

## Time 351

### Chapter 351 - 351 Breakthrough

Shun Long knew that he was just a step away from advancing to the middle of the fourth stage of the 'Monarch's Eternal body', and yet, he couldn't directly consume a stalk of 'Dragonblood grass' in order to advance.

Aside from the violent energy inside the 'Dragonblood grass' that was harmful to cultivators if it was consumed directly, Shun Long knew that the only way to do it without leaving any latent dangers to his body, would be if he could refine the grass into rank 5 'Dragonblood tempering pills'.

However, what he had lacked the most during this time, had been the beast cores from rank 5 magic beasts.

Thankfully, now that he had the beast cores of the 2 'snow apes' in his hand, he could finally attempt to refine the 'Dragonblood tempering pills'!

Seeing that Little Black was actually asleep, Shun Long guessed, that the black dragon must have been digesting the stalks of 'Dragonblood grass' that he had consumed during this time.

Of course, due to their soul connection, Shun Long could also feel that Little Black's strength had been rising during this time as well.

Standing up, he first removed the beast cores from the 2 'snow apes' bodies, before he sat back on his usual seat and took out his alchemy cauldron.

Closing his eyes, Shun Long then took out a dozen of rank 4 supplementary medicinal herbs, as well as a stalk of rank 5 'Dragonblood grass' from his herb garden, before he started to warm up his alchemy cauldron.

Thanks to Little Black and Little Silver eating huge amounts of 'Dragonblood grass', Shun Long had already created a large stockpile of this medicinal herb, so he didn't need to specifically hasten the growth of the medicinal herbs in his herb garden just for this grass.

After throwing the rank 4 medicinal herbs inside the alchemy cauldron, 15 minutes later, Shun Long finally placed the crimson stalk of 'Dragonblood grass' inside, as well as the beast core of the early rank 5 'snow ape', before he closed the lid of the cauldron.

Due to the quality of the alchemy cauldron itself being just a rank 2 silver grade one, it was extremely difficult for it to contain the energy of the rank 5 medicinal herb inside it, as well as the beast core of the powerful rank 5 'snow ape'.

Refining a rank 5 pill under these circumstances was extremely taxing to Shun Long's spirit sense, that continued to purify the medicinal essence of the medicinal herbs inside the cauldron, while he tried to melt the beast core into essence at the same time.

Beads of sweat had appeared on Shun Long's forehead as minutes continued to pass, but he knew that he couldn't stop the pill refinement, otherwise everything he had done so far would be wasted.

Although losing a stalk of 'Dragonblood grass' or the dozen of rank 4 supplementary herbs wasn't too much of an issue, losing the beast core of the 'snow ape' would be a huge problem.

After all, during this time, the number of beast cores that Shun Long had found which could be used in order to refine a 'Dragonblood tempering pill', could be counted in one hand.

Aside from the 2 rank 5 'snow apes', the only other suitable magic beast core that Shun Long had found in the past, was the beast core from Cui Guoliang's 'precious Nine-eyed giant worm'.

Of course, since Little Black had absorbed that beast core already in order to advance his strength, Shun Long could only use the beast cores from the 2 rank 5 'snow apes' that he had left.

Time continued to pass, and soon, 3 hours had already gone by, as the fragrant scent of the medicinal herbs slowly escaped the cauldron, as they started to fill the foggy space inside the 'Stone of Time'.

At the same time, Little Black opened his blue eyes, as he tried to look for the source of the scent that had assaulted his nose, before his eyes landed on Shun Long who was still sitting cross-legged on the ground.

Shun Long patted Little Black's head as the black dragon had already placed it next to the cauldron, before he opened the cauldron's lid.

An even more intense smell assaulted Shun Long's senses the moment that he lifted the lid of the cauldron, before his gaze fell on the scene inside it.

6 bright red colored pills that were covered with a pale green glow were lying inside the cauldron, giving Shun Long a sense of hunger as he stared at them.

Although Shun Long guessed that it was possible to refine 8 pills instead of 6, he also knew that this was impossible for him to do so with a rank 2 silver-grade cauldron.

The conditions had to be perfect in order to refine 8 pills, which meant that Shun Long needed to have at least a rank 1 gold grade cauldron as well as a strong enough spirit sense.

Of course, Shun Long knew, that even if he had the money, it was most likely impossible to find a gold-grade cauldron for sale, even in the 'Heaven's Dome city'.

Gold grade formation masters would definitely be snatched up by a powerful power like the 'Alchemists' Guild' or the 'Golden Exchange firm', and wouldn't randomly auction their own works.

This way, the 'Alchemists' Guild' could also lure promising alchemists to join their ranks, while the formation masters could ensure the most benefits for themselves!

Staring at the 6 'Dragonblood tempering pills' inside the cauldron, Shun Long felt a wave of exhaustion overcoming him, as he had suddenly expended more than half of his spirit sense during the pill refinement.

Of course, aside from one of the 'Dragonblood tempering pills' being at the high-grade, the other 5 pills were all top-grade rank 5 pills!

Since he couldn't consume the high-grade pill without being able to avoid dealing with the pill toxins inside it later on, Shun Long gave it to Little Black before his eyes stared at the 5 top-grade pills in front of him.

As for Little Black himself, the dragon's body wouldn't get affected by any kind of pill toxins.

This was the difference between the bodies of cultivators and magic beasts.

Even Shun Long who was cultivating in the 'Monarch's Eternal body' couldn't completely avoid the effects of the pill toxins.

Although he could most likely deal with them later on and completely expel them from his body, it was still a troublesome process. Even Shun Long's powerful body couldn't be compared to the body of a king of magic beasts like Little Black's in this regard.

Seeing Little Black excitedly eat the high-grade 'Dragonblood tempering pill' as if it was some kind of delicacy, Shun Long smiled before he took a deep breath, and placed a top-grade 'Dragonblood tempering pill' in his mouth.

The energy inside the top-grade rank 5 pill immediately exploded as soon as the pill entered inside Shun Long's mouth, as the condensed medicinal essence inside it poured down Shun Long's throat before it slowly seeped inside his body.

The burning sensation filled Shun Long with pain, almost as if his body was about to explode from the excess energy, making him want to shout to relieve himself from the pain.

And yet, he knew that he could only grit his teeth and continue to endure this. After all, this was the only way for his 'Monarch's Eternal body' to advance.

Just when Shun Long felt that he had reached his limit and his body was about to explode, the 'Monarch's Eternal body' circulated by itself, as it started to hungrily absorb the energy from the 'Dragonblood tempering pill' inside Shun Long's body.

The barrier that was holding him at the early fourth stage of the 'Monarch's Eternal body' instantly broke, as Shun Long felt his strength rising at an extremely rapid rate.

He could feel endless amounts of energy filling his body, and barely a few minutes later, he had already entered the middle of the fourth stage of the 'Monarch's Eternal body'!

A few more moments passed before Shun Long felt the remnant energy of the 'Dragonblood tempering pill' inside his body disappear.

Although he was still sitting cross-legged, but Shun Long could feel that his body was now many times stronger than before.

If he had trouble fighting with a rank 6 Spirit realm expert in the past, Shun Long could feel that he could most likely defeat one in less than 3 punches.

Little Black stared at Shun Long with excitement in his bright blue eyes, before he said in an excited voice

"Master, congratulations for your breakthrough!"

Shun Long could feel Little Black's joy for his breakthrough, before he smiled and petted the black dragon's head.

Since their feelings were connected, even without Little Black saying anything, Shun Long could still feel his emotions.

After taking a deep breath, Shun Long turned his eyes towards the remaining 4 pills inside his alchemy cauldron.

He didn't choose to consume the remaining 'Dragonblood tempering pills' right away, and instead, he first placed them inside a pill bottle, before he closed his eyes and imagined himself leaving the foggy space in the 'Stone of Time'.

Although a little more than 3 hours had passed inside the 'Stone of Time', less than 30 minutes had gone by for Liu Mei who was still training with her 'four seasons azure sword'.

Seeing Shun Long appearing back in the cave so quickly, a shocked expression had appeared on Liu Mei's face, before a blooming smile soon replaced it.

