

Walker 531

Chapter 531 - An Uproar And Time For Tribulation

Having chatted for a bit, Shaoyan Qianyu found Wu Lian to be quite a good disciple. He didn't have that arrogance that most other disciples she saw had even if they tried to hide it in front of her.

Plus, Lin Mu had the strength to back up his claim and the mental fortitude to wait for the right opportunities without rushing in. She had not seen many people like this in her life, especially in cultivators, since they often liked to chase after resources.

"I shall take my leave then peak master and not take any more of your precious time." Lin Mu said.

"Alright. Though be careful if you are going to do what you said you will. The people of the sect have... become strange in these two years." Shaoyan Qianyu replied.

Hearing this perked up Lin Mu's ears as a thought appeared in his mind.

'She's not under Gu Yao's control?' Lin Mu wondered.

But he did not dare to show any change on his face. He could think of this later on, when he was away from her.

Lin Mu thus stood up and bowed to Shaoyan Qianyu before leaving through the main door. He didn't waste this opportunity to take a look around the formations either, and sensed that the formations on the vault had been modified a bit.

"Thankfully, I have the token, or it could have become a problem at the last moment if I couldn't unravel the formations at the time of tribulation..." Lin Mu muttered to himself.

"Seems like reading the memoirs of the lost immortal also gave some skills in acting. Hahaha!" Xukong laughed.

"It's not much senior. I just tried my best." Lin Mu replied.

"If you say so..." Xukong said before going silent.

After going down half way, Lin Mu sank into the ground using phase and quickly made his way to the residence. He didn't want any extra people to see him, and thus this was the best choice.

Having safely reached the residence, Lin Mu was unaware of the uproar he had caused in the sect. Shaoyan Qianyu had heeded his words and had not put up his name on the result list.

When the list updated, the disciples were shocked to see that someone had claimed already the first place reward as it had been blacked out. But strangely enough, there was no name beside it. That was the only place that didn't have a name, and the disciples wondered if the formation had malfunctioned or what.

"Did someone really claim the first place?" a disciple watching the list asked.

"It does seem like it. Wait! Do you think it is that person who peak master talked to after descending?" His friend questioned.

"That is probably it. How lucky! He not only got the first place but also got to meet the peak master personally."

"You fools, do you not understand what this means?" A female disciple asked with a scowl.

"What?!" both of the male disciples asked dumbly.

"Look at the list! No other rewards have been issued, only the first place reward. Don't you know what the qualifying condition is if one wants to get the first place before the final results are declared? Someone managed to ignite an intermediate ranked Qi flame!" The female disciple explained.

"How can that be? Only the peak masters have managed to do that."

A lot of other disciples who were standing around also heard her words and started speaking. Soon this matter spread to the entire sect and even reached the ears of the other elders.

Shaoyan Qianyu was visited by a few elders of the sect to ask about the identity of the disciple who managed to ignite the intermediate ranked flame, only to get denied.

~humph~

"Do they really think they can poach a talented disciple like that from me?" Shaoyan Qianyu said after another elder of the sect left her residence.

She had already considered Wu Lian to be part of her peak and would be under her guidance. She had asked him which peak he was affiliated with and told her that he was one of the few rare ones that were unaffiliated. At that time she had kept a straight face, but internally she was rejoicing.

~huh~

"Hopefully Bilao completes his breakthrough quickly so this tense situation calms down again..." Shaoyan Qianyu muttered to herself.

About five days passed by in the blink of an eye, and finally, it was time for Bilao's heavenly tribulation.

He had already informed the sect about it yesterday when he felt the first sensation and quickly rushed to the Tribulation platform, which was already prepared since a month ago.

Lin Mu had also not been idle during these five days and had passed them in studying the formations around the places he was going to rob. He already felt that he would be able to resolve them quickly if everything went well.

"How long do you think his heavenly tribulation will last senior?" Lin Mu questioned.

Lin Mu had learned that the duration of heavenly tribulations was quite long depending on the cultivator's talent and luck. He had read the memoirs of the lost immortal which described some legendary heavenly tribulations which would last for days if not months.

But he was pretty sure nothing of that sort would happen here.

"Hmm... from what we saw before and the spatial fluctuations around Bilao, he should be having a basic heavenly tribulation. The lightning bolts themselves should only last for about fifteen minutes, but the phase before that should be at least an hour long." Xukong answered.

"I see. Everyone should be observing the tribulation platform at that point and the number of guards should be minimal. That will be my time to act." Lin Mu said with a glint in his eye.

