

Unfathomable 381

Chapter 381

Zhang Dong was floating up in the sky, a shroud of purple lightning energy was still swirling around him. This residual energy was getting quickly absorbed by him and to others, it looked as if a tiny circle inside of his chest was sucking it all in.

Wang Long with his soul beast in front was perplexed to see his enemy somehow using his own attack to power himself. This didn't mean that he was in a state of panic, to him this only meant that there would be more points to be gained.

"So what if you bought a few good tricks? Don't think that you are the only one with a system to back you up!"

He called out while slapping his spatial ring. When he did a burst of sword energies flew out along with hundreds of swords. These swords quickly shot in all directions and started to dance around. Their flight patterns painted the sky red and produced a phantom image of a red lotus.

The blades continued to fly at such a speed that the figure of the lotus remained intact and moved towards Zhang Dong's location. Before he could react he found himself surrounded by thousands of sharp swords.

"I'll shred you into minced meat!"

The swarm of sharp objects descended towards Zhang Dong before he could continue with his cultivation breakthrough. Even though he had absorbed enough energy to push him to the other level he would need some time to cultivate.

"Swords huh?"

Luckily for him, he was on his home territory, a place in which he created many treasures. Many of which were perfect for this occasion. With a loud clap, his aura spread through the entire Spirit Spring City and the Sect.

From his spatial ring, a massive swarm of various flying weapons escaped, and even more, appeared from the sides. The metallic objects all rose from the ground, from the destroyed buildings, and even from people that had already fallen in this battle of the sects.

"Did you know that when a master craftsman creates a weapon that a slither of their will remains in them? Even if the weapon chooses a master if the will is strong enough it will always listen to its creator instead."

The flying sword formation that was about to devour him was soon intercepted by a torrent of metal. Zhang Dong's counter formation was not only made from swords. If one looked closely they could see various other weapons like maces, axes, and polearms being absorbed into a grand flying weapon formation.

"Now give me a moment..."

While the two weapon formations were colliding with each other, Zhang Dong used this as a chance to slip away. The torrent of energy and the loud sound of metal grinding against metal made spotting him quite difficult.

“Do you think you can hide from me?”

Wang Long had momentarily lost his opponent but he had ways of finding him. With the aid of his own system and the mapping function, he was quickly able to find Zhang Dong that had hidden himself away in some rubble.

“There you are!”

Wang Long moved his hands together and started to focus. A small ball of purple energy appeared in the middle that started to get progressively bigger. The energies that he was gathering quickly became chaotic and he raised them above his head.

“Take this.”

He shouted while lobbing the ball of energy towards the area that his system map was showing him. When the ball of spiritual energy collided with the ground a giant explosion was made.

The half-destroyed building where Zhang Dong was supposedly hiding in was incinerated. The explosion pushed debris in all directions while also melting anything that was directly in the spot that was hit.

“Hm?”

Wang Long was waiting with a sword in hand and had already his next attack ready but something was off. He expects Zhang Dong to dodge out of the way of that large attack and his aim was to then cut him. Instead, the whole explosion only caused more dust to be blown up which lowered the visibility even further.

“Did he get hit by that?”

“Hah, you must be joking. Do you really think that I’m not aware of the system’s mapping function?”

Zhang Dong’s voice echoed through the area. To Wang Long, it seemed as if he was somewhere close but also somewhere far away. When he looked at the map once more to lock onto Zhang Dong’s unique power signature he spotted a problem.

His system map that he had relied upon was showing him more than one location in which his opponent could be. It was as if he was fighting a small troop of Zhang Dong’s that were hiding from him.

“Maybe if you learned how to use your spiritual sense correctly you would be able to find me~”

“Screw you! I’ll just blow up everything!”

Wang Long’s expression became full of malice as he gathered even more energy. His soul beast roared out loudly and did the same. Soon both of them started blasting everything in the vicinity but mostly aimed at the locations on the map.

At this exact moment, Zhang Dong was actually quite far away. He used a hiding technique to slip away while also leaving some dummy spiritual ghosts behind. These spiritual avatars were created from a special technique he learned and could even fool the system's mapping feature.

While taking his time to build up his sect Zhang Dong didn't stop studying the techniques that he found in the secret ground. He focused a lot of his time on ones that would allow him to escape from stronger opponents or ones that were good for spying. Some of them when leveled up could even fool his system.

He put his hands together as if he was praying and a thin layer of energy surrounded his body. This was a sound canceling technique that would give him some time during his breakthrough.

While he set up many dummies of his aura signature around the area, this didn't mean that his opponent would not be able to find him. Thus he started circulating his energies throughout his body and pushing his cores to their apex in an attempt to breakthrough.

The great circle realm was somewhat harder to transform into than the previous two realms. When he attempted it now he could feel similar pain to when he pushed through into the foundation establishment realm.

This step was a bit different as the great circle realm was more or less a transitional period between the smaller and higher realm. Regular core formation masters at the great circle could access some nascent soul only techniques like lesser flight that allowed them to float without a flying sword.

His great circle core formation realm was a lot different though as it would bring him closer to an enhanced version of the nascent soul realm. He was already able to fight masters at the middle stage, how strong would he actually be if he rose to that level of power?

"ARGHhhh..."

"Why is this so painful, it's as if my body is trying to reject this transformation..."

Zhang Dong felt like if he made a mistake he would explode right here. It was as if this world was rejecting him from achieving these breakthroughs. If this continued he feared that he would lose his mind when he actually attempted a breakthrough into the nascent soul level.

"There you are!"

Due to this painful transformation, he was soon discovered by Wang Long. The man might not have been the best fighter but Zhang Dong knew that he would not be able to take many hits. He was still in a somewhat pseudo nascent soul state and his opponent had bought superior skills through the system.

The only reason he was able to continue fighting was due to his battle experience. If the battle continued for too long, Wang Long could very well shorten that gap to land a critical blow.

'Shit, he was a lot faster than I expected, did he use the system to find me?'

There was also the system. There was an unknown number of points that his opponent still had, he only used them to cancel out the barrier but how much he could do was unknown. Zhang Dong's old system store allowed a person many functions that even he didn't have time to discover during his travels.

Soon he found himself below a large ball of concentrated spiritual energy. This time around Wang Long had done some alterations as the spiritual energy was not aligned to any particular element like before.

"It's time to die!"

He pointed with his fingers and a dark purple orb that was about ten meters in diameter descended. Zhang Dong was now left with the options of either remaining here and taking the hit or escaping.

Both choices would put him under a different amount of strain. One would cause him to suffer cultivation backlash as he was attempting a breakthrough while the other one would expose him to Wang Long's energy attack.

"Oh no, you don't!"

He heard a very familiar voice not far from where he was. This was followed by hurricane light winds and an emerald glow that collided with the purple energy balls. This collision of spiritual energies caused everything to rumble and also revealed the spot that he was hiding in.

"It's you? Have you come to beg for mercy?"

Who appeared was a certain busty woman with caramel skin and light pink hair. It was Zhang Liena riding on her emerald soul beast that had managed to intercept the blast coming towards Zhang Dong's location.

"Beg? It is you that is going to beg!"

"Hah, I like girls with some spice, I'll be sure to give you a good time when we return."

Wang Long licked his lips while laughing, even now he was convinced that he would be returning victorious. While he was fixated on a certain part of Liena Zhang Dong used this chance to converse with his wife.

'What are you doing here, I told you to remain in the fortress. It can't function without a person piloting it!'

Zhang Dong was concerned that without the fortress that the sect would not be able to achieve victory. There were just too many nascent soul masters on the other side.

'Fear not my husband, someone else is using that construct!'

'Someone else?'

Zhang Dong peeked into the distance and could see the fortress continuing to fire. It was a bit slower than before but it was still operational. From it, he could also hear an older man's voice that he also recalled.

"Do you think you can attack my grandson's sect and live?"

"Gramps?"

Chapter 382

"How is gramps in the fortress?"

Zhang Dong was a bit confused as he had not had much time to explain how the large creation worked. The GUI that it had was quite easy to read through as he had made it to mirror game graphical interfaces that he remembered from the old days.

Liena quickly explained how she managed to call the old man over. When he approached the same spot that she did before an icon started glowing. She just needed to push it to let Zhang Jin drop into the pilot section.

It seemed that Liena had studied up on the creations that he had built. He made sure to make everything streamlined and easy to understand. This fortress was also running on an old operating system that was made to make things easy.

Thus it was plausible for his wife to figure out a way to get Zhang Jin inside. Though the fortress was acting a bit strange after the pilot switch. It was somewhat zig zagging all over the place as if the old man was hitting random prompts while in the pilot seat.

'This isn't the time for questions my husband, I will hold this good-for-nothing animal off!'

Zhang Liena took off in a burst of emerald energy. The feathers from her soul beast kicked up a storm and flew at the dark purple dragon as if they were homing missiles. While her cultivation wasn't that high she had one more trump card left behind by her dear husband.

One of the rings on her finger started glowing and quickly encased her in pure green light. Wang Long was a bit surprised by the sudden counter attack so he decided to back off for a moment. His eyes were on his system as he tried to measure his new opponent's strength.

"Wait, isn't that?"

Wang Long's eyes went wide after the emerald light subsided. The woman was covered in a strange form-fitting armor. It looked as if it was made from some kind of green metal and had strange glowing runic patterns that were glowing.

The first thing he did was to look at the system indicator. His enemy didn't seem to have gotten stronger as it still only showed her as an early realm nascent soul cultivator. But for some reason, he felt that her strength had increased.

Liena noticed that her opponent was a bit stunned by her armored appearance. This item that she was wearing was a high heaven grade item that Zhang Dong had managed to finish before his disappearance.

He called it 'power armor' and it was a fitting name as it did enhance her spiritual levels and strength levels. It was as if she was wearing something akin to a weapon that changed her body into something fearsome.

She didn't skip a beat as she charged at Wang Long along with her soul beast. The two collided with each other and it turned into close-range combat. While her emerald phoenix was tussling with the dragon she was exchanging blows with the man that tried to capture her.