Shun Long smiled gently as he caressed Liu Mei's face, feeling much more confident now that he had advanced to the middle of the fourth stage in the 'Monarch's Eternal body'.

Even if he had to fight with a peak rank 4 magic beast, even if he couldn't defeat it, he was still confident in fighting it on even grounds.

Feeling the aura coming from Shun Long's body that was at least at the same level as that of a peak rank 6 Spirit realm expert's, Liu Mei's smile bloomed like a lotus.

Liu Mei already knew that Shun Long was cultivating in both qi and body refinement.

Without any hesitation, Shun Long first had Little Silver return inside the 'Stone of Time', before he held Liu Mei's hand and left the small mountain that they were staying in, ready to hunt some peak rank 4 magic beasts.

Time continued to fly inside the 'Ten thousand beasts' mountain region', and in the blink of an eye, 2 years had soon passed.

Chapter 352 - 352 Two years

2 years had gone by in the blink of an eye.

In a mountain deep inside the northeast of the 'Ten thousand beasts' mountain range', an early rank 5 magic beast that resembled an earth bear with iron armor around its head and chest, was lying motionless in front of a blue-robed man's feet.

An army of skeletons and undead knights had completely surrounded the young man, but they seemed to have turned their swords towards the iron bear that had collapsed on the ground instead.

With a smile on his face, Shun Long looked past the skeletons and the undead knights around him, as his gaze landed at the forest behind him.

Liu Mei who was standing on the branch of a huge tree, wasn't wearing her white veil on her face as she flashed a dazzling smile at Shun Long before she floated towards him.

Shun Long looked at Liu Mei who soon landed in front of him, before he said with a smile on his face

"Mei'er, your control over the undead knights during a fight has improved a lot in the last few days."

Liu Mei smiled even brighter after hearing Shun Long's praise, before she nodded her head without saying anything, but a sweet feeling had appeared in her heart.

In the last few years, the thing that she had practiced the most, was her sword skills as well as her control of her skeletal warriors and her undead knights during a fight.

Originally, due to her weak spirit sense, Liu Mei couldn't handle controlling more than 2 undead knights at the same time, but now, she could easily control 10 of them, as well as a certain number of her skeletons at the same time.

During the past 2 years, Liu Mei had also consumed tens of thousands of top-grade 'Spirit enhancing pills', and had killed hundreds of criminals in the 'City of Sin' as well as absorbed their qi, bringing both her cultivation as well as her spirit sense at the peak of rank 9 of the Spirit realm!

The undead knights around Shun Long were also at the peak of rank 9 of the Spirit realm as well, while the 200 skeletons were at the middle of rank 9 instead.

A terrifying army of 200 middle rank 9 Spirit realm skeletons, even if they weren't as strong as normal middle rank 9 Spirit realm cultivators, could definitely stall for time, even when fighting against an early rank 5 magic beast!

As for Liu Mei's comprehension of the Dao, it had long since reached the threshold of the Nascent Soul stage.

The only thing that Liu Mei needed, was a spark of inspiration in order to begin her breakthrough to the Nascent Soul stage.

After all, the Nascent Soul stage was also called the Nirvana stage, while the Spirit realm was the realm of preparation before entering this stage.

It was simply impossible to breakthrough and become a Nascent Soul stage expert without a sudden sense of inspiration.

Little Black had long since told Shun Long, that Shun Long needed his soul to become one with his body in order to breakthrough to the Nascent Soul stage!

As for Shun Long, during the past 2 years, he had consumed countless middle-grade spirit stones in order to reach the peak of rank 9 of the Spirit realm as well.

The spirit stones that he had consumed, were far more than what he had originally estimated.

If it wasn't because of his pill shop in the 'City of Sin', Shun Long would have to think of another way to gather spirit stones during these 2 years in order to reach the late-stages and subsequently, the peak of rank 9 of the Spirit realm!

Unlike Liu Mei, he had also taken even more time to bring his spirit sense to the absolute peak of rank 9 of the Spirit realm by consuming countless 'Spirit enhancing pills' as well.

This was even harder than advancing his own cultivation!

Just the time he had spent in secluded cultivation to advance his spirit sense to the peak of rank 9 of the Spirit realm and bring it on par with his own cultivation level, had taken Shun Long more than 4 years inside the foggy space in the 'Stone of Time'.

During this time, Shun Long's 'Monarch's Eternal body' had also advanced to the peak of the fourth stage.

With both his qi and his body cultivation, at the peak of rank 9 in the Spirit realm and the peak of the fourth stage respectively, Shun Long was certain that there was no other Spirit realm cultivator in the entire 'Night star continent' who would be able to last more than 3 exchanges against him.

However, raising his spirit sense wasn't actually the most time-consuming part.

Instead, it was the fact that Shun Long had spent almost 10 years inside the foggy space in the 'Stone of Time' comprehending the Dao of Time!

It was only a day ago that he had managed to finish his comprehension of the Dao and came out from the 'Stone of Time' to test his strength.

More than 2 years had passed as Shun Long and Liu Mei were hunting magic beasts in the 'Ten thousand beasts' mountain range' or traveled back to the 'City of Sin' to operate the pill shop.

According to Shun Long's estimations, the test for the Holy sect only had 2 or 3 months until it actually started.

As Shun Long placed the corpse of the early rank 5 magic beast inside the 'Stone of Time', a sudden rumbling could be heard from the distance, as Shun Long and Liu Mei both felt the ground beneath their feet that had started to shake.

Shun Long's and Liu Mei's expressions instantly changed as this obviously wasn't a normal earthquake.

The terrifying rumbling did not only shake the entire 'Ten thousand beasts' mountain range', but instead, it actually affected the entire 'Night star continent'!

A gigantic beam of light shot to the sky, that every single person in the entire continent could see no matter where they were.

Shun Long's expression suddenly changed when he saw the direction that the enormous beam of light was coming from.

It wasn't just coming from the center of the 'Night star continent'... but more specifically, from the 'Dragon Lord's villa' itself!

Chapter 353 - 353 Returning to the Dragon Lord's villa

It didn't take long for Liu Mei to realize this issue either, as she turned her head to look at Shun Long.

Shun Long had a serious look in his eyes as he stared at the gigantic pills of light in the distance, before Little Black's voice suddenly sounded in his mind

"Master! Someone is trying to take the dragonstone from that place!"

Shun Long's eyes narrowed when he heard Little Black's words that didn't have a single hint of uncertainty inside them, before he started to think of the possible scenarios to resolve this situation.

He knew that Little Black had a mental connection with the dragonstone inside the 'Dragon Lord's villa' after sensing its aura once, so there was no way that he would be mistaken about this. If there was something that had caused the dragonstone inside the villa to react, Little Black would definitely end up sensing it and be aware that someone was trying to take the dragonstone!

At the same time, during the past 2 years, Shun Long had heard rumors in the 'City of Sin', that the hall master of the 'Demon Emperor palace', Duan Zhu, had headed deep inside the 'Dragon Lord's villa' by himself around the same time that he and Liu Mei had left the Heaven's Dome city!

As a peak rank 9 Dao King who was probably as strong, if not stronger than the 5 most powerful Dao Kings of the 'Night star continent', Duan Zhu had a high chance of reaching the depths of the villa, if one factored in that he was also a hall master of the 'Demon Emperor palace' and most likely had no lack of treasures with him!

This made Shun Long feel that this powerful rank 9 Dao King realm expert, was the most likely suspect to have caused this pillar of light to erupt from the 'Dragon Lord's villa'!

Of course, despite Duan Zhu's identity as a high-ranking hall master of the 'Demon Emperor palace', Shun Long couldn't allow the dragonstone to fall in his hands.

He already knew that this stone was extremely important to Little Black.

Additionally, during the past 2 years, Little Black had also reached the middle of rank 6, while Little Silver was just a step away from advancing to that level as well.

In a direct fight, Little Black may not necessarily lose to Duan Zhu.

