

Walker 421

Chapter 421 - Sprit Qi Flame And Xiantian Physique

Within Lin Mu's body, a change was happening.

The layer of impurities that had been merged with the dantian was being forcefully separated from it. This was being done by pushing out the spirit qi wisps from the dantian. Instead of letting them pass into the meridians like normally, Lin Mu was pushing them out of the pores in his dantian.

If someone else were to try this, they would likely cripple their dantian forever or even explode it. But because of Lin Mu's saturated vitality, the damage was being repaired just as it was being caused. Large beads of sweat appeared on Lin Mu's forehead, and he bore through the pain.

This was no easy task and many would have given up a long time ago. But with Lin Mu's own determination and the assistance of the severing heart sutra, he held on. Finally, the layer of impurities cracked like the shell of a hard boiled egg and a burst of spirit qi came out of the dantian.

A stream of vital energy started repairing his dantian, and he focused on removing the impurities. He couldn't remove these impurities in the normal way by coughing them out or exhaling them. They were far too dangerous and it was likely that they would taint the other parts of his body if he tried to use that route.

It was now that the voice of Senior Xukong rung out in his mind.

"Control your spirit qi wisps and condense them," Xukong spoke.

Lin Mu knew that doing this normally would result in the spirit qi wisps being converted into liquid drops, and wondered why Senior Xukong would suggest him this, but he could not afford to doubt him now and did as he was told.

The spirit qi wisps were surrounding the 'impurity shell' outside the dantian, and Lin Mu began to condense them. He had already gotten habituated to the entire process and thus didn't have as much of a problem. But once he reached the limit of the saturation point, an uncontrolled reaction happened.

Lin Mu got anxious and was about to forcefully control it when Xukong interrupted.

"Don't! Let it happen," He directed.

Lin Mu held on and watched as the spirit qi wisps became unstable. He had expected that they would explode, but something else happened.

~flicker~

The spirit qi wisps suddenly ignited and a yellow flame appeared. As soon as Lin Mu saw the flame, he realized what it was.

"A qi flame..." He muttered to himself.

"Yes... Now, burn the impurities away!" Xukong ordered.

Lin Mu paused the qi flame into the impurities and they started burning. The flames started to reduce after the first impact, but then Lin Mu made more of them. It only took Lin Mu one to try to understand the concept behind the creation of a qi flame.

If one wanted to convert the spirit qi wisps into liquid form, they needed the specific conditions that were provided by the dantian and meridians. If it was done outside of them, the chances of explosion or dissipation were likely.

But if a certain level of control was applied, those spirit qi wisps would ignite into qi flames instead of exploding due to the pressure. This was the very qi flame that could be used to refine alchemical pills and refine spirit tools.

After months of waiting, Lin Mu had finally managed to learn how to ignite qi flames at this opportune time. The qi flames that he had right now were spirit qi flames as they were created from pure spirit qi and were different from fire attribute spirit qi.

In fact, different types of spirit qi's could be ignited in a similar way and qi flames with different attributes could be formed. This was one of the more complex methods of using spirit qi, and not many could achieve this.

The fire attribute spirit qi flame was the easiest to ignite as it matched its basic features. Making other elements have the same properties was quite difficult, and that was the reason why most pill alchemists and spirit tool refiners had a higher affinity with the fire element.

It was simply much easier for them to achieve the same thing than it would for someone that had the water element affinity. It was not to say that those who had different elemental affinities than fire would be bad alchemists; no, rather they could have the same level of skills. The only difference was that their start would be difficult.

'Even without the affinity for the fire element, he still is able to ignite the qi flame on his own rather quickly. Hmm... though I guess his control over his spirit sense probably compensated for that. This leaves him with ten elements that he could possibly have affinity to.

Due to the ring, he has the affinity to the spatial element, but he definitely does not have the affinity for the other two primordial elements. That leaves him with the four heavenly and four mortal elements.'

Xukong thought.

~sizzle~

The impurities started burning rapidly as Lin Mu kept on converting more and more spirit qi wisps into spirit qi flames. The impurities reduced and soon disappeared into nothingness.

~Hummm~

As soon as that was done, the spirit qi flames died down and a wave of energy spread out from Lin Mu's body. His cells rejoiced as the vital energy within them thrummed in a rhythmic manner. The final 0.01% that was left finally completed and Lin Mu achieved the Xiantian physique.

Then it was as if Lin Mu's skin had started growing rapidly. Layers of callus started forming on them, and their thickness soon reached one centimeter. After that point, it stopped and another cracking sound was heard.

Lin Mu moved his body and the hardened callus all over his body cracked into tiny pieces. He stood up and the pieces all fell out from inside his clothes. He patted down his body and hair, getting rid of the final bits of the calluses.

"I think you should take a look in the mirror,"

Chapter 422 - The Five Treasures Realm

Lin Mu heard senior Xukong's suggestion and took out a mirror from his ring. This was a rather expensive silver mirror that he had bought in the Wu Lim city and was now finally coming handy. Lin Mu had mostly used polished bronze mirrors before this, and seeing the quality of the silver mirror made him impressed.

He held it in front of him and gazed at the young man in the mirror.

"Is this... me?" Lin Mu questioned in shock.

"That is most definitely you," Xukong confirmed.

"But... how?" Lin Mu asked in a stunned voice.

"That is another one of the effects of the Xiantian physique. When it reaches completion, it will revert one's body to the most optimum condition it can achieve. That is the reason why you look like this now." Xukong explained.

Lin Mu's skin had become soft and supple, the faint tan that had previously had completely been erased. Replacing it was fair smooth skin that would make a woman jealous. His hair became glossy and shone in the light of the flames.

The scars that he had on his body also disappeared and it was as if he never got them. One could even say that Lin Mu now looked a bit more feminine than before. His hair was already long enough to reach below his holders and if he used a bit of makeup, he may even be able to disguise as a girl.

"I look way more girly now..." Lin Mu said with a wry smile.

"Ahaha!" Xukong laughed before continuing, "you've got time to grow. You're not even twenty, by the time you reach that age your features will become more mature."

"Plus... this is not the end," Xukong added.

"Not the end? What do you mean, Senior?" Lin Mu questioned.

"Did you really think it ended at body tempering realm?" Xukong asked.

"Yes, the thirteenth stage of the body tempering realm is the last, no? After that, you will automatically enter the qi refining realm." Lin Mu stated.

"That is indeed true, but reaching the thirteenth stage of the body tempering realm is not the end. You see, before qi cultivation used to exist, there was only one way one could strengthen their bodies, it was called as body cultivation. The body tempering realm is a mere fraction of it." Xukong answered.