It was clear to her that he was not versed in combat tactics as his reaction time was somewhat sluggish. Even then, she couldn't really do much damage as a strange force field continued to bounce off any deep hitting attacks that she produced.

If she landed ten good hits, he returned one that caused her to retreat. With time the armor that she was wearing started to receive some dents from the man's kicks and punches and she was forced back without really causing much long lasting damage.

"Hah, you're quite feisty, can't wait to peel that thing off you, how about we make your whole sect watch as we have some fun?"

Liena scoffed at the man's words. It was clear to her that this person had a screw loose. The things that he said were truly vile and despicable. She wanted nothing more than to rip the vile thing from between this man's legs and beat him to death. But it seemed that she could only stall for time as this young master was not such a simple opponent.

Zhang Dong's first reaction was to jump in to save his wife but he needed to use this time to cultivate. If he didn't manage to break through soon, this whole battle could turn in their opponent's direction.

Above him, he could hear massive explosions. The ground he was sitting in was constantly shaking and blasts of condensed spiritual energy were constantly raining around the whole city. The elders from his sect were giving it their all but they were up against a large force from a mighty foe.

'I must join them...let's do this.'

He closed his eyes and concentrated on his three cores. They were all pulsating as if they would crack at any moment. This felt quite different from when he only had a singular core. That one had just gone through the motions as he cultivated and then was transformed into his nascent soul in a rather simple way.

Here on the other hand he was dealing with three separate cores. Was he supposed to fuse them into one large core or turn them into three nascent souls instead. When concentrating he noticed that the cores were moving away from each other while a strange power started to form in the middle.

'What is this... could a nascent soul be forming... no this is something else...'

At first, he thought that perhaps a nascent soul was starting to form but he was mistaken. It felt different and grander. He could feel that the Dao's that he had picked up throughout the years of his travels were being excluded from the three cores. They were all traveling into the center to form something, some kind of strange-looking seed.

He had to really concentrate to be able to feel it. The size of the core was far greater, it was as if he was comparing a moon to a tennis ball. But, the more he focused on this strange pure white seed, the more it continued to grow.

After it reached a certain size the growth was halted and he felt like his body was burning up. It was time, the great circle of this strange core formation was being reached.

"Got ya!"

Liena at this moment had been caught by some strange chains and was unable to move. Her emerald phoenix was being subdued by the purple lightning dragon that was strangely similar to her husband's golden dragon. It looked like this was as far as she could go, even the armor treasure that she was wearing had been damaged enough to reveal her face.

"I still need to have my fun with you, You'll look nice with a collar around your neck."

Wang Long laughed while taking out a black slave collar from his spatial ring.

"Now hold still, I don't want to cripple you before I had my fun, normal girls break so easily but on the other hand, you should be able to take it."

"I will never submit to someone like you!"

Zhang Liena screamed out while trying to use her spiritual energy to break free. Struggle she did but even then the slave collar continued to approach. Normally restraining collars like those would not work on nascent soul masters. But for some reason she felt her cultivation being suppressed, she could tell that if that thing went around her neck something disastrous would happen.

Before this could happen a strange aura appeared out of nowhere. Both Liena and Wang Long looked to this phenomenon as from it a bright pillar of light appeared that jabbed itself right into the clouds.

These two weren't the only ones that felt this strange aura being spread throughout the whole battlefield. All of the lower and higher masters could feel something in their very being. No one knew what it was about but to the people from the Soaring Dragon Sect, it felt very ominous.

On the other hand, the cultivators from the United Element Sect felt something entirely different. It was a strange warm fuzzy feeling as if they had just drank some warm tea.

Before anyone could realize that it was Zhang Dong going through a realm change it was already too late. The pillar of light pierced through the massive protective barrier and caused the clouds to disappear and the sun to shine in.

The rays that illuminated the world started being absorbed into this pillar of light. Soon the entire area was bathed in a wondrous golden-white color. It could not be stopped and it could not be resisted as it passed through each and every one of the cultivators that were gathered here.

Just as soon as it appeared the light was gone. It was as if it was sucked into one certain point that was still radiating light while the rest of the area was shrouded in darkness.

Like moths drawn to the fire, everyone looked to this lit-up spot. There they discovered a certain white-haired Sect Leader. The light was coming from his dantian and for a moment some of the onlookers could see the light take the form of a bright white seed.

While everyone was staring, Zhang Dong found himself outside of his armor. It had shattered into many tiny pieces the moment he managed to breakthrough. This was quite surprising as it was supposed to be able to last through a regular late stage nascent soul master's attacks without much of a dent.

He circulated his energies through his body to check if everything was in order. The three cores were still there but there was the addition of the tiny seed in the middle. He could feel that the energies from the cores were all flowing into this seed. Even if by a tiny fraction, it continued to grow, he felt that when it finally sprouted, something astonishing would happen.

.....

"Hmmm?"

A man opened their eyes while looking in a certain direction. He was sitting on a large golden throne that was adorned with various gems. His eyes were a dark sapphire blue and matched his long sky blue hair.

“My, Emperor. Is something wrong?”

The man turned his head to the womanly voice that called out to him. It was a beautiful woman that was sitting to his left on a slightly smaller throne that wasn’t as magnificent as his.

“Mmm... it must be my imagination.”

Soon he turned his face towards a hall filled with many other powerful cultivators and raised his hand.

“Let us get this over with.”

When he gave the signal the large door leading to this throne room was opened and soon a small group of cultivators emerged from it. At the helm were two old men dressed up in magnificent robes.

The man on the left was taller and his robe was mostly white. On the back, there was an elaborate crane embroiling. The man on the right on the other hand was a bit more imposing and a somewhat familiar-looking flying dragon adorned his robe...

Chapter 383

Name :	Zhang Dong
Affiliation :	Zhang Clan, United Element Sect
Cultivation Base Qi :	Core Formation [?????????????] [#%#\$^#\$ #\$FGD @#\$Es]
Cultivation Base Body :	Core Formation [Great Circle 95 %] (Ascended Golden Body)

Zhang Dong was hovering in the air, out of curiosity he glanced at his own status screen and discovered something strange. While most of it was fine, for the first time he saw some glitched text at the spot for his Qi cultivation.

He could somewhat make out that ‘Core Formation’ was written there but all of the other text was just a bunch of random symbols. It was as if this supposedly goldy system that had all the answers didn’t know what to make of his cultivation.

While looking at the tiny seed that was inside of him, he noticed that it was radiating quite a bit of energy. It was connected to all three cores, at first, he thought it was just sucking energy from them but he wasn’t quite right.

The energy flow existed both ways, while it was being energized by these three cores it continued to increase in size. Even a tiny increase in size was causing it to radiate more power, a power that he could utilize.

If it was a different time and place he would be sure to test his new cultivation realm out. Instead, he moved with haste by pushing his new spiritual energy into his body. While he was attempting to

intercept Wang Long's attempt on collaring his wife, the amount of energy that he had access to proved to exceed his expectations.

His intention was to either grab Wang Long's hand that was holding the slave collar. Instead, he crashed into his opponent and tumbled with him to the side. Wang's protective shield activated instantly as both of them were pushed in opposite directions.

While the shield was activated one of the rings on his fingers shattered into many tiny pieces. The young man was embedded into a rocky pillar that he had to use his Qi to get out of. He was clearly pissed as he had almost been able to place a collar on the woman he came here for.

"The hell?"

Wang Long called out as he was still surprised at how he was unable to react to this attack. He clearly saw Zhang Dong going through the change and he prepared for the counterattack but he couldn't see it at all.

"Did that bastard ascend to another realm?"

He looked to his own system window and tried to answer this question for himself. While previously Zhang Dong had 'Late Stage Core Formation' written down in his stats, this time it was some glitched-out text.

While Wang Long was trying to figure out what the problem was and cursing up a storm, Zhang Dong removed himself from some rubble that he flew into. It appeared that the boost in power was far more dramatic than he had expected.

Before this fight started he put himself at around the middle stage of nascent soul at most. Even when he could tie with a nascent soul master he was missing a key part, a soul beast. Without it around he would need to be a lot stronger than his opponent to counter this disability.

Zhang Dong was hoping to tie Wang Long's cultivation after ascending but he went much further. It was time to test his theory and if it was true, then this fight might be a lot easier than he realized.

"Liena, are you okay?"

He moved next to his wife who was breathing hard. Her soul beast was in a bad state as it was still being torn into by the dark purple dragon beast of Wang Long.

"I'm fine."

She nodded but he could tell that she was tired.

"Leave him to me and go help the other elders instead."

"But..."

"No buts, I'll be fine."

He smiled at her and then promptly vanished which took her by surprise. Liena then noticed a loud explosion in the distance and turned to it. There she saw the purple dragon being kicked away from her Emerald Phoenix. Her soul beast quickly retreated while she recovered some strength.

She could tell that Zhang Dong's kick wasn't that simple. The Qi that he had infused into it was somewhat different from the golden lightning one that he usually used. His form also looked different, instead of the usual golden hue, it was a faint white one. While it didn't look as flashy, it somewhat felt a lot more imposing than before.

"Take care of yourself..."

Liena nodded and slowly removed herself from this fight. While she would still participate in protecting the sect she would be helping out against the other Soaring Dragon Sect elders instead.

"Where do you think you're going, I didn't give you the permission!"

Wang Long's face contorted into a truly ugly expression. The woman he was after didn't even pay attention to him and the look she gave her 'husband' was the thing that broke the camel's back.

There were a few things that Wang Long could not deal with. One of them was couples that had a deeper connection than the surface ones that he aimed for. He could not stand people like that as he thought them to be massive hypocrites that were just acting out a fantasy.

Due to this there was nothing more that he liked more than to break those couples up. There were various ways that he approached these people. Sometimes he offered them money and power to see them break it off with their spouse. Other Times he threatened them with violence and laughed as he saw their relationship break into pieces.

"Oh, but I did."

Before he could pounce on the fleeing woman he heard a voice next to him. When he turned his face towards it he saw a fist covered in some white aura shooting like a meteor towards his face. He was unable to raise his defenses but a thin shield still covered his body to take the hit.

"Useless, you will never defeat me!"

He screamed out in indignation after recovering from this blow that sent him to the ground.