Even if Little Black was actually weaker than the peak rank 9 Dao King in the end, Shun Long was also confident that Duan Zhu wouldn't be able to keep him tied down if he wanted to leave.

Although Shun Long wasn't willing to let the black dragon's existence become known, he couldn't afford to lose something like the dragonstone either.

After a serious moment of deliberation, he turned his head to look at Liu Mei, and after taking a deep breath he then said in a serious tone

"Mei'er, let's go to the 'Dragon Lord's villa'!"

Shun Long didn't ask Liu Mei whether she wanted to go with him or not. In the last 2 years, he had already understood the way that he and Liu Mei both treated each other.

Since Shun Long knew that venturing into the 'Dragon Lord's villa' was dangerous and it could potentially lead him into risking his life, Liu Mei would most likely choose to go with him instead of waiting outside.

Besides, Shun Long had more than enough 'Dragon Lord's medallions' for him and Liu Mei to both enter inside.

Even without the 'Dragon Lord's medallion' that he had gotten from Cui Guoliang, Shun Long still had the medallions from the 2 Dao Kings of the 'Mercenaries' Association' who had ambushed him and Liu Mei in order to rob Little Silver away.

At the same time, Shun Long also remembered the red-haired female Elder of the Blood Moon sect who wanted to make Shun Long into a pill slave.

"Zhong Biya would definitely have a 'Dragon Lord's medallion' with her as well!"

Of course, Shun Long didn't have any tender feelings for the red-haired Elder who had 'saved' him by messing with Xue Zhilan's plans back then.

Instead, he simply wondered if she was still alive and hidden somewhere after her ambush outside of the Heaven's Dome city.

If it wasn't because the bald old man, Xue Zhilan had simply refused to let Zhong Biya take Shun Long as a pill slave, incurring her wrath in the process, and making her do her use all of her strength to spoil the old man's plans, Shun Long would have to face 3 Dao Kings during that time.

With Little Black's strength back then, Shun Long wasn't certain that they would be able to kill every single one of them!

Liu Mei nodded her head once she saw Shun Long's serious look, before she waved her hand, making the army of skeletons and undead knights around her and Shun Long disappear.

At the same time, Shun Long first covered himself with a black robe that completely concealed his face and body, before he gave an identical robe to Liu Mei.

Then, without any hesitation, he first summoned Little Silver from the foggy space in the 'Stone of Time', before both he and Liu Mei sat on its back.

The black panther that hadn't left the 'Stone of Time' for the past few months, let out a deafening roar, almost as it wanted to intimidate the magic beasts around it with its presence, before it spread its bright silver wings and shot towards the south of the 'Ten thousand beasts' mountain range', heading towards the entrance.

Shun Long twitched his lips when he heard Little Silver's excited roar that reverberated in the mountains around them, but since they were already leaving the 'Ten thousand beasts' mountain range', he wasn't afraid of a late-stage Dao King finding their location and catching up to them.

Although Little Silver had yet to breakthrough to the middle of rank 6 like Little Black, its strength had already advanced by a lot during the past 2 years after consuming countless stalks of 'Dragonblood grass'.

Although it couldn't beat a middle-stage Dao King, let alone a late-stage one, its speed had definitely reached the threshold of the average late-stage Dao King.

The black panther flew towards the entrance of the 'Ten thousand beasts' mountain range' like a bolt of silver lightning, completely ignoring the terrified magic beasts around it in the process.

In just a few minutes, Shun Long and Liu Mei had already left the 'Ten thousand beasts' mountain range, as they flew towards the 'Dragon Lord's villa'.

At the same time, in the Heaven's Dome city, every single Dao King from the peak powers of the city had shot to their feet as they noticed the gigantic beam of light piercing through the clouds, before they hurriedly flew towards the 'Dragon Lord's villa' as well!

Chapter 354 - 354 Entering the villa!

Every single Dao King in the 'Night star continent' had been alarmed by the abnormal matter of the 'Dragon Lord's villa', and the peak powers of the Heaven's Dome city were no exception!

Inside the palace of the royal family of the Shengtian dynasty at the northern part of the city, the golden-robed old king, Sheng Jun, had already gathered a group of 16 Dao Kings that followed behind him, before he headed towards the 'Dragon Lord's villa'.

Sheng Jun had a solemn expression on his face as he remembered, that more than 2 years ago the hall master of the 'Demon Emperor palace', Duan Zhu had also entered the villa by himself.



Even though Sheng Jun was one of the 3 strongest Dao Kings in the entire continent, he had never managed to elicit such a reaction from the 'Dragon Lord's villa', neither by himself, nor with his Shentian dynasty's help!

"Could it be that he has obtained the treasures inside?"

As this thought flashed through Sheng Jun's mind, he couldn't help raising his speed, as he led the group of Dao Kings behind him towards the Netherspirit forest.

The other peak powers of the city were no exceptions, as Zhao Lan led 9 gold grade alchemists from the 'Alchemists Guild', towards the Netherspirit forest's location as well.

The same situation took place in the 'Golden Exchange firm', as well as the 'Mercenaries' Association's' headquarters!

Only the members of the Dark elf race at the eastern part of the city seemed completely unperturbed by the 'Dragon Lord's villa's' matter, as they continued their lives normally.

At the depths of the Dark elf race's palace, a young man with dark skin, dark green hair and pointy ears first knocked on a small wooden door before he cautiously entered the room where the 2 peak rank 9 Dao Kings, Yi Huian and Yi Xiaosi were leisurely chatting with each other, with bewitching smiles on their faces that could encapture any man's attention.

Looking at the 2 beautiful red-haired women in front of him, the young man audibly gulped his saliva, before he hurriedly bowed and turned his body to face Yi Xiaosi as he said in a flustered voice

"Your majesty! Something important is happening in the 'Dragon Lord's villa'!

The Shengtian dynasty's old king and the other peak powers have all been roused and are leaving the city, heading towards the Netherspirit forest! Should we follow them?"

Although the young man looked to be barely above 20 years old, he was actually an early stage Dao King of the dark elves, and was the one responsible to inform Yi Xiaosi over the important matters that happened in the city.

Yi Xiaosi turned her head towards the flustered 'young man', before an alluring smile had formed itself on her lips, as she shook her head and said calmly

"No need!"

The young man was shocked by this simple response, and after staying still for a moment to ruminate over Yi Xiaosi's words, his eyes suddenly lit up before he asked in a voice full of fear and excitement

"Your majesty, does that mean that Lord Duan has already obtained the treasures inside the villa?"

Based on what this man knew, only if Duan Zhu had already obtained the treasures inside the 'Dragon Lord's villa' would Yi Xiaosi and Yi Huian dare to be so relaxed without worrying about Duan Zhu needing any help from them.

Nodding her head, Yi Xiaosi looked at the young man before she said in a calm tone that was filled with absolute confidence

"Even if he hasn't obtained everything yet, Lord Duan should be very close in getting the rest of the treasures inside that place. Even if Sheng Jun and the rest go in now, I doubt that they will be able to find even scraps left behind by Lord Duan!"

The young man was stunned for a moment, and he even forgot to bow as he turned his eyes towards the gigantic beam of light in the distance with zeal filling his eyes.

"Indeed, only Lord Duan could do what Sheng Jun and the other Dao Kings have failed to do for thousands of years!"

As this thought flashed through the young man's mind, he hurriedly bowed as he looked at the smiling Yi Xiaosi and the expressionless Yi Huian, before he left the room with a look of pride on his face.

Indeed, since Duan Zhu had most likely already obtained the treasures in the 'Dragon Lord's villa', the situation in the Heaven's Dome city was going to completely change.

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At the same time, Dao Kings from every place of the entire 'Night star continent', were heading towards the 'Dragon Lord's villa' in huge numbers.

With the black panther's speed, it took less than a day for Shun Long and Liu Mei to arrive just a few tens miles away from the 'Dragon Lord's villa'.

Even from a distance however, Shun Long could easily notice that the situation around the villa had already started to turn chaotic.

It seemed that the gigantic beam of light had attracted even more people than what Shun Long had originally expected.