Right now the sect had officially announced the arrival of the heavenly tribulation and had informed the disciples to gather at the tribulation platform. Lin Mu blended in with these disciples as well, and headed to the main peak, but instead of stopping at the tribulation platform, he slipped away.

"It is time..."

Chapter 532 - The First Vault

Lin Mu had chosen the main peak to be his first target, as he would be able to access the vault relatively easily, since he already had the key for it. The only problem was that he didn't know about the current security there.

While he wouldn't have to worry about the formations much, he would still have to look out for guards. Lin Mu had seen that the elders of the peak were already at the tribulation platform, but he had not noticed the sect patriarch there.

"Hopefully he has left, and I just missed him." Lin Mu muttered to himself.

He skipped the five buildings before him and made his way to the vault at the top. But upon reaching there he felt a wave of goosebumps appearing on his body and instantly used fade to enter the parallel world.

Back in the real world, an old man who looked to be in his sixties was staring at a location.

"Was that my imagination? Or was there someone there for a moment?" The old man wondered before his spirit sense spread out.

If someone were to be here, they would be able to feel the strength of his spirit sense and the aura that he emitted. This old man was none other than the sect patriarch of the Tri cauldron peony sect, Sect Patriarch Mudan!

The patriarch looked around the area carefully, and only when he was sure that no one was here did he leave.

~pew~

"So he was still here... thankfully I was able to use fade and get away." Lin Mu muttered to himself.

He watched the area empty out and then blinked to the top of the tallest building there to take a look at the proceedings in the tribulation platform. Since the building was at the very top, it was relatively easy for him to take a peek at the things below.

A huge crowd of over a hundred thousand people was gathered around an eight sided building that had no roof. From time to time, they could see formations flickering in the air, which showed that the Tribulation platform was active.

At the center of the platform, one could see that alchemist Bilao could be seen sitting.

"The spatial fluctuations... they're getting stronger." Lin Mu muttered, seeing that they were visible from such a distance.

"That's not all, look up." Xukong suddenly spoke.

Lin Mu looked up at the sky and saw a stunning scene. To a normal person, there were only some white clouds floating around in the sky but to Lin Mu, who was using spatial perception along with the ring's help, he saw a black tear spreading across the sky.

"What is that...?" Lin Mu questioned.

"That is the spatial cracks caused by the incoming heavenly tribulation. Why do you think they take so long? They come from an unknown dimension and rip through the void to reach the being that is to be punished." Xukong answered.

"Then what's the function of the tribulation clouds? Don't they make the tribulation lightning?" Lin Mu questioned, feeling a bit confused.

"Of course that is its function, but the clouds themselves are mere constructs. The energy, or rather the command that is needed for them to form, is what comes through those spatial cracks. After it arrives it creates the tribulation clouds which then generate the tribulation lightning." Xukong revealed.

Lin Mu's eyes glowed with amazement upon learning this as he had not expected there to be a secret like this behind the phenomenon called a heavenly tribulation. Getting over his amazement after a few moments, Lin Mu looked to the location of the vault and blinked to there.

He took out the key to the vault and held it up.

~shua~

The vault's formations started glowing and scanned the key that Lin Mu had held out. Once the scan was done, the formations became active and the door of the vault started to open. During this entire process, Lin Mu was alert and his spirit sense was spread around, watching for anything unusual.

~Creek~

~DENG~

The door fully opened and Lin Mu could see the myriad treasures that were kept in the vault. His eyes darted from one thing to the other as he took it all in. There were high grade spirit stones, high grade herbs, various cultivation techniques, skills, manuals, weapons, spirit tools, talismans, and a lot more.

It all felt surreal to Lin Mu, and he could barely bring himself to believe his eyes.

Lin Mu quickly chanted the calming heart sutra to focus his mind and got to storing everything. He simply extended his finger and started to run along the items, as they started being stored into the ring one by one.

The vault itself was relatively small compared to the other ones Lin Mu had seen and it also had the least amount of items in it. Still, all of these items were personally collected by the sect patriarch or the supreme elder of the sect.

In less than three minutes, Lin Mu had robbed what was pretty much centuries' worth of fortune accumulated by the patriarch.

~huu~

Lin Mu took a deep breath and left the vault, letting it close behind his back. He could see that some of the formations seemed to be behaving abnormally, but he didn't have the liberty to check them.

'Alright, NEXT!' Lin Mu said in his mind before phasing and blinking his way to the next vault.

This was the vault that had the majority of spirit tools and weapons of the sect. Lin Mu checked the area and quickly got to analyzing the formations before starting to unravel them. For any normal formation master, it would take months if not even longer to unravel these, but to Lin Mu who could directly perceive the fine changes in the space, it was simple.