"Is that so? I don't think you have that many lives left though..."

Zhang Dong was there to meet his gaze. He pointed to his hand and when he did one of the rings that were there quickly burst.

"What? With just one hit? How is this possible?"

Zhang Dong had noticed that his hits weren't really leaving an impact on Wang Long. Even though his opponent was losing, he had yet to take any proper damage. This was all due to the rings that covered his hands. They were clearly a sort of defensive treasure that was activated whenever its wearer was in trouble.

This was either a store-bought item, or something that he received from the Soaring Dragon Sect for protection. Since the battle started this was the third ring that had been destroyed. It also looked like Wang Long only had nine of those defensive rings on his fingers while the tenth was a regular spatial ring.

“Nine lives huh? Similar to a cat, but now you only have six...”

“Shut up, so what if you gained some power? Don’t think this is over!”

Wang Long gritted his teeth while also using the phantom chain attack that he previously used on Liena and Zhang Zhi. This time around, instead of his enemy being captured he saw something strange.

Zhang Dong opened his mouth and started breathing in. A massive suction force was created that caused the shackles to fly towards his mouth. The dark chains of ghostly energy were then promptly devoured by his soul core that was a perfect counter for this type of attack that actually went for a person’s astral form and not their physical form.

Without saying much Zhang Dong plunged himself into battle. It was quite one-sided as Wang Long found himself getting punched and kicked in all directions. His soul beast that attempted to shield its master was also quickly dispatched by a well-placed smack.

“Protect the young master!”

Wang Long wasn’t alone though, elder Tong’s voice boomed through the whole battlefield as the old master noticed his struggles. The elder was still facing off against Huo Qiang who looked quite injured.

Tong instantly tried forcing his way towards Wang Long but Zhang Liena with her soul beast stood in his way. This moment of emotion gave Huo Qiang enough time to attack and cause the old man to retreat. Unable to help the young master, it was up to the other elders to rise to the occasion.

Two of them quickly appeared from the side. Their robes were slightly damaged but the two were clearly still in good condition. Their opponent Zhang Dong was forced to momentarily halt his advance towards the young man as he evaded the spiritual attacks coming his way.

One man performed a devastating attack with their spear which produced a massive trench. The second one was using an Axe that cleaved in the other direction that caused the earth to be split in two.

Even then, the two late-stage nascent soul masters found themselves unable to contend with Zhang Dong’s speed. Both of them felt something connecting with their stomachs as they received a hard blow from the white-haired United Element Sect Patriarch.

“Useless old farts, what are you doing? Kill him!”

The enraged Wang Long dived into battle, while still having the protection of his ring treasures he didn’t feel any fear. A battle between four nascent soul masters ensued, while the three were busy trying to connect with their attacks on Zhang Dong the others weren’t doing so well.

With two nascent soul masters now missing, the flying cannon fortress had an easier time piercing through the defenses. Soon all of the flying ships from the Soaring Dragon Sect were up in flames. The explosions that the falling flying vessels produced river bedded through the lands and caused even more craters to appear on the surface.

The three versus one soon turned into a two against one and then back to a one on one as Zhang Dong was able to dispatch the nascent soul masters. His new cultivation was clearly giving him enough power to outpace experienced late stage cultivators without much problem.

Wang Long soon found himself suffering his first real blow as Zhang Dong's fist connected with his nose and sent him flying into the distance. A fountain of blood followed soon after as the young master's nose was shattered.

"Young master, I'm coming!"

Elder Tong finally managed to break himself free of his fight and was able to catch Wang Long that was smacked away by Zhang Dong's fist.

"Surrender now!"

Zhang Dong shouted out while looking at Elder Tong. While killing them would be easy, having a political prisoner in the shape of Tong and Wang Long would be much better. It would give them some time to come up with a battle plan, otherwise, the Soaring Dragon Sect would just bare their fangs on them instantly.

"My face... the fucker broke my nose..."

Wang Long was visibly shaken up as he covered his bloodied nose with both his hands while muttering profanities.

"Surrender? You dare go against the Soaring Dragon Sect?"

Tong called out while also being enraged but after looking around he realized that they were losing. Some of their nascent soul elders had already suffered defeat and all of their flying ships were down on the ground and burning up.

"Young Master, think we will have to surrender, for now, they will not be brazen enough to hurt you, I'm sure the Patriarch will come to rescue us."

Tong turned to Wang Long who was right next to him and placed his hand on the young man's shoulder. Soon their eyes met and he could see the madness and rage in the young master's eyes.

"Surrender?... I have a better idea..."

Before he could react he felt something sharp being pushed through his body. When looking down he could see Wang Long holding a dark dagger that was going right through his heart.

"Young m-master, w-why..."

Chapter 384

"Y-young master Wang... w-what are you doing?"

"I never liked you Tong, you were also a major cock-blocker..."

Zhang Dong and the others flinched the moment they saw the Soaring Dragon Sect's young master plunge a demonic-looking dagger through his retainer's chest. The old man had been tasked with the young man's protection for quite some time, but he never thought that he would be capable of doing such a thing.

"What is that maniac doing, why would he attack one of his own?"

One of the elders from Zhang Dong's side called out as they were all slowly edging the Soaring Dragon Sect members to the edge of the barrier through which they were unable to leave.

"Dang... he really only sees these people as spirit points."

Zhang Dong quickly realized what was the purpose of Wang Long's action. While normally it would be hard to instantly kill a nascent soul master, Elder Tong let his guard down and was focusing on the enemies in front of him. The dagger that Wang Long was using was also not a simple item as he could feel Tong's nascent divinity fading quickly as he died.

"...Wang L-long... y-you..."

"Don't think this is over you fucker, I'll remember this!"

Wang Long pointed at Zhang Dong with the dagger while his figure started flickering. It was clear that he had killed the nascent soul master to get more points and activated a teleportation feature.

Zhang Dong's own system had several teleportation options like these. All of them required points to be spent and probably the one Wang Long was using required far more than he had.

'Bob, can you stop him from teleporting!'

'Not enough spirit points to comply with the request.'

Was his AI's reply as Wang Long vanished into the ether. The young master from the Soaring Dragon Sect was sure to flip the bird toward's Zhang Dong who charged at him but was too slow.

He had managed to go through all those blasted wings but only landed one good hit. Wang Long's nasty face remained embedded in his mind as he knew that he would be a troublesome foe.

With the system on his side, there was no way of knowing what he could do. The otherworlder was not against killing his own people for points and Zhang Dong feared what that crazy person would do now.

'He must have teleported back to his own home point.'

Zhang Dong knew well how the people in this world operated but this Wang Long was a big mystery. There was no way of knowing how he would react, would they instantly bring over more people to attack their sect or would they be calmer?

Even though the Soaring Dragon Sect was a huge one, this didn't mean that they had unlimited resources. The ten late stage nascent soul elders that were here would not be coming back, neither would be the strongest Elder Tong from them all.

This should be a big hit that they would not be able to bounce back that easily. If it was a normal encounter it was even possible for the Soaring Dragon Sect to not do anything out of fear of losing more resources.

It would be easy for their enemies to attack if they diverted their elders towards this sect. They would require more powerful elders of the late and great circle nascent soul level for the next attack as the United Element Sect had shown that they would not go down without a fight.

From his point of view, their enemies would probably petition the other middle sized sects for aid and go into a long-lasting battle while also watching. Their enemies on the other hand could very well contact Zhang Dong's sect to aid and prolong the fights which would give them well-needed time to advance further.

While these thoughts went through his head he looked to the side. There he saw the remaining late stage nascent soul elders that witnessed their young master murdering their own. Zhang Dong knew that these old men and women here didn't come here out of their own volition but they were also fine with murdering his whole sect.

"People of the Soaring Dragon Sect, surrender now and we will spare your lives."

Even then, he felt like giving them an option was the right thing to do.

"Surrender to a lowly sect like you? Don't listen to them my brothers and sisters, they are but a puny...Ugh..."

Before the old man with the long gray beard could continue he found someone's hand grasping his abdomen. This was Zhang Dong that in a fraction of a second traveled over to him and was now successfully sapping away all of his strength.

"I will not repeat myself, either you surrender or you all will die. You might think that you have a chance of victory but I assure you that you don't!"

The old man started screaming while his vitality was sucked away. What Zhang Dong was doing might have seemed cruel but he had to show that he was being serious. Thus with the help of his soul core, he started absorbing the man's nascent soul while the elder was still alive.

This caused the soul beast that belonged to this cultivator to just vanish into oblivion. The remaining group of nascent soul elders were quick to jump in to help their comrade and the battle continued.

He had hoped for a peaceful resolution but it was clear that these people would rather die than have their cultivation be removed. As someone that lived a large chunk of his life as a regular human, this was not something that he understood. There were many things like creating a family and living a fulfilling life that a person could strive for even without being a cultivator.

So the battle continued and with Zhang Dong's increased strength it was soon over. With more time on his hands, he was able to come to terms with his new power. He was not sure how he would stack about the top experts on the continent but a regular great circle nascent soul master would not give him that much trouble.

With this in mind, he was expecting his next realm to be something entirely different than before. Whatever this small white seed was, it continued to grow and when it sprouted he might have access to something totally different than the nascent soul level.

Due to him visiting the other empire he knew that there were other ways of achieving similar power levels. There were many things that he didn't know and his system was also unable to recognize where he was heading.

When all was said and done Zhang Dong was left floating up in the sky and looking down on the destroyed remains of Spirit Spring City. This was his home that he helped to create with his own two hands.

While he was saddened by this fact it was fine. What was important were the people that lived in the city. They had been previously evacuated and with some time even this city would be able to recover.

They were also left with a mostly intact defensive system that would allow them to fight back against more intruders. After everyone realized that their sect had managed to fight off ten late stage nascent soul monsters and one in the great circle, they would think twice about attacking.

“Hey, Dong’er... how do I get out of this thing?”

He snapped back to reality as he heard Zhang Jin’s voice calling out to him. The grandfather was still in the large fortress and even to this moment the cannon blasts were going off.

“I’ll be right back...”

“I’ll come with you then.”