"Body cultivation? What is that? And what do you mean that qi cultivation did not exist?" Lin Mu questioned, his curiosity igniting.

"This was far back, in a time beyond my existence. Back then, the great progenitors of the human race faced a great threat from beasts and other races that were naturally stronger than them. It is said that the beasts and other races had a natural talent in using spirit qi, and thus they easily defeated humans and ate them.

Some races enslaved the humans and ruled over them for thousands of years. It was then that a small group of the humans learned about the secret potential of their bodies. They learned that they had been blessed by the heavens too, just that they were too blind to see it.

They discovered that the 'breath' they had within them was vital energy and that they could increase its amount by training and consuming vital energy rich food. They devised training methods and started hunting weaker beasts to feed themselves.

Little by little, their Numbers grew and more and more people learned how to use the vital energy. This is what later on got to be known as the body tempering realm. But this was not the end as they didn't enter the qi refining realm automatically like us after reaching the thirteenth stage of the body tempering realm.

There was still something that they lacked, and they didn't know what. Thus they kept up their efforts until a genius was born. This genius was blessed by the heavens and progressed in the body tempering realm much faster than any other human.

He reached the peak of the body tempering realm at the age of seven and got stuck there for three years. When he reached the tenth year of his life, his potential exploded and his strength did too. That was when they learned of the realm beyond the body tempering realm." Xukong explained.

"What is the name of the realm beyond that senior?" Lin Mu questioned, his curiosity reaching the peak.

"The body cultivation realm that is beyond the body tempering realm is called... The Five Treasures Realm." Xukong answered.

"What does the Five Treasures realm entail?" Lin Mu asked.

"In the Five Treasures Realm, one needs to refine their five treasures, which are the five organs of your body; the liver, the spleen, the heart, the lungs, and the kidneys. Refining each organ successfully will push you to a realm equivalent to that of the qi cultivation realm." Xukong revealed.

"Wait! You mean to say... just one realm of the body tempering realm encompasses the entire spirit qi refining cultivation?" Lin Mu said with utter shock.

"Indeed. The body tempering realm is an extremely potent way of strengthening your body such that it becomes invulnerable. Another thing is, there is no order to it. You can start to refine any organ you want first and can even do all of them together.

Though doing that is not recommended, as it could take a very long time.

For example, if you fully refine your liver, you will instantly obtain the strength that is equal to that of a peak core condensation realm expert." Xukong explained.

Lin Mu's mind felt as if it was struck by lightning. He could immediately understand the potential of the body cultivation and wondered why it was not practiced here. He had never even heard something like this existed.

Lin Mu was currently at the peak stage of the body tempering realm which already put him at the same level as that of a peak stage qi refining realm cultivator and if he added his Xiantian physique to that, he was perhaps pushed to the level of a Early stage core condensation realm expert.

Chapter 423 - Killing The Great Slumber Bear

Lin Mu remembered that Senior Xukong had told him he would give him something that would help him go beyond the body tempering realm a long time ago.

"Senior what was it that you said you were going to give me?" Lin Mu questioned.

"I was going to give you a body cultivation technique, but I think it would be better to wait. You need to kill the Great Slumber bear first." Xukong replied.

"Yes, Senior. I understand." Lin Mu replied.

Lin Mu stood up and looked at the sky outside. The moon was just starting to wane and its light could be said to be strong.

~huh~

Lin Mu took a deep breath and made up his mind before walking towards the end of the cave. He activated the third skill Phase and entered the wall. Quickly passing through, Lin Mu reached the other end and looked at the huge beast that was curled up against the wall, steam coming out of its nose and mouths.

"Hmm... it has indeed recovered more than I expected. Good, that we chose to come right away, or I estimate it would reach the Nascent soul realm by the end of this month..." Xukong spoke.

Lin Mu felt alarmed by this and wondered if he had not been forced to fight Gu Yao, he would have perhaps still been in the Wu Lim city. If everything had gone according to how Wu Hei had planned, Lin Mu would have reached this cave in fifteen more days from now.

Those fifteen more days would have been the difference between life and death. Lin Mu could only think of this as finding a fortune in misfortune.

"Be careful now, you will only have one chance. You need to kill it in a single blow, or it will not give you a second chance." Xukong warned.

"I understand senior..." Lin Mu replied.

He took another breath before muttering to himself, "fade..."

Lin Mu appeared in the parallel world and held out his short sword. He started pouring spirit qi into the short sword, amplifying its power to the maximum he could. But this was not all, Lin Mu started chanting and his body grew by one size, his clothes stretching taut.

Just when he had reached the time limit for Fade, he reappeared in the real world making a low thud. The Great Slumber bear stirred in sleep a little bit but did not react fully. The Aura coming off Lin Mu's body was like the tides hitting a rocky cliff.

He blinked to the top of the Great Slumber Bear's head and thrust the short sword deep into the head of the beast. His entire body's weight was behind it and was further amplified by the Burning heart sutra.

When the short sword hit the skull of the beast, Lin Mu could feel the impact traveling through the short sword. If he did not have the effect of the burning heart sutra, perhaps he would have even lost hold of the short sword.

The Great Slumber bear had woken up the moment Lin Mu had appeared above its head. His aura was simply too strong to be ignored and even the Great Slumber bear was startled by it. Even when the short sword was half way through its head, it was trying to stand up.

Alas, the power contained within the short sword was still potent and passed through its head, embedding into the rock floor below.

~huu~huu~huu~

Lin Mu took labored breaths as he saw the beast that was on its last breaths. Even now it was letting out breaths and its eyes stared at Lin Mu.

"It's still not dead?!" Lin Mu questioned with shock.

"Its vitality is among the strongest of beasts, even weakened and having its brain pierced with the sword it can stay alive," Xukong replied.

Lin Mu gritted his teeth as a ruthless expression appeared on his face.

"Then I'll just do it again!" Lin Mu said before withdrawing a spear from his ring.

~ROAR!~

The Great Slumber Bear's powerful qi stirred as it increased its strength. It was now moving its limbs while its bloody red eyes stared at Lin Mu who had taken out a long spear from his ring.

~Shing~

~Cling~

He pierced the spear through the left paw of the great slumber bear and nailed it to the ground.

"More!" Lin Mu yelled as he took out a long sword.

"GRRRRR!" The Great Slumber bear let out a rumbling noise as spirit qi started to concentrate on its other paw.

"Quick! It's gonna attack!" Xukong wandered.