Whether it was Dao Kings who were flying by themselves, or those who were riding on top of powerful magic beasts, they were all heading directly towards the villa.

On the way, Shun Long had already noticed more than 4 groups of Dao Kings who were flying on the backs of powerful rank 6 magic beasts, and they had also turned their gazes to look at Little Silver as well.

However, with the pressing situation of the gigantic beam of light that was coming from the depths of the villa, as well as the fact that Shun Long had completely retracted his aura and could very likely be a late-stage Dao King as well, none of these groups chose to probe him for his identity or strength.

After all, although uncommon, it was very possible for a Dao King to bring their descendants to this place, which was why these experts ignored Liu Mei's cultivation that was still at the Spirit realm before they continued flying forward.

A few moments later, the gigantic building that was bigger than a city itself appeared in Shun Long's and Liu Mei's eyes.

The massive crowd that was previously camping in tents outside the villa had grown even more than before, while even some early-stage Dao Kings, as well as peak Nascent Soul stage experts, were hidden in their midst!

At the same time, Shun Long noticed a group of 4 early and middle-stage Dao Kings heading towards the villa's gigantic gates, each of them holding a small bronze medallion in their hands.

As soon as the Dao Kings approached close to the gigantic gates of the 'Dragon Lord's villa', the golden barrier that was covering the villa reacted to the 'Dragon Lord's medallions' in their hands, as a golden glow of light covered their bodies, before the gates opened ever so slightly.

The gigantic gates didn't fully open, but the 'small opening' was still enough even for 6 people to walk side by side and enter inside.

The moment that the 4 Dao Kings entered inside, the gates of the villa closed, before the barrier of light around the villa returned to its previous calmness.

After waiting for a few minutes so that he wouldn't have to directly meet with the people who had just entered, Shun Long took a deep breath, before he had Little Silver walk forward towards the villa's entrance.

The early rank 6 'Silver-winged panther king' attracted the attention of some nearby Dao Kings, as well as the rest of the people in the crowd, as it was obvious that it was heading towards the gates.

Looks filled with doubt as well as envy had appeared in the Spirit realm and the Nascent Soul stage experts' faces, once they felt Liu Mei's aura at the peak of the Spirit realm who was sitting on the black panther's back.

Without paying any attention to the people around him however, Shun Long had Little Silver continue forward, until it stopped in front of the golden barrier a few meters away from the villa's gigantic gates.

It would be a lie to say that Shun Long didn't feel some fear in his heart as he approached closer and closer to the gigantic city-like building in front of him.

After all, this was a place that only Dao Kings and peak Nascent Soul stage experts were allowed to enter.

Shun Long didn't know what dangers they would meet with inside, but aside from the fear and wariness, a feeling of excitement had also filled his heart as he looked forward to finding the secrets of this place that even held Cui Guoliang and his wife as prisoners.

Waving his hand, he took out 3 small bronze medallions from the 'Stone of Time', and gave one of them to Liu Mei before he placed the other one on Little Silver's back.

The golden barrier that covered the 'Dragon Lord's villa' started to ripple the moment that it sensed the 3 bronze medallions, before it covered Shun Long's, Liu Mei's and Little Silver's body with a bright golden glow.

At the same time, the gigantic gates slowly opened a little, allowing Little Silver to enter inside.

The moment that the black panther stepped through the gigantic gates, the gates closed again with a thud, as Shun Long finally entered inside the 'Dragon Lord's villa'!

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Chapter 355 - 355 Stone labyrinth

The moment that Little Silver passed through the gates, a blinding light blocked Shun Long's vision, and only receded after a few moments, revealing a completely new scene in Shun Long's eyes.

"A labyrinth?"

Shun Long was stunned when he saw the baffling scene in front of him.

Large greenish stone walls were raised from the ground, reaching all the way to the ceiling of the endless room, as they formed an enormous labyrinth.

"According to Cui Guoliang's map, his and his wife's location is actually close to the northeast of the 'Dragon Lord's villa', right after I pass through some kind of desert, but there is nothing mentioned about a labyrinth! Could it be that every time the gates of the 'Dragon Lord's villa' open, every group is sent to a different location, or is it that everyone must first pass through this labyrinth before they can continue further inside?"

Different possibilities flashed through Shun Long's mind as he tried to understand the situation in front of his eyes.

At the same time, Little Black's voice sounded in his mind, as the black dragon said seriously

"Master, my soul sense is unable to scan the area around us! There is some kind of power that completely restricts soul scanning."

Although Shun Long knew that this was likely to happen after entering the 'Dragon Lord's villa', since the same situation occurred when Shun Long and Liu Mei had first arrived outside of the villa 2 years ago, he was still shocked once Little Black verified this.

After all, putting Little Black's strength aside, Shun Long was certain that even Duan Zhu and the other peak rank 9 Dao Kings from the 'Night star continent', were probably inferior to soul strength if they were compared to the terrifying black dragon.

After advancing to the middle of rank 6, Little Black's soul sense was certainly on par, if not stronger than the strongest Dao Kings!

And yet, even with his current strength, Little Black was unable to have his soul sense extend past Shun Long's body.

"In that case, those Dao Kings are most likely in the same situation once they enter inside the villa."

Liu Mei looked at the pondering look in Shun Long's face, before she asked curiously

"Long-ge, is this place somewhat different from what you expected?"

Since Cui Guoliang had only mentioned the 'Dragon Lord's villa' to Shun Long, and Liu Mei hadn't been curious enough about this place in the past to ask Shun Long for details, she didn't know whether this labyrinth that they found themselves in was something abnormal or not.

Based on Shun Long's reaction however, it was obvious that it was out of the ordinary.

After hearing Liu Mei's question, Shun Long nodded his head affirmingly, before he took out the beast skin that he had received from Cui Guoliang and spread it on Little Silver's back who was still observing their surroundings.

Although the map didn't depict the 'Dragon Lord's villa' with great detail, it was still easy for anyone who saw it, to identify whether a place was a desert, a forest or a lake.

Seeing that there were no labyrinths or anything similar to it on the map, Shun Long thought seriously for a few moments, before he said in a low voice

"No matter what, we still need to get out of this place first.

Besides, there are many places on the map that are completely blank, so it's possible that Cui Guoliang created this map based on his own experiences."

Liu Mei nodded her head in confirmation. She already knew that the map in Shun Long's hands was the map that he had obtained from the Dao King who had created the 'Vermilion realm', and she also knew that that man was trapped somewhere inside the 'Dragon Lord's villa' along with his wife.

If it was a map that he had personally created, then of course Cui Guoliang wouldn't have traveled through the entire villa by himself.

After all, from the outside, the villa seemed to be at least as big as the Heaven's Dome city itself, but based on the map in Shun Long's hands, it could very likely be even bigger.

Even peak rank 9 Dao Kings may not have searched through the entire villa, let alone Cui Guoliang whom Shun Long suspected to be either an early, or a middle-stage Dao King.

Additionally, if Shun Long's first guess was correct and the 'Dragon Lord's villa's' entrance point changed every time the gates opened, then this also explained why this labyrinth wasn't marked on the map.

As he reached one of the 2 possible conclusions in his mind, Shun Long first returned the beast skin map inside the 'Stone of Time', before he had Little Silver start walking forward. In any case, the most important thing at hand, was to get out of this labyrinth.

Besides, Shun Long didn't know if there were any dangers lurking in this place. Staying still at the same place instead of looking for an exit could very likely bring even more troubles.

The gigantic greenish walls around Shun Long and Liu Mei had completely covered their surroundings, as they rose all the way to the ceiling of the seemingly endless room.

Even when Little Silver soared in the air, Shun Long was be unable to get a 'bird's view' of the labyrinth and find an exit as everything was completely submerged by the gigantic greenish walls, so he could only choose to blindly continue forward.

Time passed like this, and the only sound in the air around Shun Long and Liu Mei, was the sound of the black panther's silver wings flapping.

Shun Long and Liu Mei found themselves in a dead-end more than once, forcing Shun Long to turn around and try different paths.