Liena moved over next to him and the two flew over to the flying orb of cannons. For some reason, his wife had moved into shoulder-rubbing distance as the two continued with their flight.

“I’m not going to vanish...”

He realized what this was about almost instantly. It was not strange for her to be a bit more clingy, he was gone for five years and the woman was probably still digesting this fact.

“You don’t know that!”

She replied while grabbing part of his robe as if he was really going to disappear. Instead of backing away he just smiled and grasped his wife’s hand. The two then descended down to the entrance, there he used his spiritual energy to activate the mechanism that would eject Zhang Jin from the cockpit.

“Dong’er, it’s really you, I knew you were alive!”

The elevator came up with the old man, now that he was looking at him Zhang Dong noticed that the old man seemed somewhat smaller. It seemed that past these five years he had aged somewhat.

“Yes, it’s good to see you too, gramps.”

Both of them smiled at each other but soon the question came.

“But where were you all these years? We looked for you but could never find a clue, it was as if you vanished from this world.”

Both Liena and Jin looked at him for answers. Before he could reply though a third person appeared from the side and caused quite the rumble.

“Yes, you have a lot of explaining to do, where were you?”

It was Huo Qiang that was covered in the blood of his enemies. There were various wounds all over his body and face included but the large man didn’t seem to care at all.

"I guess I owe you all an explanation but I'm not sure that this is the best moment to do this..."

Zhang Dong looked around and could feel many eyes and ears upon him. While they were in one sect he could not really disclose his secrets easily. He had thought for a long time and finally decided to come clean about his true identity as a person from another world.

While he trusted Huo Qiang, Liena, and his grandfather he was not sure about the other elders from his sect. This was more of a family matter to him and he would like to also inform his disciples about this.

"I need to handle a couple of things first, gather the elders and we will discuss everything soon..."

"Wait... what could be more important than the sect?"

Before Zhang Dong could take Liena to take care of some family business he heard a voice calling out to him. It came from a burly-looking man that resembled his friend Qiang. Behind him were other various elders probably with many other questions on their minds.

"Are you really the Patriarch? We need to..."

This time around Zhang Dong was not really interested in the diplomatic resolution. He could tell that Qiang's father was unconvinced of Zhang Dong's disposition as he had been gone for five whole years. While he wasn't here for that period of time, he was convinced that a power struggle between the sect members was taking place.

"What we need to do, I will decide, now gather up the elders and help the injured!"

Before anyone else could react they felt a massive oppressive aura wash over the whole area. All of them were forced down to their knees as they realized that this Patriarch was a lot more imposing than he was before.

"O-of course Patriarch, we will do as you command."

With that being taken care of, Zhang Dong looked to Liena. Both of them nodded at each other as they descended from this flying fortress, their next destination being their children.

Chapter 385

"Big sister! You are alright, I thought you'd be taken away by that monster."

Zhang Dong smiled a bit as he saw a smaller girl with pink hair pounce on his wife.

"Calm down Nuana, I'm fine."

The two started hugging for a moment while the younger one cried. Luckily he managed to get here in time, if not both of them would have been on the flying ship along with that perverted Wang Long.

"Big brother, is that really you?"

Zhang Dong twitched a bit as he looked down at his 'younger sister'. The girl was always a bit strange and clingy when he was involved. While he didn't care that much, he did spoil her just so that she would leave him alone.

"Yes, it's me, you... haven't really grown much since I've last seen you, have you been eating right?"

He moved over to the two hugging girls. While a lot of time had passed the bodies of cultivators aged slowly. Nuana was just as short as she was before but perhaps her chest had gotten slightly bigger from the last time he saw it.

“Hey! That’s mean!..”

The young girl started pouting but only received a flick to the forehead from Zhang Dong as he came over. While this was a nice moment there were other people that he wanted to see.

“Next time, you should remain in the escape pod, you could have gotten yourself and others killed.”

Nuana flinched a bit as she saw Zhang Dong frowning. He still remembered how she knocked out Zhang Liu and rushed here to help her older sister Liena. If he didn’t come along her fate would have been sealed along with her sister’s.

“I’m sorry...”

She rubbed her forehead that was somewhat red, soon all three of them descended below what used to be his home. Directly below this spot was the entrance to the Patriarch’s escape tunnels. Through them, Zhang Xue, Liu, and Feng Nuana were supposed to escape.

Before going down Zhang Dong glanced at the entire sect ground. While almost all of the city was destroyed in the large-scale battle, more than half of the sect remained intact. Its most important part that was the hidden away secret ground had already been moved along with the junior sect members.

The pocket dimension that had increased in size was large enough to house all of the young men and women that were too weak to help. The people that stayed behind were mostly the core formation elders and veteran warriors that could man the various spirit canons.

In the battles that ensued, there were casualties. It was impossible to save everyone and they were already lucky to be alive. This was mostly thanks to Zhang Dong’s faction-building feature of the system that allowed him to build up strong defenses that even a large force could not take out.

Regretfully it would be hard to repeat this task again as most of the defensive cannons had been destroyed in the large-scale battle. The floating fortress that could somewhat match a nascent soul master at the great circle level proved pivotal in holding the ten late stage nascent soul cultivators back.

It didn’t come out unscathed and repairing it would prove difficult. Zhang Dong’s crafting abode had been reset while he was shot into another world which would only make things more difficult.

Previously he would be able to copy parts in it which would make things easy, now he would be forced to do it by hand while slowly leveling up the crafting abode’s old features.

Finally, they descended below into the tunnels. While Zhang Dong knew about these tunnels as he helped design them with his mapping function, this was the first time physically being here.

This whole area was built like a maze. There were many long corridors and dead ends that were in place to confuse any pursuers. The walls were reinforced with special materials which would even give the nascent soul master some trouble to get through.

Luckily this escape route was still intact and would not require any repairs. That is if Zhang Dong decided that it was a good idea to remain here. While walking through the corridors he began to think about the future.

There were mostly two options left for him. One would be to remain here, repair the sect, and bunker down. Due to them being able to take out ten nascent soul masters, they would be considered a serious threat.

Such a threat that the Soaring Dragon Sect would actually have to use a large chunk of their resources to have a realistic chance to go against them. Luckily for Zhang Dong, his enemies also had their own problems.

The first one was the Azure Emperor that was considered the strongest cultivator in this empire. He occupied the best cultivation spot that this land had to offer. His clan might not have been the largest but they went for quality over quantity and were a force to be reckoned with.

The second was the Heavenly Crane Pavillion. They were quite a power that mirrored the strength of the Soaring Dragon Sect. For decades these big three had remained in power while never really going all out against each other out of fear of getting eradicated.

If two of them would engage in combat, there was a realistic threat of the third party using this chance to take a crown for themselves. When two sides are fighting, the third always profits. It was an old proverb from his old world and this was very true in this situation.

‘The problem remains that idiot...’

He thought while increasing his pace. Wang Long was someone whose actions he could not predict. The cultivation nuts were easy to read as they always acted in the same way. This man on the other hand could even show up the next day with a similar sized force and not care if they would all die in the process.

Him just giving up after getting socked in the face and being humiliated made a peaceful resolution mostly impossible. Zhang Dong realized that Wang Long was too far gone, he was clearly not taking this world seriously.

While he was hard to read if he counted in this world’s morals, he was somewhat predictable if he accounted for his emotional outbursts. He was still a person from another world but he acted similar to the other young masters from this world. If this was some side effect of the system or his original personality was not something he knew though.

“M-master is that you?”

While going through the tunnels that were made without any shortcuts in mind, they came upon a familiar face.

“Liu, it has been a while, you look well.”

Zhang Dong smiled while nodding his head at his disciple. The handsome youth didn’t age that much due to his high core formation cultivation realm but his eyes did look somewhat sharper.

“Master, it’s really you!”

“Who else could it be!”

The one to reply was Feng Nuana that popped out from behind Zhang Dong. She quickly shrunk back though as Liu gave her quite the death glare. This made Zhang Dong remember how she knocked his disciple out cold to go ‘save’ her older sister.

“What, are you mad? It all worked out well... help big brother, Zhang Liu is bullying me!”

Liu continued to glare at Nuana who quickly ducked behind Zhang Dong. Luckily for him, his wife was close and delivered a nice blow to her younger sister’s head.

“Stop that behavior!”

“Ow... why would you hit me, big sis?”

Zhang Liena moved between Nuana and Zhang Dong. At first, he thought she was just helping him out with the silly situation but then his wife started hugging his arm while yanking him to the side. It looked like she was mad about the way her younger sister was clinging to him while hiding from Zhang Liu.

While this would normally cause him to rub his eyebrows in indignation. This time around it caused him to laugh out loud. He placed his hand on Nuana’s head and ruffled up her hair, then he moved over to Liu to give him a firm smack on the shoulder.

“Hah, never change you two.”

The two looked at Zhang Dong with big eyes as he wasn’t acting too much as a Patriarch. While he had mellowed down when interacting with his wife he mostly kept his more laid-back character in the bedroom. When he interacted with the cultivators outside he still tried to act like a proper leader.

“Is Xue together with...”

He looked to Liu who moved himself a step behind Zhang Liena as they continued down the path. Xue, his other disciple, still remained with his children. The way these walls blocked spiritual energy was even making it hard for his enhanced senses but he could somewhat feel that his kids were near.

“Yes master, she is together with little Jun and little Xue.”

“Is that so...”

While he wanted to do nothing more than to see his kids, there was a certain something that was making him slow down his pace. It had been five years since they last saw him. For him, it was only about half a year which wasn’t all that much.

For his children, on the other hand, they have lived for more than they ever saw their father. Deep inside he was worried that they would not recognize him nor accept him as their father as he was gone out of their life for far too long.

The more that he walked the heavier his legs became. It was as if someone was placing shackles on his feet the closer he got to the escape pod in which his family members were waiting for him.

Then he finally saw it, the large door behind where his children would be. It was circular in shape and was really thick. Behind it was a large straight tunnel through which the people in the pod would be shot out.