"Take this!" Lin Mu said before stabbing the long sword through the paw that the beast was trying to attack him with.

~shatter~

The long sword pierced its right paw, but the beast shattered it forcefully. Lin Mu immediately pulled out the pair of slim swords and pierced them in the hole that was created by the long sword.

The beast struggled to pull out the three weapons and was about to use its legs when Lin Mu took out three different kinds of spears from his ring and stabbed them in its left leg in three places. The great slumber Bear's heel, ankle and knee were now nailed to the ground.

Lin Mu then took out the battle axe from the ring and slammed its blade into the only free leg of the beast. But this was not enough, as the length of the blade was not enough to keep it trapped.

Lin Mu raised his hand in the air and willed it, making a large rock appear. The rock fell on the Axe burying even deeper into the leg of the beast and into the rocky floor. This rock was none other than the Deep ocean Iron ore that he had obtained a long time ago.

Finally, he took out the Iron thorn Spear he had obtained from Jing Wei. Lin Mu hadn't used it since then for fighting, and had only practiced with it in his Sleepscape.

~ROAR!~

The Great Slumber Bear's powerful qi stirred as it increased its strength.

"HAAAA!"

Chapter 424 - Devour

Lin Mu's hair flapped around as his bloodshot eyes gleamed. The black thorn spear was thrumming with power and it had already reached the maximum limit of what it could hold for now.

"TAKE THIS!" Lin Mu shouted.

The black thorn spear was stabbed deep into the chest of the Great slumber bear and pierced its heart, nailing it to the rock floor. Lin Mu and the Great Slumber bear stared in each other's eyes as unwillingness appeared in the bear's.

"Rest in peace, I vow to use your bloodline and take it to the apex." Lin Mu spoke suddenly.

He knew that he was killing a beast that had actually not wronged him. But like Senior Xukong had said this was the ruthless cultivation world, and he was now a cultivator. This was the least he could do for the beast and thus he did.

It was as if the beast understood his words or the intentions behind it as it gave up on struggling anymore and closed its eyes. A minute later, the steamy breaths of the Great Slumber Bear had stopped and Lin Mu confirmed that it was now completely dead.

~pew~

"It is done..." Lin Mu muttered as he looked at the still warm body of the beast.

"What're you waiting for, quickly take out its core and store the body in your ring, don't waste the blood!" Xukong urged.

Lin Mu nodded and hurriedly dug out the core from the beast's chest and then placed his hand on the beast, storing it along with all of the weapons in his ring. The only weapon he had lost in this was the long sword which had been shattered by the great slumber beast's attack.

Lin Mu looked at the handle of the long sword as that was all which was left, the blade having been split into multiple pieces fallen on the ground.

~Sigh~

"Thankfully, I already finished the practice routines with this long sword, or I would have ended to find a replacement." Lin Mu said.

Lin Mu looked at the large core that he was still holding in his hand. This was the largest core he had ever seen and even in the beast records that he had the biggest core recorded was about five times smaller than this one.

The core in his hand was about ten centimeters in diameters and was barely graspable in his hand being so wide. It was transparent unlike the other cores and had a triangular brown colored pattern on it, like the one that one on the Great Slumber Bear's Torso.

Even after being removed from the beast's body, the core stayed warm and throbbed with power. Lin Mu could sense the bloodline deep within the core just by holding it in his hand and knew the potency of it. He was a bit anxious about the next few steps that he would be needing to do after this.

"You should begin in now, the faster you do it, the higher your success rate will be." Xukong spoke.

"I understand, Senior..." Lin Mu replied before taking out a wide tub from his ring.

He then started removing his clothes and became naked. He didn't want to soil his robes for what was about to come, and frankly, it would be easier if he was naked to do it as there would be an ease of movements.

~Huu~

"Here we go..." Lin Mu said before he sat down in the tub and took out the corpse of the Great slumber bear.

He placed its large body outside of the tub and took another breath to prepare himself for what he was about to do.

Lin Mu closed his eyes and practiced the nameless technique of the lost immortal. He knew that it had reached a specific level, but knew it was barely at the start. He had just scratched the surface and its secrets were way beyond this.

Lin Mu tensed his body as the effects of the technique started and the hunger reappeared. He had intentionally triggered it this time and was prepared to bear its consequences.

"Grr..." A low rumble came from Lin Mu's stomach as it ached.

Lin Mu's muscles started twitching as veins appeared on his body, but this time it was not because of hate burning heart sutra. No, rather it was the almost animistic hunger that was taking over him and was close to turning him into a ravenous beast.

After two minutes, Lin Mu could no longer hold back and pulled the paw of the great slumber bear before biting on it. Even without spirit qi and vital energy to protect its body, the skin of the great slumber bear was quite tough.

But Lin Mu was in no condition to think about that, and all he wanted to do right now was eat.

It took him a few tries before he was able to tear the skin and bit away a mouthful of flesh from the beast. Lin Mu started chewing and then swallowed the flesh, blood dripping from his lips. A grin appeared on his face, as he suddenly found it to be incredibly delicious despite being raw.

"MORE!" Lin Mu said before taking another bite.

~Chomp~

~Gnaw~

~Chew~

Various sounds were heard as Lin Mu finished eating the entire right arm of the great slumber bear after thirty minutes. He pulled the bones and placed them in the tub before pulling the other arm of the beast and starting to eat it.

Just like this, Lin Mu went from one limb to the next, finishing up all four limbs of the great slumber bear. The bones of the limbs were half sunken in the blood that had accumulated in the tub while Lin Mu ate.

All the blood that spilled from the flesh and Lin Mu's mouth was caught by the tub and was thus not wasted. Lin Mu's body was also covered with blood as only his back was now left dry. There was blood on his face, his hair and on his neck.

If someone were to see Lin Mu right now, he would look no different from some deranged devilish cultivator. But it was not just his appearance that was terrifying, even his aura was undergoing a change. There were waves of spirit qi and vital energy coming from his body and spreading in the cave.

Now only the main body of the great slumber bear was left for Lin Mu to devour. His hunger had actually been placated somehow by eating just these four limbs, and thus he had gained a bit of clarity. He triggered the nameless technique of the lost immortal and stimulated his hunger again.

There was a massive amount of spirit qi and vital energy that was being poured into his body from his stomach as the net made out of obscure patterns had appeared on his stomach. Bit by bit, more of those obscure patterns appeared and linked up to form threads that interwove and formed the nets.

This was the third layer that was now forming over it, and the previous two were already densely packed. They were grey in color and caused his stomach to look as if it was made out of some kind of a metal.