6 hours later, after many wrong attempts that lead into dead-ends, Shun Long and Liu Mei finally saw a light in the distance ahead of them, while the labyrinth's path started to head upwards at the same time.

Before Little Silver could reach the source of the light however, the entire labyrinth started to shake, before Shun Long saw 2 stone golems more than 5m(16.4ft) tall each rising from the ground as they blocked Little Silver's path!

Each of the golems auras was at the peak of the Nascent Soul stage, while in their hands they held a sword and a shield formed from stone.

Shun Long however didn't seem to be willing to slow down after feeling the golems auras, and instead, he simply patted Little Silver's back with a smile on his face, urging it to go forward.

Little Silver let out a powerful roar the moment that it saw the 2 golems blocking its path, before its silver-colored wings lit up with a bright silver light!

The golem on the left raised its sword and slashed forward, while the golem on the right raised the shield in its left hand, in an attempt to block the panther's charge.

The moment that Little Silver's wings met with the 2 stone golems attacks, the 2 weapons surprisingly split in half, before Little Silver's bright silver wings landed on the 2 golems' bodies.

The black panther's wings were like sharp swords that pierced through the golems' stone bodies, disintegrating them in an instant.

Under Shun Long's and Liu Mei's eyes, the 5m(16.4ft) tall golems crumbled into countless pieces that fell on the ground, before Little Silver flew forward like a streak of silver lightning, as it reached the source of the light.

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Author's note: Join Privilege for more chapters!

Chapter 356 - 356 Dangers in the 'Dragon Lord's villa'

Warm sun rays passed through a 3m(10ft) tall entrance, as they illuminated the stone labyrinth.

Shun Long instantly understood that this was the exit of the labyrinth!

Having destroyed the 2 stone golems that stood guard in front of the entrance, Little Silver passed through the stone entrance without any obstructions, before a new scene appeared in Shun Long's eyes.

It was a vast plain field that spanned for hundreds of miles, while large and small mountains alike filled its surroundings.

The moment that Shun Long's eyes landed on the mountains around him, a look of disbelief flashed through his eyes, before he took out the map that he had received from Cui Guoliang once again.

His eyes instantly landed on a spot of the map that was filled with greenery, while various mountains had surrounded it from every angle.

Beyond those mountains was a seemingly vast desert, and right after the desert ended, was the place where Cui Guoliang and his wife were trapped at.

According to the map, Cui Guoliang's location was actually not too far from the periphery of the core region of the villa.

This made Shun Long have some doubts on whether Cui Guoliang was really just an early or a middle-stage Dao King.

According to the scarce information that he had managed to gather during the past 2 years regarding the 'Dragon Lord's villa', Shun Long was actually certain about one thing.

It was the fact that the danger inside the villa grew exponentially the closer someone approached to its core region.

It was said that even late-stage Dao Kings may encounter trouble in the outskirts of the core region, while only rank 9 Dao Kings were allowed to enter inside the villa's depths.

Thus, early and middle-stage Dao Kings wouldn't get too close to the core region of the villa, and will look for treasures near its outskirts.

This was what made Shun Long feel doubt regarding Cui Guoliang's actual strength.

Of course, he could also not disregard the fact, that Cui Guoliang and his wife had some other reason for heading to the core region.

"Right! This is also in line with the fact that Cui Guoliang created the 'Vermilion realm' and prepared everything beforehand, in order to find someone who could help him in the future.

He seemed to have already known how dangerous it was to approach close to the core region for 2 early or middle-stage Dao Kings like himself and his wife, which is why he chose to leave a way out for himself by creating the 'Vermilion realm', and find for someone to save him!"

The more that Shun Long thought about this matter, the more things seemed to have fallen into place as he understood Cui Guoliang's decision.

At the same time, as he observed his surroundings, Shun Long also realized one other thing.

His previous conjecture was actually correct.

Once someone entered the 'Dragon Lord's villa', they were sent to a different location every time that the villa's gates opened.

Shun Long could verify this, from the fact that there were no other people in his surroundings, as well as the fact that the stone golems at the labyrinth's exit were in perfect condition.

After taking a look around him, he pondered seriously for a moment, but in the end, he didn't choose to summon Little Black from the 'Stone of Time'.

Unless the dangers in this place reached a level that Little Silver was unable to handle, Shun Long wasn't willing to have Little Black come out just yet.

After all, if he and Liu Mei really ended up meeting with a group of Dao Kings that had a peak rank 9 Dao King in their midst, then once these people saw the black dragon there was no way that they would simply ignore it.

Without any more hesitation, Shun Long urged Little Silver to soar in the sky and fly towards the mountains in the distance.

As for the underground cave behind them that concealed the stone labyrinth inside it, neither Shun Long nor Liu Mei had any interest in it.

As Little Silver approached the mountains in the distance however, tens of middle and peak rank 5 magic beasts appeared from the mountain's depths, as they all flew towards the black panther in an attempt to swarm it.

Shun Long immediately recognized the countless magic beasts that were flying towards the black panther, as he muttered under his breath

Peak rank 5 'Silver-beaked eagles', peak rank 5 'Violet-winged poison bats', followed by tens of middle rank 5 'Thunderstorm killer bees', all flew towards the black panther in an attempt to drown it in numbers.

Liu Mei's expression changed into one of worry as she saw this scene.

No matter what, if one hundred peak rank 5 magic beasts ended up attacking an early rank 6 beast like Little Silver, then the black panther would definitely suffer some serious injuries, even if it killed every single one of the beasts around it.

ROAR!

The black panther roared loudly, but the magic beasts around it didn't seem to have any fear of death as they charged towards it with red eyes.

Tens of them swarmed Little Silver, in an attempt to either bite its silver wings, its neck, or attack Shun Long and Liu Mei who were sitting on its back.

Shun Long narrowed his eyes when he saw this scene, and just as he was about to summon Little Black to take care of this situation, the black panther's wings lit up with a blinding silver light, before it shot forward without any fear.

Its silver wings ripped the magic beasts around Shun Long and Liu Mei into countless pieces, as blood dyed the sky before Little Silver escaped the encirclement.

Although the magic beasts around Little Silver had left more than just a few wounds on its body, it was impossible for a rank 6 magic beast to be afraid of a bunch of rank 5 ones.

In just this one attack, almost 30 middle and peak rank 5 magic beasts had been killed in an instant.

Although more and more magic beasts seemed to appear from the mountains around them, even the strongest of them was still at the peak of rank 5, and were completely unable to catch up to Little Silver's speed.

In the blink of an eye, the black panther had already left the area of the surrounding mountains, as a scorching-hot desert appeared in the distance ahead.

At the same time, at the depths of the core region of the 'Dragon Lord's villa', the hall master of the 'Demon Emperor palace' had a serious expression on his face, as he stared at the scene in front of him!

Chapter 357 - 357 The desert's true danger

At the depths of the villa, Duan Zhu was standing right outside of the gigantic pillar of light, and he was staring at the scene in front of him with a fervent and greedy expression on his face.

He knew that what was lying inside this pillar of light, was most likely the final treasures of the 'Dragon Lord's villa'.

Originally, Duan Zhu hadn't expected to find too many things that would catch his interest and neither did he expect for the 'Dragon Lord's villa' to be dangerous to him.

After all, as a hall master of the 'Demon Emperor palace', what kind of dangerous situation had he not be in already?

Additionally, the treasures that could catch his eyes were really important.



However, contrary to his thoughts, not only was the journey to reach this place extremely dangerous, but the treasures that he had found during the past 2 years, were much more than what he originally owned himself!

Seeing that he was just a step away from obtaining the treasures hidden at the core of the villa, even the prestigious hall master of the 'Demon Emperor palace' couldn't contain himself.

Taking out a 1.7m blood-colored saber from his spatial ring, Duan Zhu first injected his qi inside it, before he started raining out powerful attacks on the pillar of light in front of him.

As for the saber in his hands, this was a weapon that Duan Zhu had found a couple of days ago, just as he arrived at the depths of the villa.

The moment that the peak Dao King saw this weapon, his body had started to tremble from excitement.

This was a weapon that would be coveted even by Dao Emperors!