Because Lin Mu could bypass the different layers of the formation by using the ring's ability to create portals and gates, he was able to pick at each layer one by one. Some layers were intricate and did not follow the numerical order.

It was this complexity that basically made it extremely difficult for most formation masters to do their work.

He spent about ten minutes on this before the formations were fully unraveled.

"Bingo!"

Chapter 533 - Robbing The Main Peak's Vaults

The door of the vault opened and Lin Mu saw the thousands of spirit tools and weapons that were kept here. Forcibly suppressing his curiosity, he ran across the vault while touching everything and storing them in the ring.

After that, he left the vault but discovered a problem.

"Dammit, the door won't close!" Lin Mu cursed.

Lin Mu walked up to the door and tried to physically push the door. While it moved when he did that and even got to the closed position, when he let go of the door, it snapped back and opened wide.

"A formation may have been damaged while you were unraveling, probably the one that is supposed to keep the door locked." Xukong said.

"What do I do now?" Lin Mu questioned.

"Just leave it for now. You will need to escape the sect after this, anyway." Xukong spoke.

Lin Mu nodded his head with a little hesitation before blinking away. He headed to the third vault, but saw that there was actually someone standing there.

"Jiao Fang? What are you doing here?" Lin Mu questioned.

"Do you think I'm going to let you take benefit alone?" Jiao Fang said with a grin.

"I want something from here." Jiao Fang stated.

Lin Mu didn't really mind this, as his main goal was to just take away the resources of the sect. It didn't matter in the long term in whose hands they were, as long as it wasn't Gu Yao.

"Alright, now stand back." Lin Mu said before getting to work.

The reason why Jiao Fang had actually appeared here was to see how Lin Mu would actually open the vaults formations. He reckoned that he may get to see some tricks which could help him in his own endeavors.

But when he actually saw Lin Mu's actions, he was stunned.

"What in the world... what kind of a skill is this?" Jiao Fang couldn't help but wonder.

Unlike the other formation masters Lin Mu was not using analyzing tools, formation plates, flags and talismans to open the vault's formations. Rather, he was just using his own hands to make runes while using his spirit sense to observe the formation layers.

What Jiao Fang couldn't tell was that Lin Mu was seeing something that he could not. By separating the layers by creating small portals for his spirit sense, Lin Mu was basically cheating his way into unlocking the vault.

Jiao Fang couldn't believe his eyes when Lin Mu opened the vault door in less than five minutes. And this time Lin Mu also paid attention to the formation layer which dealt with the locking mechanism of the vault door.

Because of that, he didn't mess up like last time and the door would be able to be locked again.

~creek~

The vault door opened wide and all the shelves inside it were now visible. Jiao Fang's eyes lit up after seeing this, and a smile bloomed on his face.

"HAHAHA! Brother Wu Lian is a genius, an absolute genius!" Jiao Fang genuinely praised.

There were no other words he could use to address Lin Mu as the skill that he had shown right now was nothing less than that of a Genius in formations.

"Shush! Don't make excess noise!" Lin Mu scolded before entering the vault.

"Take what you want quickly!" Lin Mu said in a stern tone, feeling tense.

"Alright, alright." Jiao Fang said before he quickly picked out about ten manuals from the vault.

Lin Mu used his spirit sense to scan over them and found them to be various Qi skills and a few pill refinement techniques. He then started his routine of running across the books as they all started getting stored in the ring.

Jiao Fang was once again stunned by this and wondered what kind of spatial storage treasure was Lin Mu using. He reckoned that like him, Lin Mu probably had multiple high grade or mid grade spatial storage treasures or something like this would not be possible.

Still, Jiao Fang did not ask any questions and quietly stood to the side. He knew the man was stronger than him and he did not want to offend him at this time.

~DENG~

Lin Mu was done gathering everything in three minutes and quickly closed the vault door.

~pew~

"Two more to go... at the very least." Lin Mu muttered to himself.

Originally he was supposed to rob four out of six vaults, or one vault from any two peaks and two vaults from any one peak. But he already had three vaults from the main peak. He now wondered if he should continue with the main peak or not.

"Are you going to get more things from other vaults?" Jiao Fang questioned, guessing Lin Mu's thoughts.

Seeing that Lin Mu did not answer him, he reckoned his guess was correct.

"Then I would recommend you go to the other peaks now. It is not safe to continue on the main peak as the people are concentrated here. It was still fine if you are at the vault area but if you go to the pavilions, there are still a few people around there that will probably notice you." Jiao Fang suggested.