Lin Mu continued and ripped the torso of the great slumber bear, starting to eat its internal organs. One by one, each of the organs started disappearing into his gullet. Liver, lungs, kidneys, pancreas, intestines, stomach, spleen, gall bladder, heart; everything was cleanly eaten.

Lin Mu then withdrew his short sword from the ring and cut the skull of the Great slumber bear apart to reveal its whitish pink brain. Jamming his hand in, Lin Mu scooped out a handful of brains, before slurping it up like jelly.

The taste was incredibly delicious to Lin Mu, and he couldn't help but drool even more. In less than two minutes, the entire brain was eaten and now only the flesh and bones were left. Lin Mu started peeling the flesh off the ribs and put it in his mouth.

It was as if he was picking berries from a bush and putting them in his mouth, but the bush was made of bones and flesh were the berries. An entire hour passed before Lin Mu was able to complete eating the flesh, leaving behind only the bones and the blood which had nearly filled the tub to the brim.

"Are you fine?" Xukong questioned.

"Yes..." Lin Mu replied in a hoarse voice.

"Begin the next step, your body is already assimilating it, you need it as the catalyst," Xukong said.

Lin Mu simply nodded his head and withdrew the core of the great slumber bear and held it in his hands. He sat down in a cross legged manner and focused on the beast core.

~ROAR!!!~

A physical wave of spirit qi came from the beast core as the illusory figure of the great slumber bear appeared in front of Lin Mu.

Chapter 425 - Assimilation Complete

Lin Mu's eyes were still closed despite the loud roar. He focused on the large beast core and ignore the illusory figure in front of him.

The illusory figure of the Great Slumber bear looked on at Lin Mu for about ten seconds before becoming silent. It floated over him and then overlapped with Lin Mu. Now it was as if instead of Lin Mu a giant bear was sitting in a meditative posture.

Inside Lin Mu's body, the vital energy and spirit Qi was seething. There was a massive amount of it being released from his stomach and spread all across his body. There was even more spirit Qi coming from the beast core in his hands and it was traveling through his meridians.

But along with the spirit Qi, there was an aura traveling into his body as well. This aura was nothing but the bloodline aura of the Great Slumber bear. The bloodline aura traveled to his Dantian and soon another illusory figure of a great slumber bear started to form there. But this figure was different and was much smaller.

Lin Mu continued absorbing the spirit Qi and the vital energy for a few hours, before the beast core in his hands had finally shrunk into nothingness. The illusory figure of the great slumber bear that was

overlapping his body also started shrinking, while the illusory figure that was inside his body started growing instead.

The bones that were sunken in the blood had melted and merged with it. This blood was now slowly being absorbed by Lin Mu's body and he calmly mediated, circulating the spirit Qi in his body. About twelve hours passed before the entire process was complete and both his body and the two illusory figures were of the same size.

But by now, the illusory figures had become red, as if tainted by the blood, and the aura of Lin Mu was indistinguishable from that of the Great Slumber bear.

~huu~

Lin Mu let out a deep breath as he opened his eyes. Similarly, the eyes of the illusory figure opened as well and a low roar was heard coming from it. But this roar still traveled far and wide, silencing all the beasts of the northern forest. Even little shrubby trembled upon hearing it, but then calmed down as he could sense his master's aura within it as well.

Lin Mu stood up, and felt an uncontrollable power flowing through his body. He felt like he needed to let out this power or he would explode. He took a step and moved like a flash, appearing on the inner end of the cave.

"HYAA!" he yelled as the third form of the boulder collapsing fist was automatically executed.

A pink ribbon shot out of his arm, but this time his arm was fine. The pink ribbon was also much wider than before and swirled in a beautiful manner. Its beauty was the disguise for the power contained in it was terrifying.

~BOOM!~

The pink ribbon came in contact with the cave wall and instantly passed through it, pulverizing it in the process. In less than two seconds it had traveled the length of the wall and had come out of the other end where little Shrubby was.

Thankfully, it had already sensed the danger and escaped the cave.

~Shua~

The pink ribbon faded away, but now before widening the entrance of the cave. A thick dust cloud covered the interior of the cave now as the crushed rock swirled in the air.

~BOOM~

Lin Mu punched out with his other hand, this time the power contained within it being lesser than before. Still, the punch was enough to generate a jet of wind that blew away all the dust and rocks that were in the cave. The debris shot out of the cave like bullets and shredded the trees that were outside the cave.

After letting out two punches, Lin Mu finally felt better and didn't feel like exploding.

~huu~

"That was... too much..." Lin Mu muttered to himself as he started to feel drowsy now.

'Ugh, it's already starting,' Lin Mu thought to himself.

This was none other than the effect of the bloodline ability of the Great Slumber Bear, 'Well of Slumber.'

If it had not been for the fact that Lin Mu's body was still assimilating the bloodline in it, he would have directly fallen asleep right then and there. But there were still some things he needed to do and that too very quickly.

Lin Mu blinked in the direction of Little Shrubby and called out to him.

"Little Shrubby!"

There was silence for a second, before the faint sounds of foot steps could be heard from near the entrance of the cave.

"Here." Little Shrubby said.

"I'll be sleeping for a while soon. So I need you to be careful, okay?" Lin Mu said.

The beast seemed a little confused, but then nodded its head in understanding.

"Okay," He said.

Lin Mu looked at the entrance of the cave that was nearly twice as big now and sighed.

"I can't let it stay open like this while I sleep here..." Lin Mu muttered to himself.

He went to one of the walls of the cave and punched it again. This time he used controlled force and was able to create cracks in the wall. He then slid his fingers in the cracks and pulled hard.

"Come on now... Break!" Lin Mu shouted.

~Crack~

~Rumble~

A large chunk of the cave was pulled out by Lin Mu. The chunk was nearly half the size of the cave's entrant and was two meters tall. Lin Mu carried it to the entrance and put it there, blocking half of the entrance. He went back and pulled out another piece, that was smaller than the previous one.

He put it at the entrance again, this time only leaving a quarter of the space left open.

"If you want to go outside, you can go from here." Lin Mu pointed.

"Okay," it replied simply.

Lin Mu then removed a bowl and placed it on a relatively flat rock.

Chapter 426 - Aftermath

Little Shrubby looked curiously at the bowl as Lin Mu put a large amount of beast cores in there. There were almost a hundred beast cores in it, that would be worth a fortune if he were to sell them.

"You can eat them when you want. These should be enough to last you a long time." Lin Mu said.

