"

When Shun Long heard the village chief's request he couldn't help asking

"Why do they need to take care of a monster that lives in the lake?"

The black dragon nodded his head as he asked this question to the village chief, who then trembled as he responded honestly

"Mighty Lord Dragon! Actually, the water from the lake is greatly beneficial to the cultivation of our tribe members. After drinking just a little of it, a second stage warrior at the peak can advance to the third stage!"

I would still be a third stage warrior if I hadn't consumed the lake's water 200 years ago.

However... every time that our tribe tries to take some water from the lake, we lose many of our warriors to that monster!"

Excitement filled not only Shun Long's, but little Black's eyes as well. If the water could help with the cultivation of the half-fiend members, then it was probably another huge treasure on par with the 'Golden Jade spirit tree'.

However, Shun Long didn't immediately accept the village chief's request, as he had little Black then ask him

"How strong is that monster that lives inside the lake?"

When the village chief heard this question, he couldn't help take a few steps back. Then, after taking a deep breath he responded seriously

"It... it has reached the 5th rank."

The 5th rank!

Shun Long sucked in a cold breath of air as he heard this.

This was a magic beast that was just as strong, if not stronger than the average early-stage Nascent soul expert.

Although little Black had already reached the middle stage of rank 4, he was still a rank 4 magic beast in the end. Although he could probably fight against an early rank 5 magic beast for a bit, he was unable to really kill one.

Little Black understood what Shun Long was thinking and said

"Master, if it's a rank 5 magic beast, then not just its beast core, but its entire body will be a treasure for us. I can definitely advance my strength as well if I can consume its flesh."

Shun Long however looked at the greedy black dragon and asked

"How confident are you that you can kill a rank 5 magic beast then?"

Little Black thought seriously for a while and said

"If we are talking about an early rank 5 magic beast... then about 20 percent. I'm also 50 percent certain of defeating it, and more than 80 percent certain of being able to run away if things look bad."

Shun Long thought seriously for a while before he nodded his head and said

"Alright. There is also something that I want to try as well."

Seeing that Shun Long had agreed, little Black looked at the half-fiend members as he spoke in their language.

The half-fiend villagers all looked elated as they kowtowed repeatedly on the ground and shouted

"Aytuev vatyetu vtaytue!"

"Aytuev vatyetu vtaytue!"

Little Black ignored the kowtowing villagers, as he then flew above their heads and directly arrived in front of the 30m(98ft) rank 4 'Golden Jade spirit tree', that was in front of the half-fiend village entrance.

Grabbing the golden tree's trunk with his talons, the 3m(10ft) tall little Black slowly uprooted the giant tree.

The half-fiend villagers looked at the black dragon who was taking away the golden tree with excitement in their eyes.

Since he had already agreed to fight against the rank 5 magic beast inside the lake, the villagers didn't even think that little Black would try to trick them.

After storing the 'Golden Jade spirit tree' inside the 'Stone of Time', Shun Long looked at little Black and said

"Since we don't have anything else to do now, then let's go to that lake. We can always come back and collect that mysterious iron from the half-fiend villagers later."

Little Black nodded his head and looking at the village chief, he had him lead the way to the lake.

The village chief excitedly jumped up and gave some orders to the rest of the villagers, before he personally lead the way for little Black and Shun Long.

As they traveled deeper inside the forest, little Black noticed that the number of magic beasts in the surroundings had drastically decreased.

The half-fiend village chief seemed to know exactly which path to take, so that they wouldn't encounter any magic beasts on the way as well.

Finally, an hour later, their group had arrived in front of a huge lake with crystal blue waters.

The surroundings of the lake were extremely peaceful and there didn't seem to be a single animal around, let alone a magic beast.

The moment that they arrived in front of the lake, little Black's voice sounded inside Shun Long's head as he warned gravely

"Master, be careful!"

At the same time as little Black's voice sounded in his head, Shun Long saw a huge beast head emerging from the depths of the lake.

A 25m(82ft) long magic beast that was shaped like a giant worm slowly revealed itself. The beast had 9 eyes spread on its face, while multiple tentacles were hanging from the sides of its body.

The half-fiend village chief shivered as he saw the beast once again and stepped back as he hid behind a tree, while even Shun Long was stunned for a moment after seeing the beast.

The aura from this worm made it clear that this was truly an early rank 5 magic beast.

Looking at little Black who had already flown up in the sky, ready to fight against it, Shun Long warned

"Little Black be careful! This is a rank 5 'Nine-eyed giant worm'! Its tentacles have a paralyzing poison that can incapacitate even early rank 5 magic beasts."

The moment that Shun Long finished explaining the 'Nine-eyed giant worm's' strengths, he immediately circulated the 'Monarch's Hourglass' as well as his golden eyes.

Then, turning his eyes to look at the rank 5 giant worm, he mumbled

"Let's see if this will really work."

Chapter 130 - 130 Shun Long's method

"Let's see if this will really work."