Lin Mu heard his words and realize them to be valid. He nodded his head and quickly ran away before Jiao Fang could react.

"Wait!" Jiao Fang was about to say more, but realized he couldn't see Lin Mu anymore.

"Damn, he's fast!" Jiao Fang cursed, unaware that Lin Mu was right below him.

Lin Mu had intentionally waited here as he wanted to hear what Jiao Fang wanted to do.

~Sigh~

"Better get to the Tribulation platform... that would be the best place to enjoy the after-show once everyone realizes the sect has been robbed." Jiao Fang said before chuckling.

Lin Mu saw that he genuinely went to the Tribulation platform and stood among the rest of the people. Lin Mu also took this opportunity to see the situation and saw that Alchemist Bilao had still not started the tribulation.

Chapter 534 - Caught Red Handed?

When Lin Mu looked up at the sky, he could see that the spatial crack had expanded even more.

"Hmm... you will have about thirty minutes more. You should head to the Herb peak first and get the things from there, as you already have the token. You can spend the rest of the time gathering items from the pill peak and the other stores." Xukong suggested.

"Alright senior." Lin Mu said before sinking into the ground and heading to the Herb peak.

He took a look at the warehouses and saw that there were actually some guards still there.

'Looks like peak master Shaoyan Qianyu is still cautious... I'll just have to focus on the vaults first...' Lin Mu thought to himself.

He quickly made his way to the vault at the top. Lin Mu had already seen that the peak master was at the tribulation platform and thus did not worry that he would be found out there.

Reaching the compound of the peak master, Lin Mu took out the token and let the formations of the vault scan it.

~Weeng~

The formation verified Lin Mu's identity from the token and opened the door. But the moment Lin Mu stepped through the vault he felt a strange wave pass over him. The wave moved to the spatial storage ring he had on his index finger that was fixed by Jing Wei and covered it in a peculiar layer.

"What was that?" Lin Mu questioned, while looking at the ring on his hand.

"Seems like a restriction. It will prevent you from using spatial storage tools inside the vault. This is probably designed to prevent the token holder from taking more than allowed." Xukong said.

"Hmm... is that so?" Lin Mu said as he touched one of the herb boxes and found the token becoming active again.

The token glowed and marked the box with a symbol before disintegrating.

"Ah, so they made it so I could only carry one item out of the vault and prevented the use of the spatial storage treasures." Lin Mu realized.

But then, Lin Mu tapped the box with his hand and made it disappeared.

"Just as I thought. It can't restrict the mysterious ring." Lin Mu muttered before looking at the other boxes.

He tried to pick one of them up but found them to be stuck, as if weighed by tons of rocks.

"Damn... another restriction." Lin Mu cursed.

He looked around before an idea appeared in his mind. Instead of touching the boxes of herbs that were kept on the various shelves and tables, Lin Mu touched the tables and shelves themselves.

"Aha! So the restriction is only placed on the boxes themselves." Lin Mu realized the loophole.

When he stored the shelves and tables, the boxes kept on them were stored as well. With this fact in hand, Lin Mu swept the place clean before leaving the vault, which automatically closed.

"Shaoyan Qianyu will definitely be pissed when she sees this." Lin Mu couldn't help but imagine.

He then checked the sky and saw the spatial cracks expanding even more. He was about to leave when his gaze was caught by the herb garden.

"Almost forgot about them." Lin Mu said before picking out all the valuable herbs in the garden.

He especially focused on the earth elemental herbs as they would help him further his Mortal Strengthening scripture's progress.

"There we go. Now to head to the next place." Lin Mu said before a loud noise was heard.

~Rumble~

Lin Mu looked up and saw that the dark clouds had already started to appear above the tribulation platform.

"Shit! Gotta be faster." Lin Mu urged himself before leaving the herb peak.

He knew that there was still some time until the tribulation clouds will be at their full potential before the tribulation will actually start. Lin Mu just hoped that he would be done before that. Thankfully, by now most of the disciples had gathered around the tribulation platform and he did not encounter anyone.

He weaved his way through the houses before reaching the first vault which was located near the residences of the Elders. Lin Mu got to unraveling the formations, but found these ones to be a bit more difficult for him.

Sweat dripped from his forehead as ten minutes passed.

~shing~

Finally, he unraveled the last layer and the door of the vault opened.

"YES!" Lin Mu rejoiced before getting to work.

There were thousands of pill bottles, vials, storage gourds, and boxes kept in the vault. Lin Mu could identify a few of them and felt happy. There were even a couple of pills that were of earth attribute, and could be of help to him. Albeit they were of a lower quality than that of the Dark Soil pill that he had consumed before and would probably not help him as much.