He didn't know how long he would be sleeping and thus wanted to prepare some things for little Shrubby. They had estimated that a year was the shortest time seeing as the great slumber bear they killed was juvenile and thus his bloodline ability was not fully developed. Lin Mu was betting on this and thus had prepared all the beast meat enough to last a year.

He then started to take them out and triggered the nameless technique of the lost immortal, stimulating his hunger again. Lin Mu knew he had to force himself to eat this. Even if he had a large amount of vitality from the Great Slumber bear's meat, there was still a chance it may extend beyond a year's time.

The drowsiness was being surprised by his intense hunger and thus he was able to power through. It took Lin Mu two hours before he was able to finish all the beast meat. Thankfully, he had prepared beforehand and only had cooked meat with him that had no bones left. This made it easy to eat, or he would have been unable to finish it on time.

~Thud~

Just a minute after he had finished eating them all, he collapsed on the ground.

Little Shrubby came running and nuzzled against his body, concerned for him. But when he saw that he was just sleeping and what he had spoken to him, he felt a bit better.

"I will wait." Little Shrubby said as it laid beside Lin Mu and started cultivating itself.

Rhythmic breaths came from Lin Mu's mouth as they eventually slowed down. It reached a point where he was only taking a single breath in a minute and even his heartbeats became slow.

And just like this, silence descended in the cave, just like the northern forest outside.

Back in the Wu Lin City, chaos was ensuing.

Thousand of disciples of the Tri Cauldron peony sect were moving around, some flying on spirit tools, some just running. The hugest number of them were gathered around a large hole that was located at the ancestral temple.

There, a pair of disciples that were wearing slightly different robes than others were standing. The others looked at them with respect and while they had an expression of seriousness. They came to stand beside the hole and one of them spoke.

"Is it really true? Did an Invader really come to our world?" The disciple who was shorted questioned.

~Sigh~

"As much as I want it to not be, it really is. We have thousands of eyewitness testimonies, both from commoners and cultivators. There is no doubt that it has really happed." The taller disciple replied.

The shorter disciple erroneously rubbed his fingers as he looked around at his junior disciples that were going around helping others. Some were healing the injuries of the injured people, while some were fixing the damage.

"And what did the elder say about this invader?" The shorter disciple asked.

"We've been ordered to be on high alert and to keep an eye out for any suspicious people. The top sects have already been alerted and so has been the Shuang Qian kingdom's king. By tomorrow the emperor should know about this too. They will be sending more reinforcement and will help us determine the true identity of the culprit behind this." The tall disciple answered.

The short disciple nodded and looked at the sky.

~Sigh~

"Thankfully, the supreme elder informed us quickly and the sect patriarch issued the alarm, or the culprit may have succeeded in his plan." The shorter disciple said.

The taller disciple nodded and looked to the side upon hearing someone approach them.

"Seniors! We have the portrait of the culprit!" A disciple who had approached them spoke.

"Show us then," they replied.

The junior disciple opened the painting scroll and revealed the portrait of the culprit.

"Who would have thought that someone like him could have been the culprit and behind all that happened in the recent days. Collaborating with the invaders, he has dishonored his ancestors." The shorter disciple said with spite.

"Hmm... so his name is Lin Mu, and he has been disguising his identity as a common peasant in the northern town." The taller disciple revealed.

"How did he manage to hide for so long? Even the townsmen didn't believe this, seeing as how his supposed parents had lived there for so long." The shorter disciple asked.

"He has been backed by the northern tribes apparently and was sneaked in here a long time ago. They controlled two peasants and made them act as his parents while killing their real son. This way he was able to hide for so long. He may look young, but he is an old cultivator who used forbidden arts to hide his age." The taller disciple explained.

"Truly dangerous... I just hope the top sects are able to handle this." The shorter disciple muttered.

At the Sky precepts sect, a similar scene of chaos could be seen.

At the grand palace of the sect, the patriarch was sitting on his throne while the two supreme elders sat beside him. The entire hall was filled with people and they all had nervous expressions on their faces.

The patriarch stood up, causing the hall to quiet down.

"As you may all have learned by now, the spatial disturbances were indeed caused by an invader trying to enter our world. This was all a conspiracy hatched by the northern tribes and has been in motion for a long time.

The main culprit that we know of is a boy called Lin Mu who we suspect is an old cultivator that may have been in hiding for a few hundred years. You all have already received the details and thus should be able to learn more on your own." The patriarch spoke and looked at the faces of everyone.

"Now hear my decree;

An official hunt of the utmost importance is to be launched for the person called Lin Mu. He is to be brought to the sects, either alive or dead. Any person found associating him will be considered guilty and killed without hesitation." The patriarch declared.

Discussions started among the people in the hall, and they all agreed with the contents of the decree.

A black robed elder walked forward, who was none other than Head elder Han.

"I'll be taking over the star catching peak for the time being and will resume the repairing process. The star catching formation is greatly damaged and the elders of the peak have borne the backlash in the stead of the disciples.

I hope that you all will give your all and find this culprit who has caused this great upheaval in our lives." Head elder Han said in an emotional tone.

Flames of determination ignited in the eyes of everyone as they all agreed.

"YES!"

Chapter 427 - Awakening In The Sleepscape

After Lin Mu had fallen asleep, he immediately appeared in the Sleepscape.

"It worked!" Lin Mu exclaimed.

He looked around the Sleepscape and confirmed that he truly was in there.

"Senior Xukong!" Lin Mu called out.

~Shua~

In the next second, Xukong appeared in an orb of light in front of Lin Mu.

"Ah... good, very good. It worked just as we had hoped." Xukong said.

"Indeed, senior. Even at the end, I had some doubts whether it would work, but now this is a big relief to me." Lin Mu replied.

"Now then... I guess it's time for you to begin the second part of your plan." Xukong stated.

"Yes senior. I can already sense the spirit Qi increasing in my body. I feel like I'll reach the core condensation realm rather quickly." Lin Wu said.

"Hmm... it should be an eventual increase that should speed up as more time passes," Xukong replied.

"I guess, I should start practicing then..." Lin Mu said before taking out a dual sided sword.

He started performing the moves and furthered his progress with the Thousand armament blade scripture. Now that his body would be automatically be cultivating, Lin Mu would be able to practice the rest of his skills in the Sleepscape.

One of the things that he wanted to finish up was none other than the Thousand Armament Blade scripture. It was this very weapons manual that had allowed him to battle against so many cultivators. Had it not been for it, his fighting potential would have reduced by a half.

But now he had the opportunity to practice it to his heart's content. Once he began, he practiced for over an entire day before stopping due to the mental exhaustion he was feeling.