While at first it might have looked like a simple high-speed escape tunnel, there was more to it. After it went through a certain range it would accelerate and then be teleported to another location which left a dummy pod behind. The idea was to make the enemies chase after this high-speed decoy while the actual pod was transported to another location entirely.

“It’s okay, I’m with you.”

Zhang Dong spaced out for a moment and it was noticed by his wife. Liena hugged him tightly while pulling him over towards the entrance. Without resisting he nodded at his wife, while he was concerned about how his children saw him, it was more important that they were safe.

He was still their father and he would always be that. Even if they didn’t accept him at first, that didn’t mean that he didn’t love them. His task was not to be their friend but to be their father and this was something that he intended to do.

Thus with a wave of his hand, the entrance was opened up and there he saw them. Two little munchkins hugging his second disciple...

Thank you for reading!

Don’t forget to follow, favorite, rate.

Donate | Discord |

Chapter 386

There they were, Zhang Dong’s children. While he had been thrown into another world they had been a lot smaller. The older child, Zhang Xiu was about a year and a half when he left. She had grown quite a bit and he was having a hard time recognizing her.

Then there was Zhang Jun, the younger of the two. When Zhang Dong left to fight the monster the boy wasn’t even a month old, he was a newborn child. Now he was five years old and didn’t look any close to what he remembered. He was the first one to enter the escape pod area and Zhang Xue was ecstatic to greet him.

“Master, It’s really you, I knew that you would return to us!”

She was quick to move before him while leaving the two children behind. All things considered, they weren’t all that young anymore. In his world children at the age of his daughter were already going to first grade in some countries.

While normally he would have done nothing more than to catch up with his disciples, he was a bit preoccupied with his own problems. It felt like there was a giant chasm between him and his own children. He was not sure how he should greet them thus he just froze in place while staring at the two kids in the back.

As he was trying to speak up, Liena his wife moved forward. The moment the two kids saw her they instantly jumped up from their seats.

“Mother!”

Xiu shouted while bolting towards her mother. Liena at this moment was clinging to Zhang Dong’s arm so she had to accept the tackle to her legs.

“Mommy!”

Jun the younger called out while approaching at a more reserved pace. He looked a bit more scared as his eyes were focused on the man that his mother was clinging to. Zhang Dong noticed this and tried smiling at the child. This caused an adverse reaction as the young boy started backing away while hiding behind Xue.

“What are you doing Jun?”

While he was a bit shaken by the fact that his own son was afraid of him, he heard a cute voice call out. This was his cute daughter Xiu that was now looking at her brother while clinging to her mother’s hips.

“B-but... “

“Stop acting like a little brat, you’re supposed to be a man!”

Liena started giggling somewhat as the girl started shaking her fist at her younger brother. It seemed that the older sibling was the one in charge. Jun on the other hand cowered even more as he hid behind Xue that wasn’t sure what she should do. “That’s enough Xiu.”

The fight between siblings was halted rather fast as both of them jumped up the moment Liena lowered her voice in a more commanding way.

“Liu, Xue I must thank you for keeping my children safe, I’m sure you have many questions you’d like to ask my husband but for now please give us some privacy.”

Liena turned to Xue while Liu remained outside the room with Nuana. Xue just nodded while looking at the boy behind her. She placed her hand on Jun’s head while giving him a smile.

“Aunty needs to go now but your mother is with you now, so you don’t need to be scared.”

“Mother... where is everyone going?”

Asked little Xiu while everyone left the escape pod. This was not the best place to have a family reunion but it was better than having everyone from the sect stare at them outside.

“Xue, Liu, please pay respect to your father.”

“Father?”

After they were alone Liena stepped away from Zhang Dong. She pointed to him with her palm while wanting to have her children greet him. He on the other hand was trying to keep a somewhat friendly face but this just caused him to have an awkward smile.

In this world, men were still considered the leaders of the household. His position was above the mothers and the kids would normally be ought to respect both their elders and their father. It would also fall to him to discipline the kids if they ever did something wrong.

This position fell to the other men in the family when the father was gone. In this particular situation, it would fall either to Zhang Jin or Zhang Liu that had a closer relationship with the Patriarch.

Zhang Xiu looked up to her with her big eyes that looked like bright emeralds. Her hair was quite long and her facial features were somewhat similar to Liena's younger sister. The child continued to look at Zhang Dong's face for a moment with a frown on her face.

"Daddy!"

As if she recalled something this frown turned into a bright smile and he received a tackle to his own thigh.

"Y-yes it's me, your daddy!"

Zhang Dong stuttered a bit as he uttered the words. It seemed that his daughter still somewhat remembered his face.

"D-daddy! Where were you! Xue waited and waited but you never came back"

While she was hugging his leg she started to cry. The sounds of her sobbing could even be heard by the three people waiting outside.

"It's okay daddy's here."

Without much reservation, he leaned down and picked his daughter up, and started hugging her against his chest. He could still remember the days of his strolling around the sect with her perched on his shoulder.

This almost made him shed a tear at this very moment. His child was crying her little heart out while being in his arms. Liena started to tear up as well as she watched the whole scene with a smile on her face. But as the pillar of this family, he had to hold it in at least for now.

"Let me take a good look at you."

To change the mood he decided to hoist up his daughter with both his hands into the air. He looked at her with a big grin on his face and started laughing.

"You've sure have gotten big but aren't those cheeks a bit too plump?"

"Xue's cheeks aren't plump!"

"Yes, they are."

With a little poke to one of those cheeks, he caused Xue to pout a little bit but soon she started laughing loudly when he started to tickle her. The father-daughter reunion was then interrupted by a somewhat painful pinch to his thigh from the side.

There he saw Liena looking at him with a forced smile on her face. Soon he realized what the problem was as he glanced down to where his son was standing.

“Jun, why don’t you greet your father together with your sister?”

Zhang Dong placed the laughing Xiu down on the ground but was instantly tackled once more. It seemed that his daughter was energetic as always, she had gotten even more energetic with age. On the other hand, his son seemed the exact opposite of his older sister.

“Zhang Jun greets father...”

The greeting lacked any sort of emotion behind it. It was as if he was greeting an elder from the sect rather than his own father. While Xiu had some old memories with her father, Jun was far too young to remember him in any good light.

What the child was left with were stories from his other parent and from the people around him. While he didn’t think that anyone from them would badmouth him, there could have been other people that might have. There was no way of him knowing what Jun was thinking. He was already at an age where he could understand many things. His children were also somewhat special in the way as they both came from a nascent soul master.

They were naturally smarter than a regular child and developed sooner. This he noticed by the way this son acted as if he had practiced interacting with elders and knew proper decorum.

“You don’t need to be so stiff.”

While this wasn’t anything out of the ordinary around this world, he didn’t really want to bring up his kids in such a way. All the respect and fear of the elder generation that was beaten into each generation here was something that he never liked. At least with his own close family members, he would like to have a less strenuous relationship.

Thus he placed his hand on the boy’s head and gave him a good fatherly pat.

“You are my son, when we are alone you can act as you wish, being a bit spoiled is also allowed, just look at your big sister.”

Zhang Jun looked to Xiu, who was obviously wanting to be picked up. While he set her back down due to Liena giving him the startle, he was forced to pick her back up as the child didn’t relent. He held her with one hand as she was still rather small, the moment Xiu’s face brightened up but it also caused Liena to sigh out.

“You’re spoiling her too much....”

“It’s fine, it’s a father’s obligation to spoil their daughters!”

Liena frowned a bit but she didn’t reply to the answer. Xiu on the other hand realized with this little exchange that there was someone above her mother in the family hierarchy now. This realization would cause some friction between the mother and daughter combo but that was a story for another time.

“I... I’ll try father.”

Jun on the other hand was still somewhat reserved. This was fine as Zhang Dong knew that a relationship like this needed some time. This was something that the two could work on after they were safe. For now, Liena took Jun's hand and the four walked out from the escape pod to meet up with the people outside.

"Master."

"Master."

"Big Brother!"

He was greeted by his disciples again, Nuana was also there and she gave him a big bright smile. It seemed as if she wanted something from him and that was probably related to the way Zhang Liu was glaring at her. She had knocked him out to get outside but that was not something that he wanted to get involved in.

"We will return to the sect, I'll have to ask you to take care of the children for now."

"No, daddy, stay!"

While he was talking, Xiu instantly cut him off and started crying.

"Uh... no, daddy just has to go talk to the elders, It won't even take that long..."

"No, don't leave Xiu, you can't!"

While Jun didn't seem affected by his father leaving, his older sister continued to cry. It was clear to him that the child was afraid that her father would disappear as he did before. Problematic as it was, he could not take the small child to the meeting with the elders. They would be discussing the future of the sect, not something fit for her ears.

'This might be a problem...'

He turned to Liena for help but his wife instead of helping him out started to sob as well.

"Wait, not you too..."

"I'm sorry but It's just been so long..."

It seemed that his wife had also not gotten over the fact that he had returned. Soon all three members of his family started to cry, Jun included.

'Oh, jeez...'

Thank you for reading!

Don't forget to follow, favorite, rate.

Donate | Discord |

Chapter 387

"How much of the sect has been affected?"

“Not that much Patriarch, most of the destruction was spread through the city but the sect buildings have remained mostly intact.”

“Good.”

Zhang Dong nodded while walking together with a man that he hadn't seen in a while. It was Zhang Kuo that was one of his trusted retainers. His cultivation had advanced into the middle core formation stage and his face didn't change much even though he had aged by a whole five years.

At this moment in time, he was walking through the large halls of his own sect. While normally there would be many disciples running around, the halls remained mostly empty.

“So, all of the disciples have been evacuated to the dimensional regalia?”

“Yes Patriarch, Zhang Ya is with them along with a core group of elders.”

Thanks to the treasure that he had discovered on his travels the sect was able to evacuate all of their disciples. There was enough space in that pocket dimension to house everyone. The treasure took the form of a medallion so transporting it was rather rudimentary.

The person holding this treasure was inside a similar escape pod-like his children were. Just as they, the person holding the medallion had not yet left and been on standby. During the meeting of the elders, he would need to decide if they would be remaining here or if they would be moving towards a different destination.

“Well done.”