Shun Long watched as little Black started fighting against the 'Nine-eyed giant worm'.

The worm extended its huge tentacles as it tried to grab the black dragon in the air.

Little Black however, flew between the gaps of the tentacles as he skillfully avoided them.

Opening his mouth, he spat out a black fireball at the worm's back, but the giant worm immediately dove back into the lake as it avoided the attack.

The ball of black fire made a sizzling sound as it came in contact with the lake's water before it eventually dissipated.

Seeing that it had successfully avoided the dragon's attack, the worm resurfaced again, as it continuously tried to grab the black dragon with its tentacles.

Shun Long's eyes were focused completely on the rank 5 'Nine-eyes giant worm'.

He noticed that his qi was being depleted much faster than usual, as he tried to see what the worm would do in the future.

That was probably due to the huge difference in cultivation between himself and the 'Nine-eyes giant worm'.

Seeing that the worm was about to attack the black dragon once more with its tentacles, Shun Long slashed the air in front of him with his hand as he opened a space tear.

The space tear led directly to the giant worm's face, but this one seemed to be different than Shun Long's previous space tears.

It looks like this space tear wasn't meant for Shun Long to jump inside it, but to drag the worm to him.

A space tear that was barely 40cm(15inch) long was trying to drag the worm towards him.

Shun Long sighed as he saw this result, before he closed the space tear and once again started to observe the 'Nine-eyed giant worm' again.

The worm didn't even feel anything from Shun Long's 'attack', as it kept fighting back and forth with the black dragon.

Every time the dragon spat out that black fireball, the worm would dive back into the lake, only to resurface a few breaths of time later and continue fighting.

5 minutes later, Shun Long once again clenched his right fist, as he opened another space tear, this time one that was even bigger than before. However, the location of the space tear was different this time, as it led directly inside the worm's mouth.

This was a test to Shun Long's space control, as he tried to succeed again and again.

Even after fighting back and forth for more than an hour, neither little Black, nor the 'Nine-eyed giant worm' seemed to have gotten any tired.

Shun Long however, had already depleted more than 70 percent of his qi, just by keeping his golden eyes active for this past hour.

At this moment, his focus had reached its peak, and as he clenched his right hand tightly once again he punched through the air in front of him.

A space tear that was even bigger than the previous two appeared, as it connected Shun Long's location with the 'Nine-eyed giant worm'.

GRUUUUUUAAAAAH

A horrifying scream left the worm's mouth as a huge eyeball appeared in front of Shun Long's feet.

The worm thrashed around in pain, as green blood was constantly flowing from where its eyeball was previously located.

Little Black's eyes gleamed with a ruthless light, and without missing this opportunity, he spat out a huge black fireball straight towards the worm's face.

The 'Nine-eyes giant worm' seemed to have sensed the danger in the air, as it tried to suppress the pain it felt and dove back into the water.

However, although the giant fireball had missed the worm's face, it had still landed right on its neck.

GRAAAAAAAHHHH

The giant worm screamed once again as half of its head was now almost severed from its body.

Green blood was spurting through the air like a fountain, as the worm's cries slowly stopped.

Less than a minute later, its giant body was floating on the water's surface, while its blood slowly dyed the water an emerald color.

Shun Long hadn't even seen how the 'Nine-eyed giant worm' had died, as his eyes were staring at the huge eyeball on his feet.

Although his body was feeling fatigued after having opened nearly a dozen space tears earlier, while more than 80 percent of his qi had been depleted already, the excitement in his eyes couldn't be concealed. At the moment that he had created the last space tear, Shun Long could feel that he had even managed to touch upon the Dao of Space for a brief moment.

The half-fiend village chief then fell down on his knees as he saw the corpse of the 'Nine-eyed giant worm' floating in the lake. Looking at little Black in the air, the village chief shouted loudly

"Etuae tuaevu yeat!"

Little Black barely glanced at the village chief before he grabbed the worm's corpse from the lake, and carried it through the air, and placed it next to Shun Long who was still deep in his thoughts.

Recovering from his stupor, Shun Long then turned his eyes to look at the corpse of the giant worm next to him. After placing it inside the 'Stone of Time', he turned his attention to little Black as he said

"Let's see how special this lake water really is!"

Although the water seemed absolutely ordinary at first glance, Shun Long could feel that there was some kind of mysterious energy inside it.

Placing his hand inside the lake, Shun Long was shocked when he felt the 'Monarch's Eternal body' had started circulating by itself, as it greedily absorbed the lake water. Shun Long's body was like a starved beast that had finally found food, as it greedily absorbed the lake water without restraint.

Shun Long could feel that his body was growing stronger at an incredibly rapid pace, and taking off his robes, he then dove inside the lake without any more hesitation.

Little Black saw the excitement in Shun Long's eyes, as he then followed him inside the lake.

The effects of the lake's water were far beyond what the 2 of them had imagined.