"You should take a break. There are still some things we don't know about the Sleepscape and you shouldn't strain your mind or you could harm yourself." Xukong warned.

"I understand senior." Lin Mu replied before sitting down with his back against the spirit apple tree.

He took out the wooden slip that was the legacy treasure of the Lost immortal and opened it. He had not read his memoirs for a while now and wanted to learn what had happened after they were trapped in the mine and discovered by the search party. Words started appearing on the wooden slip and Lin Mu started to read them.

The lost Immortal and his master were discovered by a search party, and soon a battle started between them. The first one to attack was none other than the lost immortal himself. He knew that he couldn't let these people escape and thus had to kill them before they reported back to the others.

He and his master were able to kill two out of the five people in the search party before they alerted the others using a communication jade slip. The remaining three cultivators fought the pair of master and disciple but eventually died as well.

Knowing that they won't have much longer, the two started to find a shortcut. They traveled up the tunnels and reached an area that was very close to the entrance. They could even hear the voices of the guards there and had to hide quickly. After a bit, an opportunity arrived, and they were able to dig further.

Due to being close to the surface, it took them less than six hours before a beam of sunlight shone upon their faces. They rejoiced for a short time, before forcibly calming themselves. They had already been found out and knew that there would be guards looking for them.

They almost had an encounter with a core condensation realm guard, but the old man managed to get them away by using a special technique. But this came with its own disadvantages, the old man became quite exhausted shortly after and the two of them had to rest in a suitable place.

They knew that going to a town or a village was not a choice, and thus they had to hide in the forests around the mines. They had not even traveled fifty kilometers away from the mine and thus there was a great chance that they would be found out. The coming two days were tense as the lost immortal kept an eye out without sleeping a single minute.

The old man finally recovered on the third day, and they started their journey again. The lost immortal asked him about the technique that he had used and the old man explained that it was a technique that burned longevity to use normally, but he had instead diverted it to use up his vitality instead which could be restored.

Lin Mu stopped after this point as he felt like his mental energy had been restored and he could begin practicing again. He repeated the same cycle multiple times and would learn from the memoirs of the lost immortal in the resting time.

Sometimes instead of practicing the thousand armament blade scripture, Lin Mu would learn the Dao script from senior Xukong and even a few formations that he knew.

Bit by bit, Lin Mu was furthering his skills, until he felt a change in his body.

"The time has arrived..." Lin Mu muttered as he closed his eyes.

Time passed as the summer turned to autumn.

In a cave in the Northern Mountains, a faint thrumming of heartbeats could be heard. It was coming from deep inside the cave and one couldn't tell what kind of beast it belonged to. The heartbeats kept on getting stronger and stranger until a strong wave of spirit Qi came from the cave.

The wave of spirit Qi spread all over the mountain and scared off the beasts that lived there. A vortex of spirit Qi formed around the mountain and started to get sucked into it. The beasts instinctively stayed away from it and watched from afar as the clouds parted in the sky.

This lasted for an hour before silence descends in the mountains again.

Chapter 428 - Core Condensation Realm!

Lin Mu opened his eyes in the Sleepscape as they slightly glimmered.

"Excellent!" Xukong said.

"You knew this was gonna happen?" Lin Mu questioned.

"With your foundation that is extremely stable, it was merely a question of time." Xukong chuckled.

"Hehe..." Lin Mu laughed a little bit as well before hearing senior Xukong speak again.

"Anyways. Congratulations on becoming the youngest cultivator to ever reach the core condensation realm in this world." Xukong spoke.

Only now did, Lin Mu realized the reality. The publicly known person who held the record before Lin Mu was none other than the crown prince of the Great Zhou Empire and he had reached the core condensation realm at the age of twenty. But Lin Mu on the other hand was still about sixteen years old and his birthday was still six months away.

Lin Mu's eyes lit up as he reveled in this achievement for a bit before calming down. He now wanted to see the difference in his body and sat down cross legged and chanted the severing heart sutra. Almost immediately he felt his meridians that were being filled with spirit Qi that flowed like a river.

Lin Mu trailed down to his Dantian and saw his core that floated there. The core looked vastly different from what Lin Mu had seen before though. It did not look pale white like that of Hei Yingjie's core. Instead, it was a silvery grey, almost the same color as that of the mysterious ring.

But that was not all, there was also a pattern printed on his core.

"This... The Great Slumber bear?" Lin Mu muttered.

"Indeed, the bloodline had been fully assimilated by your body. And due to the uniqueness of the bloodline skill 'Well of Slumber' it has presented the bloodline crest on your core." Xukong spoke.

Lin Mu opened his eyes upon hearing senior Xukong's words and had a question pop in his head.

"Wait, senior you mean the pattern that is on my core, it can be in different places as well?" Lin Mu questioned.

"Yes. Depending on the type of beast the bloodline belongs to, the bloodline crest will appear on different parts of your body that correspond to the ability. Since the well of slumber corresponds to the cultivation, it has appeared on your core." Xukong explained.

"Ah... I see now, senior." Lin Mu nodded his head in understanding.

He closed his eyes again and checked his capacity for spirit Qi. Unlike before, his Dantian was almost completely empty and only the core could be seen floating in the center of the Dantian. His entirety of liquid spirit Qi had been condensed into this one core and could now contain even more than before.

Lin Mu observed for more time, as the spirit Qi from his meridians eventually reached his Dantian. But here the process had changed. The spirit Qi that entered his Dantian was in the form of wisps which then gathered together to form clouds. These clouds of spirit Qi floated around at the top of his Dantian and grew in size.

This continued for a while until they became extremely dense and then finally started raining. The spirit Qi wisps started being converted into liquid form automatically, which shocked Lin Mu to no end. Before he had to put a lot of effort to refine the liquid spirit Qi, but now it seemed to be happening automatically.

"Senior! There are clouds of spirit Qi in my Dantian that rain down liquid spirit Qi." Lin Mu said.

"Oh, really? I didn't know that the bloodline of the Great Slumber bear could do something like this. They are far too rare, and thus there isn't much information about it. Besides, no one was able to survive long enough to tell what exactly happens with the bloodline.

Another thing is that no one was at the Qi refining realm when they refined and assimilated the bloodline, thus what you are experiencing is completely undocumented." Xukong explained.

"I understand senior..." Lin Mu replied and went back to observing his Dantian.

Though that was not the only change that his body had. After all of his cells had been converted into Xiantian physique cells, their ability to conduct spirit Qi had increased by a lot.