He nodded and was glad that the escape pods were still unused. When activated the tunnels would explode later on and the whole construction would have been unusable. All in all, they didn't suffer that many casualties and were rewarded with the treasures in the spatial rings of the eleven nascent soul masters.

“Thank you, Patriarch!”

Kuo replied with vigor which took him by surprise. This man was usually the more cold and calculating type but after a while, he had also become a father which might have altered his way of thinking.

His own daughter was hard to peel off after he informed her about the elder meeting. For the time being, they were with their mother but he was to return to them as soon as possible. While little Xiu had opened up fully back to him, this wasn't the same for his youngest Jun. It would probably take some time for the boy to open up to him but for now, it was fine for him to be healthy.

“Zhang Zhi, greets Patriarch.”

Before the large meeting hall stood Zhang Zhi with a large samurai sword strapped to his hip. Next to him was a somewhat large woman that looked like a battle-hardened amazon. This was the man's wife who was also part of the old Feng Clan.

“Glad to see you, I have to thank you for taking care of the sect while I was away.”

“I am but a humble servant my lord, I did it all for the sect!”

It didn't look that this man had gotten over Zhang Dong quite yet. Even now he could see that samurai lookalike's eyes sparkling during their conversation. Normally Zhang Dong would only cringe at these sparkly eyes and try to hide but now after not sleeping his number one fan for so long, he didn't mind.

"Keep up the good work then, maybe if we have some time I could impart a new technique to you."

"I am unworthy of such praise!"

Zhang Zhi just lowered his head but Zhang Dong could tell that when he mentioned the improved technique the man became a bit giddy. Soon all four of them entered through the door and were greeted by a room filled with many sect elders. Everyone was already waiting for him and some of them had less than stellar looks on their faces.

"We greet the Patriarch."

Huo Qiao called out from the side which made everyone bow their heads to Zhang Dong. This was someone that he hadn't interacted much since the old days but it seemed that the old elder was still friendly with his friend Huo Qiang.

Both of them were sitting quite closely while Qiang's father still looked rather uncomfortable. Even though he didn't look like he approved, he did bow his head. Zhang Dong's performance and boost in power spoke volumes and he could not be denied.

"I'm sure you'd like to know where I've been for all of those years but that will have to wait, we must decide on our next move."

Everyone nodded as they knew that if they came to the wrong decision they would be eradicated.

"Hah, the moment senior brother returns all hell breaks loose, there is never a boring moment if you are there, I'm glad that you are back!"

Huo Qiang called out while laughing, it seemed that he wasn't taking this that seriously. Even now he was not at full health after facing Elder Tong but this only made him itch for the next challenge.

"I'm glad to be back, I must thank you all for taking good care of the sect while I was away. Now let us discuss the matter at hand, does anyone want to make a proposition about our next step?"

While he was still the Patriarch and the decision-making was up to him, he always liked to hear out the people from his own sect. Their lives were at stake as well, even more than his as he had ways of hiding himself along with his family if he ever needed to.

"What can we do? We offended the Soaring Dragon Sect!"

One of the elders called out while the others nodded their heads.

"This is similar to the time when we offended the Dark Palm Sect!"

Zhang Zhi was the one that commented that from his point of view this was not the first time that they were against less than favorable odds.

"You want to compare the Dark Palm Sect to the Soaring Dragon Sect? It's like comparing a toad to a phoenix!"

Soon the elders started to shout at each other as the opinions were somewhat split. While some still believed that there was hope to get out of this alive others wanted to flee. Zhang Dong remained silent for the time being as it had been a while since he had seen the elders be so rowdy.

“That’s enough.”

While normally he enjoyed when the oldies were at each other’s throats this didn’t get them anywhere. They needed to make a decision and they needed to do it fast.

“I can see that at least you all agree on one issue, there is no peaceful resolution to this problem we face.”

Zhang Dong said as he noticed that no elder in the room made a proposition of bribing the Soaring Dragon Sect to appease their anger. Everyone here seemed to be in agreement that it would be strange if that sect just let things be after they killed so many prominent elders from their side.

“If I may speak, Patriarch?”

Huo Qiao spoke out and Zhang Dong just nodded with his head.

“Brothers and sisters, it might look dire but there is still hope. We have managed to push their assault, this was not a small force that the Soaring Dragon Sect had amassed, it is not something they can just ignore, they can not ignore our potential might!”

“Are you implying that the Soaring Dragon Sect will be fearful of us and not go through with an immediate attack?”

Zhang Dong asked as he was not sure what their enemies would try to do. Normally a huge force like that would not take something like this lying down. They killed ten of their late stage nascent soul masters and most of them fell to his blade.

On the other hand, they did manage to slay these ten monsters that each could be the Patriarch of their own middle sized sect. This showed people that the United Element Sect was to be feared.

Those middle sized sects in the region would probably not want to have anything to do with this conflict. They might even choose to flee instead of answering the call to arms that the Soaring Dragon Sect would normally send them.

“Not afraid but unable to.”

Huo Qiao continued with his train of thought.

“The Soaring Dragon Sect is but one of the powers that rule this empire, they still have to answer to both the Azure Emperor and The Heavenly Crane Sect.”

The Heavenly Crane Sect in particular could see this as a chance to strike. Ten late stage nascent soul masters didn’t just pop out of nowhere. It was clear that Wang Long miscalculated by bringing over such a big force.

It was clear that there were so many of them for the intimidation factor and they weren't really planning on fighting. Even then those cultivators didn't expect the amount of resistance that the United Element Sect offered.

"That is a possibility, the tunnels and facilities for the sect's evacuation are still undamaged."

More people started talking, it seemed that even if they remained, all of the teleportation formations and intricate mechanisms for their escape were still in place. The defensive formation was still there and with Zhang Dong here now it could be fully utilized.

"We have two options, either we stay here or abandon the sect to a life of constant flight."

Zhang Dong gave his opinion as well. While it wouldn't be that hard to flee, that would be for the sect. It would be impossible to keep as one tight-knit group. They would probably split into two sides, one going with the Huo Clan while the other going with his side. Some might even try to establish their own small clans in the other sect territories.

By not staying together they would have no chance of ever fighting back if the Soaring Dragon Sect decided to search for them. On the other hand, it would be a lot easier to hide in smaller groups and they could infiltrate other cities and lay low.

While survival was more probable with the second option, they would never recover their old prestige nor would they be able to progress as cultivators as they did.

"Patriarch, do you believe that we have a fighting chance?"

Everyone looked to Zhang Dong, it was all up to him to decide. While the old him would have probably chosen flight, the man that he now was different.

"Yes, I do believe that we have a fighting chance... tell me, how many masters at the great circle of core formation do we have to spare?"

"Patriarch, do you mean?"

Zhang Dong nodded with a little grin on his face. While his system was not fully in working order with his new realm that was more powerful than the old one it gave him his old method of raising his people up. It had been five years since he was here, in that time his people had to have made some progress.

"Yes, the more the better, we will put the resources that were left to good use!"

Chapter 388

"What do you think is happening outside?"

"According to the evacuation order, we should arrive at a safe location in a few days, then the elders will notify us if we are free to leave..."

"Cheng Yun... do you think that the sect is really done for?"

"I don't know Yang Rong but it didn't look good, I could see the confusion and fear in the senior's eyes... it's never good when the Soaring Dragon Sect is involved..."

Two youths were sitting together by the window of their dorm room. Their names were Yang Rong and Cheng Yun and they were both outer sect disciples from the United Element sect.

They had been at the sect for many years and both had managed to pass the foundation establishment threshold after long days of trial and training. They were soon expected to be promoted to inner sect disciples as their cultivation was progressing smoothly but now that dream might be at an end.

“This is bullcrap! This great Yang Rong was supposed to be a core elder and marry at least ten sect sisters!”

Yang Rong started shouting in indignation through the opened window while looking into the vast expanse of this pocket dimension. Both of them were inside the dimensional regalia treasure that was able to house all of the disciples for the evacuation.

“Be quiet you idiot, I’m trying to sleep!”

“Who was that? Who dares call this Yang Rong an idiot! Come out so I can shove my fist in your face!”

Cheng Yun gave out a sigh as he heard his friend arguing with some other disciples that were stuck in this pocket dimension. It hasn’t been that long but it was long enough to make them worry,

While the news of the approaching Soaring Dragon Sect was still fresh and they haven’t been here for long. Cheng Yun was still worried as if everything went well outside they would have been allowed to go back to the sect. It had already been a full day which could mean that the person with the regalia was actually heading towards the secret hideout.

“Yang Rong, is it you again? Stop causing troubles for your seniors, go to sleep or meditate!”

“Elder Fei! It’s an honor that you have graced these eyes of mine with your beautiful form!”

Yun peeked out from the window and could see a rather beautiful woman down on the ground. She was holding a whip which was promptly used to deliver a strike to Yang Rong’s forehead.

“ACK!”

“Be quiet you stinky junior, now stop causing trouble for everyone here!”

“I’m sorry elder Fei, he just needs some sleep!”

Cheng Yun quickly closed the window while bowing his head at the woman. While she was one of the prominent beauties around the whole sect, everyone feared that whip. There were certain rumors that many disciples and elders alike fell to it when trying to court the busty beauty.

While she was shapely and beautiful, she was also very strong. There weren’t many people that could keep up with her which meant that it was hard to make her settle down. She had already progressed past the foundation establishment realm and was one of the inner sect elders at quite the young age.

“Rong, you should stop that... you’re going to die one day...”

“Hah, this is but a scratch, it’s nothing in the pursuit of love! Did you see how she didn’t even pull any punches, look at how my forehead bleeds, it is truly a mark of our love!”

Cheng Yun squinted with his eyes, he was not sure what was wrong with this sect brother of his. If he didn't know that he was actually a good person that would put his life on the line for his sect sisters and brothers, he would probably evade him like the plague.

'What's wrong with these people...'

Lan Fei gave out a sigh while walking away from the large building that housed hundreds of people in it. This was but one of the structures that had been created in this pocket dimension and there were many more spread around it. This one in particular was given to her to watch over as she had been promoted to an inner sect elder not so long ago.

'That old crow isn't telling the whole truth... I know she knows something...'