Still, he was pleased with it as even little progress would be beneficial to him. Having stored all the pill containers in the ring, Lin Mu had just consoled the vault door when he heard footsteps.

"HALT! WHO ARE YOU!" A voice shouted from behind him.

Lin Mu recognized it and internally cursed. Quickly thinking of an idea, Lin Mu placed his hand on his face and let a broken mask appear. This was the very mask that Ye Zi Jin had worn before, which was a high grade spirit tool.

Lin Mu then turned around and saw the man standing there.

"Why is Wu Teng still here? Shouldn't he have been at the tribulation platform?" Lin Mu murmured.

Wu Teng also looked at the masked man in front of him and seemed to have recognized the mask.

"That's Ye Zi Jin's mask! What did you do with her! Where is she?!" Wu Teng questioned.

Lin Mu didn't speak a word and was about to restrain Wu Teng when the man realized the situation and raised an alarm.

"INTRUDER! THERE IS AN INTRUDER ON THE PILL PEAK! THE VAULT HAS BEEN ROBBED!" Wu Teng yelled at the top of his lungs, his voice being amplified by spirit Qi.

The voice echoed between the peaks as it was heard by nearly every person in the sect.

"Fuck!"

Chapter 535 - Uprooting A Vault

Lin Mu now knew he was at the end of the line. He would have to act quick and wrap this up or everything would mess up even more. Quickly thinking of potential solutions, Lin Mu lunged at Wu Teng.

~thud~

The man responded by punching at him, but Lin Mu blocked it with ease. He was now seeing the benefit of the mortal strengthening scripture and was grateful to senior Xukong for teaching it to him.

Wu Teng was shocked upon seeing his full power punch being blocked with ease. Lin Mu took advantage of this and knocked him out by hitting his head. A faint crack could be heard, which made Lin Mu anxious.

He checked Wu Teng to see if he was alive and took a breath of relief when he truly was. The crack was due to a defensive treasure breaking on Wang Xiong's body. It had taken the blow but was unable to bear it.

Lin Mu's attack should have been dulled by it but it was still powerful enough to knock Wu Teng out.

~phew~

"Need to control my strength better..." Lin Mu muttered to himself before blinking to the vault.

While he was going there, the people at the tribulation platform had all heard the shout and were now aware alert.

"ELDERS! SECURE THE AREA! DHARMA PROTECTORS WATCH BILAO!" The sect patriarch immediately issued orders.

~shua~shua~shua~

A bunch of old men moved like the wind and got into their positions. Some were sitting around the tribulation platform as Dharma protectors while some were checking the outer area of the tribulation platform.

"The area is secure patriarch, we don't think there are any intruders here." One of the elders reported.

Mudan looked at the pill peak and spoke, "Yi Deng, tend to your peak. Disciplinary pavilion members get to your duty. I want the intruder captured as soon as possible. And make sure no one comes near the tribulation platform."

Peak master Yi Deng, who had been anxious since hearing the shout of Wu Teng immediately flew away. He had recognized the voice and knew that it was his son-in-law. If he was the one who had shouted then it meant the intruder was strong.

The disciples who were watching all this muttered amongst themselves, but no one dared to make noise. They knew if they did that and it interfered with Bilao's breakthrough, the blame could potentially fall on them.

Though there was one person among the disciples who had a smile on his face.

"Let's see how you deal with all this Wu Lian..." Jiao Fang muttered to himself as he looked at the pill peak.

Jiao Fang had actually not expected that Lin Mu would be able to hide for this long. Even though he knew Lin Mu was able to open the vault with ease, there were still additional factors which could spell trouble.

It was one of those very unexpected factors that had caused Lin Mu to get stuck in his folly.

Lin Mu was now at the vault at the top of the pill peak. He knew that unraveling the formations was out of his options now, as the sect disciples and elders had already been alerted. This meant that they would be here any second.

Lin Mu gritted his teeth and wondered if he would have to abandon this vault perhaps. He had not even had the chance to get the other pill repositories and the warehouses, thus it would be a bit underwhelming.

Though it would be fine in the end, as their main goal was to only rob four vaults from the total twelve storage locations.

"If only I could have more time..." Lin Mu muttered to himself.

Then suddenly... an idea hit Lin Mu.

"WAIT! Can this work?" Lin Mu wondered.

He walked to the side of the vault and pushed on its walls. Even with his full strength, Lin Mu was unable to make it budge.

"If I can't open the vault right now, I may as well take the entire vault." Lin Mu said with determination.

He tried strong the vault in the ring but couldn't do it. The vault was embedded in the ground along with multiple formations preventing it from moving.