After all, this saber had already surpassed the gold grade and had reached an entirely new level!

Just this blood saber by itself, was already worth more than the entire fortune that Duan Zhu had inside his spatial ring.

At the same time that Duan Zhu was attacking the gigantic pillar of light, the old king's of the Shengtian dynasty, Sheng Jun's group, was the one closest to arriving at the core of the 'Dragon Lord's villa'

A solemn expression had appeared on Sheng Jun's face when he felt the tremors coming from the villa's core region, but the old king only increased his speed in response, as he led the Dao Kings of the Shengtian dynasty even further inside!

...

At the same time, Shun Long who was still sitting with Liu Mei on Little Silver's back, had just left the mountains that were filled with magic beasts further behind them, as they entered the region of the scorching hot desert up ahead.

It was unknown what the reason behind this was, but the heat in this desert could actually affect even body cultivators.

Shun Long could feel the discomfort caused by the heat, that resulted in a painful headache,

Liu Mei however found it even harder to withstand the heat, as the unbearable temperature had quickly brought her to the brink of collapse.

Only Little Silver seemed completely unaffected by the change in the temperature on its surroundings, as it continued to fly forward completely unperturbed.

Shun Long immediately understood the reason why only peak Nascent Soul stage experts and Dao Kings would dare to venture inside the 'Dragon Lord's villa'.

After all, he and Liu Mei had been inside this place for less than a day, and yet the dangers they had already faced had completely exceeded what even most Nascent Soul stage experts could handle.

Even a late-stage Nascent Soul expert would have most likely been unable to escape from the swarm of magic beasts that had surrounded Little Silver earlier.

Seeing that she could no longer withstand the heat from the desert and would most likely end up collapsing soon, Liu Mei circulated her qi, as a thin layer of ice completely covered herself and Shun Long like a thin membrane.

Although the ice would quickly melt, and the water on Shun Long's and her own body would evaporate from the scorching temperature of the sun, the cooling feeling was more than enough to help Liu Mei withstand the terrible heat from her surroundings as Little Silver continued to fly forward.

Shun Long could also feel the discomfort caused by the heat to instantly disappear as soon as Liu Mei's layer of ice covered his body.

Additionally, as a peak rank 9 Spirit realm cultivator, Liu Mei only needed to use a tiny amount of her qi in order to create the layers of ice around her and Shun Long's bodies every few seconds.

The qi required from this action couldn't even compare to her summoning of a single skeleton.

As Little Silver continued to fly through the desert, half a day soon passed like this.

During this time, Shun Long was extremely surprised by how smooth his journey with Liu Mei actually was.

In the past 12 hours, they hadn't met with a single magic beast.

Forget about peak rank 5 or even early rank 6 beasts that Shun Long had expected to encounter, even rank 3 magic beasts were nowhere to be found.

Based on the previous 2 experiences from earlier, since the desert was closer to the core region of the villa than the mountains that were filled with the rank 5 magic beasts, Shun Long was certain that it was highly unlikely, that the only 'problem' that he and Liu Mei would face would be the uncomfortable heat from the desert.

Liu Mei also found this matter suspicious, and looking at Shun Long, she thought seriously for a moment before she said in a curious tone

"Long-ge, perhaps not every place in this villa will hide powerful magic beasts."

Shun Long nodded his head in response as he agreed with Liu Mei's words.

He had also thought about this matter, and this was the conclusion he had just reached as well.

Indeed, it was impossible for every single mountain, forest and desert, to have hundreds of peak rank 5 magic beasts.

Just as Shun Long thought that their journey would actually continue like this, powerful sandstorms suddenly appeared in the distance ahead.

The sandstorms had enveloped the desert as far as the eye could see, and left no room to fly through.

If someone insisted on passing through the desert, they would definitely have to get past the sandstorms to continue.

And yet, the giant sandstorms didn't seem to be that easy to pass through.

Shun Long first had Little Silver stop flying before it reached the area of the sandstorms, as he then fell into deep thought.

"Long-ge, what should we do? There doesn't seem to be any other path to continue forward."

Hearing Liu Mei's question jolt him awake, Shun Long finally nodded his head with a serious look in his eyes.

Since there was no other way to get around it, in the end, he could only get choose to get through the sandstorms.

The black panther's silver wings lit up with a bright light, as it charged towards the gigantic sandstorms directly!

However, the moment that Little Silver entered inside the sandstorm, Shun Long's expression suddenly changed.

In the middle of the sandstorm, Shun Long tried hard, but he was unable to even open his eyes. He could feel his body was heavy, as though someone or something was pressing heavily on it.

The power of the sandstorm was actually much more terrifying than what Shun Long had originally expected.

He had to use all of his strength to resist this terrifying force, and turn his body around to hold Liu Mei's body tightly, preventing her from falling off from Little Silver's body.

Every move inside the sandstorm was exhausting, and Shun Long was even certain that if he hadn't advanced to the peak of the fourth stage in the 'Monarch's Eternal body', he wouldn't even have control of his body to even provide with any resistance!

At the same time, Shun Long finally realized the danger of this desert.

If he really lost control and allowed the sandstorms to sweep his body, he would definitely die in their midst, without ever finding his way out of the desert.

And yet, Shun Long could only grit his teeth and hang on Little Silver's back as the black panther continued forward.

Although the panther's speed had dropped by almost half inside the sandstorm, Little Silver didn't seem to face any other problems.

At the same time, time continued to pass, and as he felt the pressure from the sandstorm around him get even stronger, a single thought appeared in Shun Long's mind

"This place is far more dangerous than I originally imagined!"

Chapter 358 - 358 Searching for Cui Guoliang

Shun Long was holding Liu Mei tightly with one arm and had her chest placed against his own, while with the other arm he was grabbing Little Silver's back, afraid that if he let go, he would be trapped in this place forever.

However, no matter how long he held on for, he could feel the pressure around him that was evergrowing.

This feeling was similar to diving inside a lake, trying to reach the lake's bottom, but the pressure around your body would only grow, while the lake's depths were actually nowhere in sight.

Time continued to pass, and 1 hour later, Shun Long felt himself being completely suffocated under the sandstorm's pressure.

No matter how hard he tried to hold on, he could feel his grip loosening from Little Silver's back, almost as if he was unable to hang on any longer.

Seeing that he had no other choice left, he was about to summon Little Black and have the black dragon cover him with his gigantic black wings, when the pressure around him suddenly disappeared.

Shun Long could feel that he was able to open his eyes again, while at the same time, he could feel a light breeze brushing past his face, almost as if he had entered an entirely different world.

When he opened his eyes, Shun Long's gaze didn't fall on his surroundings, but on Liu Mei who seemed to have already lost consciousness.

Of course, if it wasn't because he was cultivating in the 'Monarch's Eternal body' and had already reached the peak of the fourth stage, Shun Long didn't think that he would have managed to stay conscious either.

Taking out a pill bottle from the 'Stone of Time', he gently parted Liu Mei's lips open, before he placed a 'Sun-healing pill' in her mouth.

Only after verifying that the pill had dissolved into essence and was slowly being absorbed inside Liu Mei's body did he finally heave out in relief before he raised his head to look at his surroundings.

An endless blue sea appeared in Shun Long's eyes, extending far past the horizon, while behind him was the scorching hot desert.

The sharp contrast where the sandstorms suddenly ended and the sea began to appear, was an extremely peculiar, as well as beautiful sight.

"Is this some kind of formation?"

This was the only logical conclusion that Shun Long could come to, that could explain how the terrifying sandstorms suddenly ended, while the calm sea appeared at the same time.

Although Little Black also heard Shun Long's question, it seemed that he wasn't aware of the answer either.

A few minutes later, Liu Mei finally opened her eyes, while her body still hadn't gotten rid of the pain that the sandstorm had caused to her, causing her to still be in pain.

As she regained her consciousness, the sea that extended for thousands of miles instantly appeared in her gaze, before she turned her enchanting eyes that were barely covered by her black robes to look at Shun Long, and asked in a shocked voice

"Long-ge, where are we?"