Lan Fei walked away from the dorm after it had quieted down. She entered a separate building where some other elders gathered along with the one in charge, an old granny that looked like a potato that had been out in the sun for too long.

"Little Fei? I hope that the children aren't causing too much trouble for you."

"Junior greets elder."

Her name was Feng Maling and she was the grandmother of the current matriarch. While her cultivation level wasn't all that high compared to the other elders, she still had a lot of backing. Even elders at the nascent soul level feared offending her in any way.

"It's just one trouble maker, nothing the senior should worry about."

The building they were in was in the middle while the dorms spread out like flower petals in all directions. The one she was responsible for was the closest one so she spent most of her time here.

Feng Maling was the person with the right to opening this pocket dimension. Without her approval, nothing could get in or get out. Lan Fei along with the other elders didn't really know what was happening outside as everything went through this old lady.

'She has to know something...'

Even when the information didn't go through she did spot the old elder talking with someone through a communication jade recently. No information did get through so the state that the sect was in was a mystery.

'Is the sect really done for? They would have let us out by now if everything was fine, I don't like this...'

Lan Fei had been living in this sect for many years now. At first, she wasn't sure if she made the right decision of coming here as she did have a history with its Patriarch. In the beginning, she thought that it would be a boon but then she realized that the man she was chasing was already married.

With nothing else to do she remained and quickly found out that this sect had quite the prestigious disciple program. With the merit-based system and her already high cultivation, she managed to progress through the ranks quite fast. From an outer sect elder all the way up to the inner sect elder.

With some more work, she was even hoping to get into the core elder position and attain the nascent soul prestige. But when she was so close to her goal, this strange event with the Soaring Dragon Sect transpired and she was now stuck babysitting kids.

‘Should I just make a run for it when we reach the sanctuary?’

She looked at the old lady that was smiling and drinking some green tea. She knew the evacuation procedures that they were going through. The elder with the medallion would reach a certain spot and place the medallion there. Only then they would be allowed to leave this place.

While leaving was limited to the elder generation she with her current status would be allowed to leave. Then she could decide if it was smart to remain in this sect or if they had offended the Soaring Dragon Sect to the point of no return.

Even though that was the best way to survive she somewhat felt that it would not be the correct choice. She owed the sect quite a bit, all of her current strength was all thanks to them and their Patriarch.

The same man that she had a fling with. During the years in the sect she could see him from a distance performing some speeches but the two never really interacted with each other again. The biggest problem was Feng Liena, his wife that she was afraid of.

She feared that if that woman ever found out about her husband’s encounter with her she would be done for. Even though this was something that happened before the two met, she wasn’t so sure if Liena would care much for it.

‘Did he really perish? If he is really dead then there might be no future left for this sect.’

While she liked her current position she didn’t like it more than her life. Without Zhang Dong being in the lead she feared that it would go down in the wrong direction. The debacle with the Soaring Dragon Sect might just be the straw that broke the camel’s back.

If she could go back in time she wished that she could grab the man called Zhang Dong for herself. To this day she regretted that she let someone like that slip through her fingers.

“Huh? Right now?”

Fei was about to go do another round around the dorm to check if the troublemakers were still at it. Before she could stand up though, the old grandma spit out her tea.

“Elder? Is everything alright?”

She asked while Feng Maling fumbled around with her communication jade, it seemed that something had happened outside and it didn’t look like anything good.

‘Could have we really angered the Soaring Dragon Sect?’

She asked herself while her legs quaked slightly. Even though she was thinking about leaving when the coast was clear she was still responsible enough to help the juniors first. If it was really required she would do her duty to protect them.

“Alright? Well...”

The old lady stood up from her seat and started to slowly walk outside. Lan Fei along with some other elders that were here remained half a step behind the old lady while being curious of what this was about.

‘That is...’

They ended up before the teleportation area through which people that were given access to the regalia could come in. The old lady just smiled while waiting here and soon someone started to appear before her.

“Why does it always take a crisis for you to show up?”

The old lady asked as a certain white-haired Patriarch appeared before everyone. His looks were known by everyone here as it was hard not to notice all of the statues in the sect.

“Hey granny, I hope that you have been well, I need to borrow this place for a while...”

As soon as he spoke more and more people started appearing behind him. All of them were of various ages but they had one thing in common, they were all at the great circle of core formation.

Thank you for reading!

Don’t forget to follow, favorite, rate.

[Donate](#) | [Discord](#) |

Chapter 389

‘This place did get larger, glad that they continued to feed it more energy.’

Zhang Dong looked into the wide expanse that was the pocket dimension of the dimensional regalia. This place actually had a nice cool breeze running through it after they went through applying some elemental treasures.

This allowed them to fashion several biomes with different temperatures which helped certain herbs to grow. With the help of this dimension, they were able to grow rare herbs without the knowledge of other sects and the Soaring Dragon Sect overlords.

‘It seems that even without me around they were prospering...’

He had left behind quite the treasure trove which would allow his people to progress even without him. After these five years of absence, there was no one that had step foot into the nascent soul stage but Huo Qiang had managed to reach the middle stage. If he had stayed then perhaps his wife would have been able to advance as well.

The first person he noticed was his grandmother, Feng Maling. She still looked like a baked potato. It seemed that she wasn’t aging so well either.

“I didn’t want to believe it, but it is truly you.”

“Good to see you too, granny, you seem to be doing fine.”

“Hah, that old bat is too stubborn to die, she also got the easy mission of protecting the kids.”

“I’ll never die before an old fart like you Zhang Jin.”

Zhang Dong came along with a group of great circle cultivators and his grandfather. The moment they arrived the once old couple were at their throats yet again. While he found the two grandparents bickering with each other there was no time to lose. The sect’s existence was at stake, with every minute spent bickering they were at risk of being eradicated.

“Enough, both of you. We don’t have time for your lovers’ squabbles we need to prepare the elders for their advancement and you two are going to be the first to go through the change.”

Feng Maling and Zhang Jin almost fell over after he mentioned that they were bickering like an old married couple. While Zhang Jin’s old cultivation had been quite messy, it had been revitalized by the new teachings and better cultivation methods. Now even this old man that was a great circle master could have his body cleansed from all impurities before progressing into the nascent soul level.

“My boy, this old lady is far too old, I’m not sure my body will be able to go through a change like this... but if the sect and the young ones can be saved, I am willing to try.”

From the perspective of these old cultivators like Feng Maling, there was a very slim chance of surviving the transformation into the higher realm. The nascent soul stage was quite dangerous to attempt and it had claimed the most lives from any realm progressions. Lucky for everyone here, they had Zhang Dong with them. With his extensive knowledge and his system, he would be able to choose the right cultivation method for everyone.

A large portion of the lives that this transformation claimed was due to the incorrect usage of the cultivator’s talents. It was similar to Zhang Zhi’s situation when he had chosen the wrong weapon to focus his talents on. Without Zhang Dong’s involvement, the man would probably never have reached his true potential.

“Don’t worry granny, you’ll live, gramps will be fine too.”

Soon more people started to appear, it was hard to count but almost fifty great circle core formation experts were now here. With the help of the improved cultivation methods and the right resources, the people from this sect could go through the realms at an astonishing speed.

Even without his help, it would be possible for all of the younger cultivators at this level to probably ascend into the nascent soul level before they reached the age of a hundred. This would cause quite the uproar through the empire though as even the giant sects like the Soaring Dragon Sect could not progress this fast while being at an area with the highest spirit energy density.

“I haven’t been here in a while, can someone lead us to a secluded spot that is far away from the disciples.”

Zhang Dong looked out into the distance and could feel many eyes on him. It was clear to him that he had been spotted by the young ones. He did not really hide himself from then and his aura was even more powerful than it was before. His intent was to give everyone a morale boost, with their beloved Patriarch back at the sect, they would be fearless.

“Ah yes, little Fei come over here.”

Zhang Dong looked to the side of where this little Fei was supposed to be. There he saw someone peeking out from behind the corner while somewhat hiding themselves.

“Fei? What has gotten into you, pay respect to the Patriarch!”

Granny Maling lowered her voice which caused the person that was hiding to emerge. The moment he saw the woman he realized the reason why she was hiding. While the hair was a bit different he would not forget the set of assets that were jiggling with every move that this woman took.

“...Lan Fei greets the Patriarch, forgive me, I’ll be your guide.”

It was Lan Fei, the woman that had popped his cherry. He knew that she had come to his sect but after a few months he stopped paying attention to her as he focused on his wife and then the first child. It was still hard for a man to fully forget their first time.

While any feelings for the woman had evaporated a long time ago, he still felt somewhat strange while talking to her. With a little glance, he examined her deposition, which put her on the level of a recent middle stage core formation expert. This was quite the achievement but it would not be enough for her to progress towards the nascent soul stage.

“Let us depart now, time is of the essence and there are many brothers and sisters that require my help.”

The disciple’s Cheng Yun and Yang Rong included were greeted by a large group of flying elders. The whole sect dorm became loud as everyone noticed the peculiar white-haired Patriarch at the helm of their formation.

“W-was that the Patriarch?”

“It was, he looks the same as he did, I remember him from the entrance speech!”

“What is happening outside? What of the Soaring Dragon Sect?”

The disciples here had even more questions now. What had happened to the evacuation attempt, why was their dead Patriarch here and why were all of those prominent elders here with him.

While everyone had question marks above their heads Zhang Dong was flying towards a distant destination. Lan Fei brought them to a secluded mountain range that was built for combat training in mind. The disciples were many kilometers away from this destination and would not get in the way of the training.

“Good, please keep the disciples away from this area, for now, they will remain here.”

While the sect was mostly intact the protective formation needed some work. The whole city was destroyed and some of the formation lines had to be redone. Before everything was fully fixed he didn’t feel like putting disciples that were weak out there.

The enemies could arrive at any moment so the dimensional regalia needed to be ready for shipping at any time. It was still an immortal grade treasure that could not be damaged by anyone, even masters at the nascent soul level.

The only way to enter this pocket dimension was to either kill the current owner or somehow breach through the treasures defenses. He didn't really think that there was any craftsman that would be able to do that and killing him would also not be that easy. Thus the disciples were safer here than outside.