Usually, meridians were how the majority of spirit Qi traveled as the other cells were not as conducive to spirit Qi as the meridians were. But due to the Xiantian physique, Lin Mu's normal cells were about fifty percent as conducive as his meridians now.

The benefits of this were many, and Lin Mu could already imagine a few of them. His ability to use various Qi skills would improve, and so would his absorption of the medicinal effects of the alchemical pills.

Even cultivating normally would show an increase in speed. The overall effect was even greater than that of the Dual Circle Ascension fruits that Lin Mu had eaten a while back.

Lin Mu had observed his core enough that he could estimate how much spirit Qi he would need to reach the next stage of the core condensation realm.

The stages in the core condensation realm were similar to that of the Qi refining realm, such that one would need double the amount of spirit Qi they had in the previous stage.

In Lin Mu's case, as he was in the early stage of the core condensation realm and had a core that was condensed from three thousand drops of liquid spirit Qi, to break through to the mid stage of the core condensation realm, he would need a total of six thousand drops instead.

This would keep on doubling as he would need twelve thousand in the late stage, and finally twenty four thousand liquid spirit Qi drops in the peak stage of the core condensation realm.

~huh~

Lin Mu took a deep breath as his future plan appeared in his mind.

"Even a sea would begin from a single drop; I've done it before and I'll do it again!" Lin Mu said to himself with determination.

Chapter 429 - Two Years Later

In the sky precepts sect, at the grand palace.

"Has there been any new updates, head elder Han?" The patriarch questioned.

The hall was nearly empty today, and only the patriarch and the head elder were present. There was an oppressive silence spread in the hall and even the people outside it were nervous.

~Sigh~

"We've been trying to fix the star catching formation for the past two years but it is still incomplete, patriarch. The crack in the world's barrier keeps on damaging it again." Head elder Han said.

"It's already been two years..." The patriarch muttered in a tired voice.

"How about the culprit, Lin Mu. Any news about him?" Patriarch questioned after thinking for a bit.

"No patriarch. Either he has found a really good place to hide in the northern tribes, or he is dead. We've searched the northern forest and even went till the northern mountains, but he is not there. The central, eastern, and western parts of the continent have been searched as well, but no progress. We wanted to go beyond the pear's belt as well, but that does not seem like an option considering our current condition.

The other sects are also uncooperative and with the rise of the new alliances, the power structures are changing." Elder Han answered.

"What about that lead in the Fenlong kingdom, the Mu clan there?" The patriarch asked next.

"That was merely a disguise, as well patriarch. He was borrowing the influence of the clan there and used that as the identity. He even manipulated the second son of Mayor Wu Xun of Wu Lim City and made him back his identity." Elder Han said.

The patriarch shook his head as he fell deep in thought.

"Also patriarch... we think someone slipped into the world, perhaps through the crack in the barrier." Elder Han revealed.

"What?! Do you know where?" The Patriarch asked urgently.

"I'm afraid not. The lack of the star-catching formation has greatly reduced our sensing capabilities. Even with this we were only able to find out with great difficulty. Though it doesn't seem like whatever came to this world is that strong, or we would have seen more signs." Elder Han answered.

~Sigh~

"At least that's better than the alternative," Patriarch said with a sigh.

"Is there anything else?" He asked.

"The emperor is still sick and has shown no signs of improving. They are now likely to ask the Rainbow Pill sect for help. Also, the alliance ceremony for the Tri cauldron peony sect, the Autumn Valley sect, the Cloven Sea sect and the Zither Wind Sect will be held in the coming month.

"Should we... attend it?" Elder Han questioned.

"What other choice do we have? Even if these problems are here, we cannot give up on our reputation. We should be able to spare a few elders to go to the ceremony." Patriarch said.

"Alright patriarch, as you command." Elder hand said and left the grand palace.

Outside, tens of people were waiting anxiously and became even more nervous upon seeing Head Elder Han appear.

"What did the patriarch say, Head Elder Han?" Someone asked.

"Gather the elders, we shall be having a meeting in an hour. Also... call in the core disciples, I have a few tasks for them too." Head Elder Han said with a serious expression.

Back at the Northern Mountains, rumbling sounds could be heard coming from a cave.

The sounds were loud enough that the beasts living there were scared to come there. In fact, an area of about five kilometers around it had become a forbidden zone for the beasts and they were too scared to approach it.

Inside the cave, pitch black darkness was there. A faint dampness could also be felt in the air and one could hear drops of water dripping down from the ceilings.

~Huu~Huu~Huu~

Rhythmic breaths could be heard coming from a particular place in the cave. These were the breaths that echoed in the cave and seemed like the troubling sounds coming from the cave. The source of the sound was a young man who was sleeping on the ground naked.

His body was covered in dust, while his hair was caked with mud and soil. His face couldn't be seen because of the long hair covering it either. Still, even now, the outlines of muscles could be seen on his body and one could even sense the potent vitality contained in it.

~groan~

Suddenly a groan escaped the mouth of the young man who was sleeping on the ground. His body twitched and his fingers moved.

Then his eyes opened. They were black like the night, and a hidden might could be felt from them. They were like the eyes of a predator, and anyone that started into them would feel their hearts shake.

This young man was none other than Lin Mu himself.

"Haaa!" Lin Mu let out a groan as he stretched his body.

~Crack~

~pop~

The joints and bones of his body made crackling and popping sounds as they finally gained a bit of flexibility again.

"Ah... I really need to find a way to control this ability myself... the effects after waking up are horrible..." Lin Mu said to himself.

"Huh? What happened to my voice?" Lin Mu muttered as he felt the change in it.

His voice was now deeper than he remembered and was a bit similar to that of his father.

"Seems like you finally woke up." Xukong's voice suddenly appeared in Lin Mu's mind.

"Yes, senior. Though... how much time has it been?" Lin Mu asked.

"Actually, I can't tell it either. After the first few months, I think both our perceptions of time have been altered." Xukong replied.

"Didn't we estimate that it would be around a year by the time I wake up?" Lin Mu questioned.

"We did, but now it seems to be much different. I mean... look at yourself." Xukong replied.

Lin Mu looked at his body and saw how dirty he was. He was still naked as that's how he had gone to sleep back then, because he hadn't had the chance to put on his robes again after he assimilated the bloodline of the Great Slumber bear.

The first difference he felt was in his hair, which was now reaching all the way to his waist. The next change he felt was that his point of view had become a bit higher.

"Huh? I became taller again?" Lin Mu muttered to himself.

He decided to use his spirit sense to check himself properly and found that he really had gotten taller. He was about 173 centimeters tall before and now he had reached 180 centimeters. He looked at his arms and saw the athletic and lean muscles that have been formed. His back had gotten broader and his shoulders wider.