Pointing at the ever-raging sandstorms behind him Shun Long smiled lightly, and as he continued to hold Liu Mei in his arms he then said

"We just passed the desert."

After taking a moment to realize what was going on, Liu Mei nodded her head, before she turned her eyes to observe her surroundings with curiosity in her eyes.

At the same time, Shun Long took out Cui Guoliang's map from the 'Stone of Time' and spread it in front of him.

He knew that this Dao King and his wife, were both trapped somewhere inside this sea.

Although Shun Long had 'promised' Cui Guoliang that he would come and save him only after he became a Dao King, it was very likely that he and Liu Mei would already be in the central region by then, and returning back to the 'Night star continent' may not be that easy.

Additionally, since matters had changed with Duan Zhu stirring up the entire 'Night star continent' by entering the depths of the 'Dragon Lord's villa', Shun Long decided to take this chance and check Cui Guoliang's condition.

"Of course, as long as I don't have to put myself, Mei'er, or Little Silver at danger, and things are really the way that Cui Guoliang described them to be, then I don't mind saving him in passing."

After making up his mind, Shun Long turned his eyes towards the beast skin map in his hands, before he focused on the large X mark that wasn't too far from where the desert ended.

"According to Cui Guoliang's directions, the place where he is trapped in, is near an isolated island that is covered by snow, not too far away from this area."

After taking a few moments to verify his approximate location, Shun Long first took a look at the calm sea waves around him, before he had Little Silver fly towards his southeast.

Of course, there was no way that Shun Long or Liu Mei would believe, that this sea was really as calm as it seemed to be on the surface.

If Cui Guoliang and his wife were really trapped somewhere inside this place, then this is more than enough to prove, that even Dao Kings will face danger here.

After all, in the end, Little Silver was only a an early rank 6 magic beast that was as strong as a rank 3 Dao King!

Although Shun Long was confident that it could beat most early stage Dao Kings, it? wouldn't necessarily be much stronger than Cui Guoliang and his wife!

Half an hour soon passed as Little Silver continued to fly forward, when a number of islands appeared in the distance ahead.

As the black panther approached closer, Shun Long could finally see clearly the appearance of these islands!

There were 5 islands that looked like they had been intentionally placed next to each other, the biggest of which was almost as big as the 'Silver sword city' itself, while the smallest one was actually even smaller than a single city in the mortal world.

However, each island was completely different from the others.

The first island was actually filled with thunderclouds gathering in the sky above it, while the second island right next to it was like a paradise.

The only thing that these islands had in common, was that there were absolutely no traces of humans or magic beasts living on them.

As he stared at the islands in front of him, Shun Long's gaze was suddenly focused on the fourth island.

Unlike the other islands around it, it was the only island that was actually covered in snow!

Liu Mei's gaze followed Shun Long's, as her eyes soon fell on the island that was covered with snow as well.

She clearly remembered that according to the map that Shun Long had, Cui Guoliang was trapped somewhere near this place.

And yet, Shun Long only stared at the island for a few moments, before his eyes turned to look at the sea below it.

This was the place where Cui Guoliang was trapped inside!

Shun Long thought seriously for a few moments, and in the end, he didn't have Little Silver dive inside the sea right away, but instead, he turned his head to look at Liu Mei, before he said with a light smile on his face

"Mei'er give me your robes."

Chapter 359 - 359 Cui Guoliang's plight

"Ah?"

A confused look appeared on Liu Mei's face when she heard Shun Long's words.

Realizing the ambiguous meaning behind his words, Shun Long shook his head with a wary smile on his face, before he took off his black robes and placed them inside the spatial ring in his hand.

Before Shun Long could explain what he meant, Liu Mei's face had turned red from embarrassment, before she took off her black robes and handed them to Shun Long.

For a moment, she had misunderstood Shun Long's actual intentions, making her face turn redder than a tomato.

Of course, Shun Long couldn't put the blame on Liu Mei.

Instead, he knew that it was his poor choice of words that caused this misunderstanding.

Looking at Liu Mei with a smile on his face, Shun Long placed his arms around her waist, and pulling her into a hug, he first pointed at the sea below them before he said

"If Cui Guoliang and his wife are really trapped inside the sea, then having the black robes on will do more harm than good."

Liu Mei's eyes suddenly widened completely forgetting the embarrassing moment from a moment ago, and looking like she had just realized what Shun Long meant to say, she looked at him with shock in her eyes before she asked for confirmation

"Long-ge, is it because people will recognize us in the future?"

Nodding his head, Shun Long turned his eyes towards the depths of the 'Dragon Lord's villa', at the gigantic pillar of light that was visible even from his current location, and said with a serious look in his eyes

"There is no way that we can continue going forward using just Little Silver's strength.

In the end, if we are going to go to the depths of the villa, Little Black will have to show himself!

Although it's unlikely that Cui Guoliang would be able to make the connection in the future, between the 2 people who are sitting on the 'Silver-winged panther king's' back, and those 2 who will be sitting on the black dragon's back, it's not entirely impossible for it to happen.

Of course, the only thing that these 2 groups will have in common will be the similar cultivation at the peak of rank 9 of the Spirit realm.

Additionally, although Cui Guoliang knows our identities, he doesn't know that we were wearing black robes before we entered the 'Dragon Lord's villa'.

Even the people outside the villa only saw 2 people riding on the black panther's back.

Although it's possible that they will be able to make the connection between the 2 people who are riding on the black panther now, and the people who will be riding on Little Black, that will only be nothing more than an assumption in the end.

As long as Cui Guoliang doesn't see us covering ourselves, it's practically impossible for him to make the connection."

As Shun Long finished his words, he then added inwardly

"And even if he does make the connection, when he realizes the consequences of offending the person behind Little Black, it's unlikely that either Cui Guoliang or his wife will come out to say anything."

Liu Mei was stunned, as she stared at Shun Long with a gaping mouth.

At the same time, a feeling of admiration and pride had sprouted in her heart as she looked at Shun Long who confidently explained this thought process.

Indeed, it's important to pay attention even to the smallest details.

As for the reason why Shun Long didn't choose to ride on Little Black's back before entering the 'Dragon Lord's villa' and then switch to Little Silver, Liu Mei didn't need him to explain this as she could already understand the reason by herself.

Since Shun Long wasn't aware, whether he and Liu Mei would be teleported to a random place inside the villa after passing through the villa's entrance, or whether they would arrive at the same place as every other Dao King who had entered before them, in case it was actually the latter and there were some peak rank 9 Dao Kings who spotted the black dragon, the trouble that this matter would have caused would probably be at the same level as the treasures at the core of the 'Dragon Lord's villa' itself!

It was very likely that even Sheng Jun's group would be searching for the 2 black robed people who were riding on the black dragon if that was the case, leaving no room for Shun Long and Liu Mei to move freely.

Without any more delay, under Shun Long's directions, Little Silver directly dove inside the sea right in front of the snowy island.

The crystal clear waters of the sea turned turbulent, as big waves rose the moment that the panther's body entered inside.

Although Little Silver's speed was many times slower inside the water than it was in the air, it was still as fast as an early rank 5 magic beast inside the sea.

Although the water was cold and it gave off a chilly feeling once it touched a person's body, this wasn't a problem for either Shun Long or Liu Mei, as Little Silver continued diving deeper inside.

2 minutes later, Little Silver arrived at the depths of the sea, where a shocking scene appeared in Shun Long's and Liu Mei's eyes.

At the bottom of the sea, tens of gigantic whirlpools seemed to have formed a maze, trapping inside them a handsome, golden-robed middle-aged man along with a beautiful middle-aged woman.

Shun Long instantly recognized the middle-aged man as Cui Guoliang.

Although his avatar inside the palace of the 'Vermilion realm' was that of a young man's, and his golden-hair back then were much more l.u.s.trous, Shun Long only needed a glance to recognize the man inside the maze.

As for the middle-aged woman next to him, she was obviously the same voluptuous 'young woman', whose statue was erected right outside the 'King's palace' in the 'Vermilion realm'.