"Little Fei, forward the Patriarch's orders to the others, be sure that we don't get bothered by those rascals!"

There were a few disciples that would probably attempt to get to the bottom of what was happening. It was dangerous to interrupt people that were trying to pass into the nascent soul level as they could fail. It was also dangerous for a weak cultivator to be around someone that was a nascent soul master. They would release a devastating amount of Qi which could cause death to anyone below a certain level of power.

Zhang Dong looked at Lan Fei and bowed her head while also somewhat evading his gaze. It was clear to him that she was feeling awkward about this whole thing as well.

"Hm... Dong'er... you and that girly... you sly fox!"

His gaze trailed a little bit too long on the busty woman and he was noticed by his grandfather. Zhang Jin was a known womanizer so he had a keen eye for such things, he could instantly see that there was something going on.

"What are you talking about gramps?"

He got elbowed to the side by the old man who had a strange silly look on his face. Zhang Dong to this day didn't know how a person like this could score so many women. Even after hundreds of years, he could not keep his lower brain in check and his family number constantly grew each year but at least one.

"Don't worry, I won't tell your wife, grandpa understands, I knew you had it in you! You're just like your grandfather."

"I'm not anything like you, you old fart!"

Before Zhang Jin could continue he received a smack to the back of his head. If there weren't so many people here Zhang Dong could see himself choking his grandfather out at this very moment. Alas, he needed to remain cool and collected.

"Patriarch?"

Feng Maling turned to the unfolding scene along with the other core formation experts that were here. Everyone was a bit perplexed about the reason of the Patriarch hitting his own grandfather out of the blue.

"Hey, why did you smack me? Grandpa is going to be sad when his favorite grandchild acts like this!"

Zhang Jin started rubbing his face while trying to act cute. Though he was someone that was far above the age of a hundred, so even when he tried the puppy dog eyes, Zhang Dong could only cringe.

"Excuse me..."

Zhang Dong turned around while coughing into his fist. It was time to get these elders up a notch. He wasn't sure if all of them could make the jump to the next level but the more he got up there the better their chances at survival were.

"Well then, I think you know how it goes gramps, you've gone through the process before..."

"Uh... Dong'er... please be gentle with this old man..."

"Don't worry, I'm always gentle."

Zhang Dong cracked his knuckles while bringing up his sect's window. It was time to cleanse everyone's body from impurities and then use some of those spirit stones they got from their attackers to push their power levels towards a new level.

Chapter 390

"Fucking shit, If that shithead cares about those bots so much I'm going to tear them limb from limb while he watches!"

A certain young master's shouts filled one of the peaks at the Soaring Dragon Sect. All of the women that attended to his needs had fled outside while he was demolishing his own living quarters. It was so bad that other sect elders had to get involved, only ones at the level of elder Tong dared to approach.

While the scared beauties waited outside Wang Long looked at his system window. He continued to examine it as he could tell that something was wrong. The person called Zhang Dong was clearly only a core formation expert, he saw it on his system screen.

"How did he do it? Did he find some kind of exploit? Is there some kind of bug? His info got jumbled up after that change..."

Wang Long was still a gamer, thus he tried applying gamer logic to what transpired at the battle. From his perspective, the man he fought was somehow abusing the system that they were given.

"Did he buy something to fake his status screen? Maybe he was already above my realm when we started?"

Wang Long started to calm down while also looking around. The room he was in had previously been a huge chamber with many lovely ladies. He had grown bored of this world after going through all the other young masters that the sect had to offer.

Without any internet or television, there was nothing else for him to do here. He never really aspired to be the leader of this sect. It was even quite the bothersome occasion that would require him to attend long boring meetings. He would rather leave that task up to the old man that was supposedly his grandfather.

He was slowly starting to grow bored of this world. There was nothing more for him to achieve as he was already in the most prominent sect. The only two factions that they were up against would not interfere with them either.

He felt that in time he would be able to take over as the new Azure Emperor if he just continued to level. But after achieving the nascent soul level it had become quite the grind. There weren't that many nascent soul bearings that he could kill and he got almost no spirit points for things below it.

With longevity being on his side he didn't really see any reason to try so hard anymore. He would at least live a thousand years but his body was that of a twenty-year-old. Signs of him aging wouldn't even be visible before he reached the age of a hundred.

'I need something to drink.'

"Hey, where is everyone? One of you better brings over some wine!"

Wang Long shouted out loudly, his voice echoed through the whole peak that he was the master of. In a matter of seconds, three girls appeared with various items in their hands.

"There you are, took you long enough."

They were momentarily stunned by the way that this place looked. Fist marks and small craters riddled this previously gorgeous room. The fountain that once gave out a radiant glow of fresh spirit water was now but rubble. All of the furniture was broken and Wang Long had nothing else to sit on than a large throne-like chair that somehow survived his onslaught.

"Well, what are you waiting for?"

"E-excuse our rudeness, young master."

The three scantily clad girls were quick to attend to their master. Wang Long was a bit irked so he continued to stare at the three women. He could tell that they were afraid of him, one of them even stumbled for a moment and was quick to bow her head before him.

He continued to glance at these three 'people' while they served him the wine and some spirit fruits. One of them started to even give him a shoulder massage which was actually quite relaxing. But as soon as his rage was subsiding he started recalling a large fist that connected with his nose.

It was a rare moment in his life, after he joined this place he had never really suffered through a real setback. His position as a young master gave him certain prestige. Even though there were other young masters before him, thanks to the system he was able to leave them in the dust quite fast.

He had long forgotten how it felt to actually lose a battle as after figuring out the system shop he had never lost. The only thing that he needed to do when he was up against a stronger foe was to visit a place with slightly weaker enemies and farm them for points. He was also given more and more spirit stones with each victory from the sect which made things even easier.

When the memories of the fight that he lost and the face of the man responsible for it came up, he felt the rage built up again. His hand pushed into the large throne-like chair and caused the armrest to burst.

"Ack."

"Eeek."

The girls that were tending to him closed their eyes as the splinters from the special chair exploded everywhere.

“God damn that fucker, I’m going to kill him, damn NPC lover, what’s so good about these AI’s”

Wang Long looked at one of the girls that had fallen down on the ground and pointed out at her.

“You there, bark like a dog.”

The grown woman hesitated for a moment but was quick to follow the order that this young master had given here.

“You, balance yourself on one leg and start juggling.”

The second girl was ordered to perform some acts while the third one continued with the shoulder massage.

‘Nothing but lifeless drones, they just do what they are told, what does that guy even see in them?’

Wang Long was confused about Zhang Dong’s way of acting. It looked like he actually cared about the NPCs from this world that to him were nothing more than tools for his pleasure and amusement. Tools that would be used and then thrown away.

After he was bored with giving them orders he called one of the girls over. With an empty expression on his face, he pointed out with his finger towards this woman.

The poor girl didn’t even have enough time to blink before a large bright ray of light escaped from Wang Long’s digit. It instantly evaporated her into fine particles while causing the two other girls that were in the room to jump to the side in fright.

“Not even enough points to use teleportation...”

Wang Long was more interested in the feeble amount of spirit points that he received from his system. The woman was a great circle foundation establishment cultivator but the number he got was just ten spirit points.

Ever since he achieved the nascent soul level, the number of points he was given had declined drastically. It was clear that the system wouldn’t allow him to grind too much on the weaker mobs in this world.

‘Unless I kill something close to my level I barely get enough points...’

This was mostly the reason that he had stagnated for the past years. Nascent Soul cultivators were quite rare and beasts of the same level were even rarer. One reason he went after large sects was also the points, when he couldn’t hunt the nascent soul masters the volume of the kills mattered.

But this grinding trick that he knew also started going away the moment he achieved the middle stage. At this point, he was not getting any points from people below the foundation establishment level and even a great circle veteran gave him ten points.

“What are you looking at? Just go away.”

While contemplating where he could get more points he spotted the cowering girls. Growing bored with the two he just waved with his hand and the two were able to leave.

With the realization that there was another player in this world, Wang Long had a lot to think about. Previously he thought that this was just a big playground given to him that he was the main character in.

A single-player sandbox game for him to do whatever he wanted and whenever he wanted. One that would not really progress if he didn't act.

With Zhang Dong being there he started to feel threatened. He already lost to him in an open fight and he didn't feel like he would be able to win in the short term. It seemed that his opponent was somehow gaining the system and hiding the real numbers from him.

"I need to level up... that bastard also got those idiot elders... they were all late stage... at least I managed to ks Tong before he got to him."

While the biggest reason that elder Tong was stabbed by him was to get away from there, he also knew that he would be getting the most spirit points from him. The ten late stage elders when put together would probably give a bit more points but it was close.

"Also I need to lure him out somewhere, fighting in his faction was probably giving his forces buffs and where did he get that flying fortress from?"

Wang Long started going through his system store but anything at the level of that flying castle would cost him an arm and a leg. He wasn't really someone that was interested in crafting so he didn't realize that there were other ways that one could get stronger without buying everything off the store.

"Young master, please explain yourself! Why can't we reach elder Tong? Where are the ships, where are all the elders!"

While Wang Long was talking to himself an angry-looking old man entered the room that he was staying in. He was wearing an identical robe to Tong's and was clearly not concerned by this young man's position.

"Explain yourself? What happened?"

"Could you shut up, I need to think, Chao."

"You..."

The old man scoffed at the quick reply and then started looking around the room. He could feel that spiritual energy had been used to kill someone which angered him even more.

"I don't care that you are the grandson of the current Patriarch, you will explain yourself, even you are not above the sect!"

The old man approached Wang Long while exuding an oppressive aura that caused him to stagger a bit.

"Leave me alone, old fart, I need to get more spirit points or else..."

Wang Long looked at the man in front of him. The system showed that he was clearly a person at the great circle stage of nascent soul.

“Chao... this sect does possess quite a few nascent soul elders... doesn’t it?”

“What are you babbling about? Quickly explain yourself, what happened at that United Element’s sect.”

Wang Long moved his hand back so that this man could not see it and a black dagger appeared in his hand...