"I need to separate it from the ground and the formation array... separate... hang on! SEPARATE!" Lin Mu suddenly exclaimed.

He extended both his hands towards the vault and took a deep breath.

"Here goes nothing.... MELD!" Lin Mu said as he activated his fifth skill.

~shua~

A sharp wave of spirit Qi could be felt in the air as the space suddenly became unstable. Lin Mu used his spirit sense in combination with the skill to guide it around the vault. Of course, this was still too much for him and he could make mistakes.

Black lines appeared around the entire vault as Meld separated it from the real world. In order to not damage or cut the vault irregularly, Lin Mu had to put 110% of his focus into it.

'IT IS DONE!' Lin MU thought in his mind as he kept the skill active.

He then knelt down and slid his hand under the vault.

~HAAA~

With a loud grunt, Lin Mu managed to lift the entire vault from the ground. One could see that there were chunks of soil attached to it that had been lifted too. He also realized that the weight of the vault was still present despite the use of the skill.

~Huala~

Then suddenly the vault disappeared from the real world and entered his ring.

"STOP IT, YOU THIEF! Dare to take it and I will skin you!" Yi Deng Shouted from afar but then became dumbstruck seeing the vault disappear into thin air.

He knew that if one wanted to take away the vault, they would have to deal with formation arrays and locks which had held the vault in place. There were many people in the world who would be able to do something like this and thus he wasn't as cautious.

But now that very same thing had come to bite him in the ass.

"YOU!!!" Yi Deng shouted, as his face turned red with rage.

Chapter 536 - Thunderstuck!

Right at the moment, Lin Mu used meld to detach the vault from the ground, a change had happened.

~RUMBLE~

The heavenly tribulation clouds thundered and lightning arced across its edges.

~BOOM~

A bolt of white lightning fell from the sky and hit Alchemist Bilao, who had been prepared. A shockwave spread in the area, which was quickly stopped by the tribulation platform. The disciples and the elders watched with intent as smoke spread round Bilao.

A faint scent of burnt flesh could be smelled coming from the center of the platform where Bilao was sitting.

"Is he dead?"

"Did Alchemist Bilao withstand it?"

"Heavens! Tribulation lightning is so scary!"

Various words were spoken by the spectators as the patriarch Mudan looked intently at Bilao. To him Bilao's survival meant great things, along with another peak master in the sect.

Lin Mu saw the tribulation lightning too, and couldn't help but stare at it. The power in it was as large as he had expected, but Bilao's fate was still unknown. By the time the smoke cloud dissipated, more people had gathered around the Pill peaks' area.

They were the disciplinary pavilion's members who were coming to find the thief as well. They had lagged behind Yi Deng, even though they had all left at the same time.

"Activate the restricting formations! We will not let the thief escape!"

~shua~shua~shua~

Barriers started forming around the area, preventing Lin Mu's escape. Still, this was not enough to stop Lin Mu.

"Fade..." Lin Mu muttered as he disappeared in front of everyone's eyes.

Yi Deng's eyes went wide in shock, as he couldn't understand how Lin Mu did this. He couldn't perceive the spatial fluctuations accurately either because of the interference from the Heavenly tribulation.

They all looked around for traces of Lin Mu, assuming that he had merely turned invisible using some kind of technique or an item. But then a voice was heard from another side of the peak.

"HE'S HERE! COME QUICK!"

"Dammit!" Lin Mu cursed, finding the route blocked.

Even with Fade, it was getting hard for him to move as the formation arrays caused the space to get harder to manipulate. These were the great barriers created by the formation array of the Tri Cauldron peony sect and when activated at full potential, would even restrain a nascent soul realm cultivator.

Lin Mu looked for routes of escape and his eyes went to the Herb Peak. But that soon turned to disappointment as he saw a green dome surrounding the Herb peak.

"Shaoyan Qianyu activated the defenses as well..." Lin Mu realized.

He was now surrounded on three sides by the disciplinary pavilion members and the peak master Yi Deng, who had bloodshot eyes and a rage filled face.

"YOU WILL NOT ESCAPE THIS! PREPARE TO DIE!" He shouted as a flaming dragon shot out of his palms.

Lin Mu blinked to dodge the Qi skill, but found the dragon to be following him. The other cultivators also took this chance to attack and troubled Lin Mu.

"Bah! I'll take care of them, too!" Lin Mu said before he clashed with the disciples.

~clang~ clang~ clang~

The weapons landed on Lin Mu, whose body was easily able to withstand the hits. The mortal strengthening scripture was working perfectly.