He touched his face and ended up accidentally poking himself with his long nails.

"Bah! I'll need to cut the nails." Lin Mu muttered and snapped his nails one by one from the fingertips.

With a single pinch, the nails were broken off cleanly and thrown to the ground.

"This is much better." Lin Mu said as he looked at his hands now.

He touched his face and felt the hair that had grown on his face. There was a coarse beard growing on his face, which once used to be smooth. It was hidden beneath the dirt and thus was hard to perceive normally.

"I need to get clean first, this feels very uncomfortable..." Lin Mu said before taking out a barrel of water from his ring and placing it on the ground.

Then he took out a large metal cauldron and poured the water into it before igniting a flame in his hand and heating the water with it. The flame was vigorous and the strong heat could be felt from it. In less than a minute the water became hot and Lin Mu took a bath, scrubbing his body clean of the dirt and grime that had accumulated over the unknown number of days.

"Ahhh! This is much better." Lin Mu exclaimed as he jumped into the large pot himself.

The hot water relaxed his strained and tensed body and made him feel much better. After a few minutes of soak, he jumped out of the water and put on some clean robes.

He took out a lamp and ignited it, along with a mirror to take a look at himself.

"I told you, didn't I? All you needed was a bit of time and your features would mature." Xukong said after seeing the appearance of Lin Mu in the mirror.

He now looked much more mature than before, and his feminine features had mostly faded away. The coarse beard along with the long hair all the way to his waist gave him a wild look.

"Looks like much more time passed than we had expected..." Lin Mu said.

"Indeed, we went beyond it," Xukong replied.

"What do you estimate, senior?" Lin Mu asked.

"I'm thinking two years at the very least, seeing your body's growth."

Chapter 430 - Peak Stage?

Lin Mu had prepared himself for something like this before he even started the plan, and thus didn't feel that bad. He was a bit disappointed, but in the long term, it wasn't really worth that either for him.

This was but the start of his journey, and there were far too many trials and tribulations he would be going through.

During his time in the Sleepscape, he had read the memoirs of the Lost Immortal and had learned many things from it. He would then ask senior Xukong about any doubts that he had and would ponder on them afterward.

Mentally, Lin Mu was no longer the same person he was before entering the Sleepscape two years ago. The things that he had gained in that time were extremely valuable to him now.

"Hmm... since two years have passed without me dying, it means that I had enough vitality to last that long. Still... I should check my condition." Lin Mu muttered to himself.

He sat down cross-legged on the ground and observed the internal condition of his body. Lin Mu didn't even need the use of the severing heart sutra to perceive his body now. His control over spirit sense had grown by leaps and bounds due to the continuous practice.

He first checked the cells of his body and found them to be quite healthy, though he couldn't call them 'normal'. They were packed with vital energy that continued to nourish his cells.

He was in the peak of the body tempering realm and had obtained the Xiantian physique, but this still seemed to be more than that.

"Oh? Looks like your body already took a step towards the Five treasures realm." Xukong said.

"It did senior? But I never started the refinement." Lin Mu asked.

"You didn't, but it seems like your new bloodline and the nameless technique of the lost immortal did it for you. Although it isn't anything major and all of your five treasure organs have been equally refined.

The progress is minuscule, but this is still quite good." Xukong explained.

"Is that so..." Lin Mu replied before peering into his five treasure organs.

One by one, he checked his liver, spleen, lungs, heart, and kidneys. It was just as senior Xukong had said, their 'quality' had increased. There were changes in their cells that seemed to be different from his Xiantian Physique cells.

Having confirmed this, Lin Mu went onto his Dantian. He knew back in the Sleepscape that he had reached the Core condensation realm, but he couldn't exactly tell what stage he was in. Perhaps because of spending a long time in the Sleepscape, his perception had been skewed. Not to mention the nearly constant infusion of spirit Qi into his Dantian that happened.

Lin Mu's spirit sense entered his Dantian and saw the ocean of spirit Qi there. There was a storm of spirit Qi clouds brewing in the sky above and the core was floating in the middle of the Dantian, like a moon in the sky.

Drops of liquid spirit Qi could be seen drizzling lightly from the clouds. But Lin Mu could also tell that the clouds were gonna disperse at any time now since he had woken up. He took a look at his core and found it to be the same Silvery Grey color he had seen before with the bloodline crest of the Great Slumber Bear.

He sensed the spirit Qi within his core that had solidified and was shocked.

"HEAVENS! HOW!?" Lin Mu shouted out loud as his eyes went wide.

"What happened?" Senior Xukong asked with concern.

"Take a look senior," Lin Mu said as he shared his vision with senior Xukong.

This was another ability he had gained back in the Sleepscape. Due to their link, he could share his vision directly instead of Xukong needing to see it in his memories. This gave Xukong real time information and was much faster.

"The peak stage of the core condensation realm..." Xukong muttered, feeling shocked himself.

Currently, within the Dantian of Lin Mu, his core was four times bigger than its original size and contained over twenty-four thousand drops of spirit Qi. With the requirement for the spirit Qi fulfilled, Lin Mu could be considered having skipped three stages.

"Now I know why it took longer than we had expected. The bloodline of the Great Slumber bear was directly pushing you to the Peak stage of the core condensation realm..." Xukong said.

Lin Mu looked around at the ocean of spirit Qi and estimated that there were about three thousand drops of spirit Qi in it, more than his Dantian should have been able to contain it.

"Wait! My Dantian is larger in size too!" Lin Mu said.

His Dantian had grown nearly thrice as much and looked to be deeper. Because Lin Mu had only glanced over the surface, he had not estimated the exact internal size of the Dantian. From the outside, it looked to be the same as it did before.

"This is getting more and more interesting. With you becoming the first person to successfully survive the side effects of the 'Well of slumber', everything we learn will be new information." Xukong said.

Lin Mu actually felt a bit lost here, as he had made all these plans to further his cultivation after waking up. This surprise was greatly appreciated but also left him a bit overwhelmed.

"Since I have already reached the Peak of the core condensation realm, that means now I just need to wait for the heavenly tribulation to arrive, right?" Lin Mu questioned.

"That should be the case normally... but I do not know how it will happen," Xukong replied.

"Why senior? Oh, wait..." Lin Mu asked, before realizing it himself.

"Yes, the Great Slumber bear's are correctly born above the immortal Ascension realm and thus don't go through the same heavenly tribulation that is used to birth the nascent soul. For them, it is merely a thought that is needed to do the same." Xukong explained.