At the same time, almost as if he had felt Shun Long's gaze on him, Cui Guoliang raised his head to look at the handsome young man in blue robes, and the white-veiled young woman who were sitting on top of the 'Silver-winged panther king', and a look of disbelief appeared on his face, completely unable to believe the scene in front of him!

#### Chapter 360 - 360 Rescuing Cui Guoliang

Seeing the sudden change in expression in Cui Guoliang's face, the woman next to him followed his line of sight, before her body started to tremble.

An expression of despair appeared in her eyes as she looked at the 2 people who were sitting on top of a magic beast and were heading in her direction.

Wan Zedong could easily guess, that once someone saw 2 Dao Kings trapped in between the whirlpools, only one thought would come to their mind

"Push them to death and take everything they have on their bodies!"

After all, both Wan Zedong and Cui Guoliang, had to expend all the qi that they absorbed from their surroundings, to resist the terrifying whirlpools from crushing their bodies.

Even if a late-stage Nascent Soul expert ended up attacking them while she and Cui Guoliang were in this situation, Wan Zedong knew that that person would only need a few moments until he killed the 2 Dao Kings in front of him!

At the same time, turbulent waves had been raised in Cui Guoliang's heart, and for a moment, the powerful Dao King thought that he was hallucinating.



"Isn't this the same brat that came to my secret realm 3 years ago? How can he be at the peak of the Spirit realm?"

No, this is impossible... it has only been 3 years since I sent him to the 'Silver sword city'!

But isn't that my 'Silver-winged panther king'???"

As these thoughts flashed through Cui Guoliang's mind, the expression on his face turned from disbelief into joy, then to incredulousness and fear.

He could clearly remember that Shun Long wasn't even a Heaven grade cultivator when he had left his palace 3 years ago.

However, since he wasn't suppressing his aura with the 'Monarch's Hourglass' right now, Cui Guoliang could clearly sense that he was already at the peak of rank 9 in the Spirit realm!

For a second, he even started doubting the experiences that he had received from his own soul incantation!

As for Wan Zedong, she was completely oblivious to Cui Guoliang's thoughts.

Although she already knew that her husband had found someone to save them within the next few thousand years, Wan Zedong didn't hold any hope in her heart for that person to appear.

After all, how difficult was it for someone to become a peak Nascent Soul stage expert?

How difficult was it for that person to reach the Dao King realm?

And even if they managed to reach the Dao King realm, who could assure her that, that person would then enter the villa to fulfill their oath to Cui Guoliang?

And even in the situation that that person really manages to become a Dao King and enters the 'Dragon Lord villa' in the future, and even if he was also willing to come and help Cui Guoliang, the dangers inside the villa were enough even for Dao Kings like herself and Cui Guoliang to get trapped and even die!

Would that person necessarily be able to save them?

In her heart, Wan Zedong didn't hold the slightest hint of hope for that matter to happen.

Instead, she was certain, that the first time that someone found them, she and Cui Guoliang would die.

Of course, although she knew that this was the truth, Wan Zedong was unwilling to die!

This was why she had chosen to resist with all her might, being trapped in this place for thousands of years, hoping that the natural formation that she and Cui Guoliang had fallen in, would at some point disperse by itself.

Although this hope was nothing more than an illusionary, distant dream, it was still the only thing that could give hope to Wan Zedong.

At the same time, Shun Long instantly recognized the whirlpools around Cui Guoliang that were a natural formation.

Although Shun Long wasn't well versed in formations, during the past 2 years, he had taken some time to study the very basics.

Although he had no idea how to break this formation and save Cui Guoliang, he knew that entering inside directly was equivalent to death.

At the same time, Shun Long was able to determine Cui Guoliang's level of cultivation.

He was a peak rank 3 Dao King, while the voluptuous woman next to him was an early rank 3 Dao King.

As for the strength of the whirlpools around them, Shun Long didn't know how strong someone needed to be to break free from it, but he could guess that even rank 5 Dao Kings may have to use their full strength to free themselves.

However, Shun Long also knew that Cui Guoliang was a formation master himself.

Since he had asked him to come to this place, it was very likely that he had a plan to free himself.

With a smile on his face, Shun Long had Little Silver take a step forward, and under Cui Guoliang's and Wan Zedong's shocked gazes, he cupped his hands as he looked at Cui Guoliang and said

"Senior."

Cui Guoliang felt his mind short-circuiting after hearing Shun Long confirm his identity, while Wan Zedong turned her head to look at her husband with a curious expression on her face, while unconcealed joy flashed in her eyes.

She couldn't believe that the young man in front of them happened to know Cui Guoliang!

Although she could sense that Shun Long was still a peak rank 9 Spirit realm cultivator, she didn't belittle him thanks to the early rank 6 magic beast that he and the young woman behind him were riding on.

Just the 'Silver-winged panther king' by itself was strong enough to fight against her and Cui Guoliang on even ground.

Seeing the inquiring expression on his wife's face, Cui Guoliang puffed out his chest, and with a huge smile on his face, he suppressed the shock in his heart as he said proudly

"Hahaha! Zedong, this is the young man I found to help us! What do you think? Isn't my foresight impressive? HAHAHA!"

As soon as he finished speaking, Cui Guoliang turned his attention towards Shun Long, and with that same bright smile on his face that was about to reach his ears, he continued to suppress the whirlpools around him as he said

"Kid, I don't know what kind of monster you actually are to breakthrough all the way to the peak of the Spirit realm from the peak of the earth grade in just 3 years, but I am very happy you are here! As long as you can help me get out of this place... I swear to my Dao of Water that half of my treasures will be yours!"

Cui Guoliang didn't hesitate for even a moment, as he took a serious oath to his Dao of Water!

Forget about half of his treasures, the middle-aged Dao King was even willing to give everything up in order to escape from this place.

After all, he had been trapped here for thousands of years, and every day that he stayed in this place, was an extra day of danger.

When he had felt the entire 'Dragon Lord's villa' shaking 2 days ago, and that gigantic pillar of light that shot to the sky, the first thing that came to his mind was that he would end up being buried inside this place at the bottom of the sea.

Thankfully, as a Dao King who was proficient in the Dao of Water, Cui Guoliang could directly filter the oxygen inside the water, otherwise, after thousands of years, both he and his wife would have died from the lack of oxygen.

At the same time, Wan Zedong nodded her head, clearly agreeing with Cui Guoliang's words. Even if Shun Long asked her to give up her own treasures as well, Wan Zedong was already prepared to agree!

There was nothing more important to the 2 Dao Kings than to escape from this place!

Since he had already decided to help Cui Guoliang and pay back his debt, Shun Long had no reason to decline, and after taking a look at Liu Mei who was standing next to him, he nodded his head, before he looked at Cui Guoliang and asked

"Senior, what do you need help with?"

Nodding his head, Cui Guoliang exhaled a sigh of relief inwardly after seeing that Shun Long didn't extort him for more treasures this time, and pointing at the whirlpool that he was suppressing, he then said

"It's simple! All you have to do, is have the silver-winged panther attack the center of the whirlpools until they weaken enough to naturally disperse!"

Of course, although it seemed simple at first glance, Cui Guoliang knew that this matter was much more difficult than it seemed.

If someone was trapped inside the formation, then it was simply impossible to attack the center of the whirlpools.

Additionally, even if Cui Guoliang could somehow destroy a single whirlpool, another one would soon take its place.

Unless it was a peak rank 5 Dao King or an even higher level expert, then Cui Guoliang guessed that it was impossible to escape from this formation without using help from someone who was outside!

At the same time, if Cui Guoliang wasn't a Dao King who had comprehended the Dao of Water, as well as a body cultivator at the same time, he was certain that he and his wife would have long since perished.

Nodding his head, Shun Long looked at the whirlpool in front of Cui Guoliang, which was completely covered by a thin layer of his 'Dao of Water', before he had Little Silver attack the whirlpool's center.

Cui Guoliang watched with excitement, as well as envy in his heart, as the black panther opened its mouth, and let out a powerful roar.

The roar turned into a shockwave that traveled towards the whirlpool in front of him, before it accurately struck the whirlpool's center!