Seeing that their attacks were doing nothing to Lin Mu the disciples were surprised. They sent out more, but Lin Mu started to counteract this time. He exchanged a few blows with the disciples, but could not kill them.

"Don't let him leave!" Yi Deng said as he watched Lin Mu getting trapped.

There were now two peak masters facing Lin Mu. There was Yi Deng at his back and Shaoyan Qianyu at the front. The peak master of the herb peak had volunteered to defend and was now standing at the edge of the field.

~Rumble~

The people were suddenly stunned by a loud noise as thunder rumbled in the skies. Patriarch Mudan looked up at the sky and knew the second bolt was coming.

~Boom~

The second tribulation bolt descended from the sky before striking Bilao. The man was hit hard and had his clothes burned in multiple places. Still, Bilao had expected something like this and had taken a few precious medicines.

"He withstood it!" someone from the audience shouted.

Patriarch Mudan looked at Bilao for a moment before diverting his gaze to where Lin Mu was.

"Where do I go now?" Lin Mu said, seeing no avenue of escape.

Even he would have a hard time with these many cultivators and thus fighting them was out of the question. Then finally he came to a choice. Lin Mu gritted his teeth and flew towards the tribulation platform.

"STOP HIM! Don't let him near the tribulation platform." The patriarch ordered before he himself moved to block Lin Mu.

~Rumble~

The sound of thunder echoed in the sky as it got ready for the next tribulation lightning bolt. Seeing that there was more to come, Bilao was not scared and instead ate the pills that had been prepared by him.

He fully focused on himself and did not even look out of the area of the tribulation platform.

"Flicker... Blink... Phase... Phase... Fade..." Lin Mu used all his skills as he moved towards the tribulation platform.

The peak masters were unable to restrain him due to his speed and the weird way by which he was moving. Some of them had a hunch that Lin Mu may be using spatial manipulation but they did not dare confirm it.

After all, even Dao shell realm cultivators would have a hard time using something like that.

The disciples in the audience had the shock of their lives as they suddenly saw a stranger appear on the platform.

"Who's that!" someone shouted as they pointed at Lin Mu who had just reached the stage.

He had appeared out of thin air, thus everyone was confused. Bilao also noticed it and was dumbfounded.

But then another thing happened that made everyone flinch with terror.

~KABOOM~

The third tribulation bolt fell from the sky.

But this bolt didn't hit Bilao... rather it went towards Lin Mu and struck him!

Chapter 537 - Upheaval At The Sect

Today was not a day that Lin Mu would ever forget. He had never expected that he would be getting hit by lightning that too Heavenly Tribulation lightning, of all things.

But he was not the only one who had not expected this. Each and every person there did not expect it either. After all, why would someone's heavenly tribulation lightning hit someone else.

The thing was when someone interfered in the Heavenly tribulation they would not get struck by the original lightning, but rather by additional bolts that came down as punishment.

Those bolts did not contain the tribulation laws that allowed a cultivator to break through to the Nascent soul realm and thus would only cause harm to the ones who dared to commit such an act.

What Lin Mu had done was no less than a miracle... if it could be called that.

"WHAT IN THE NAME OF HEAVENS!!!!" The elders couldn't help but exclaim.

The sect patriarch Mudan was nervous and sweat had covered his brow. He didn't want Bilao to get harmed here, as he would be the fourth pillar of his sect in the form of a peak master. Each Nascent Soul realm cultivator was precious, and he didn't want to lose a potential one who was so close to a breakthrough.

He didn't know how the man had gotten so close to the tribulation platform and even entered it directly. There were elders who were acting as Dharma protectors and even they had not sensed him.

Till now he had thought that Lin Mu was using some illusory techniques with the way he was moving. While those techniques might have been able to give them a slip, they would definitely not work against a solid Qi barrier, which was the tribulation platform.

This led Mudan to believe he may have been using something completely else.

"Could it be... no... that's not possible. From what we saw, the thief was at the peak stage of the core condensation realm. No way he could use skills like these..." Mudan said to himself, unable to even say what type of skills they were.

"There must be... must be some fault in the formations... YES. That must be how he got into the vaults too, he has some key!" Mudan justified to himself, unaware that it wasn't the only vaults that had been robbed.

In fact, he didn't even know that the main vault of the pill peak had been literally been stolen in its entirety. There was simply not enough time for Yi Deng to make a report, and the man was also dealing with the stress of his things being stolen, so he had forgotten to tell that to the patriarch.

If Mudan knew Lin Mu had stolen from all the vaults of the sect, he would probably be drinking himself to death.

At the Tribulation platform, Bilao tried to look at the person who had just interrupted the heavenly tribulation. Unlike the other people, he could tell that his tribulation had actually ended. That last bolt was truly intended for him, but it was now gone.

But that was not the thing that made him despair the most. What made him despair was the fact that he had not broken through to the Nascent Soul realm even after taking the two bolts. The third one was necessary for him and without it, he would not progress at all.

"How?" He couldn't help but say.

The culprit behind all this was in a different state all together. His body was glowing in a brown light and one could see a scale like patterns on it. There were now numerous cracks on the layer and it looked like it would collapse any moment.

But that was not all, as the robes Lin Mu was wearing were destroyed as well. There were burn marks and holes on the torso part of his robes and his hair was singed as well. Smoke came out from his robes as well, and the mask on his face was barely holding on.

Lin Mu himself was shaken and felt his head buzzing.

"Lin Mu! Lin MU!" Xukong shouted, stirring Lin Mu out of his daze.

"Senior?... what happened?" Lin Mu questioned, his thoughts still feeling slow.

"Snap out of it! You need to leave quickly! While they are still distracted." Xukong urged.

"Leave? I... can't move... I can't feel my body." Lin Mu replied.

Xukong realized that the tribulation lightning may have paralyzed Lin Mu for the time being. It was not something that could be resolved quickly, but Lin Mu really needed to leave quickly. His mind raced to find a solution while also keeping a look at the area around them.

There were still traces of lightning spread in the area, thus the people did not dare to get close but there was no surety that they wouldn't try it in a bit. Lin Mu was pretty much a sitting duck right now.

"Lin Mu can you call Little Shrubby! Is your connection still working?" Xukong questioned in a tense tone.

"Y-yes! While I can't use my spirit Qi, I can still feel the connection." Lin Mu answered.

"Wait, can you use the ring?" Xukong questioned as another idea appeared in his mind.

Lin Mu willed it and felt like the ring still responded to him. The mysterious ring was connected to him on the level of soul, thus Lin Mu needed no spirit Qi to control it.

"Take out a spirit stone, and use that. The tribulation lightning has paralyzed your meridians right now, but external spirit Qi should still get to moving.

Use that to use fade and then use Blink to get to far enough. Also, contract Little Shrubby to come get you." Xukong instructed.

"Alright." Lin Mu said and managed to withdraw a mid grade spirit stone from the ring.

He used that to activate, fade and disappeared from the sights of everyone.

~Crack~

The spirit stone instantly cracked when Lin Mu did that due to the immense drain of the skill.

An uproar spread in the sect upon seeing Lin Mu disappear again.

One after the other unthinkable things had happened and the disciples were lost for words.

"Where did he go? WHERE DID HE GO?!!!" The sect patriarch Mudan could no longer keep his cool and yelled.

"He-he disappeared..." One of the elders nearby spoke.

"GO FIND HIM THEN!" Mudan yelled.

The elders and the disciples scrambled to fulfill the orders. But this was just the start of their despair.

"You fools, get the tracking formations from the vaults! Think better!" The patriarch ordered.

"Yes, patriarch." The elder said before flying to the vaults.

But the moment they reached there they felt like land was pulled out from below their legs.

"The vault... it's empty..." One of the elders whispered, unable to even speak properly.

The others that were with him didn't dare to make assumptions and checked the vault quickly before confirming it.

"SECT PATRIARCH! THE VAULTS HAVE BEEN ROBBED!" A loud yell was heard coming from afar.

Mudan who heard it, felt confused at first but then it hit him.

He waved his hand and a force was exerted by it. The elder who was rushing from the peak was instantly pulled towards him and the patriarch clashed his robes.

"WHAT DID YOU SAY?" he said in a furious tone.

"The other vaults at the main peak... they are empty... all three of them." The elder let out.

~thud~

Mudan slot his grip and the elder fell to the ground with a thud.

"We're done... we're done... we've doomed the legacy of our ancestors..." Mudan murmured.

For a minute there he was pale as bones, but then his face turned red and flames literally manifested on his body.

"ALL DISCIPLES OF THE SECT ARE TO FIND THE THIEF AT ALL COSTS! I WANT HIM DEAD OR ALIVE!" The patriarch ordered before flying out himself.

Soon an army of cultivators set out to find Lin Mu; some with angry faces, some with lost faces, and some just in shock. Though there was one person who was trying very hard to suppress the excitement and fun that he was feeling.

'HAHAHA! WU LIAN YOU ARE REALLY SOMETHING! THIS IS EVEN BETTER THAN I EXPECTED!' Jiao Fang laughed internally.

Jiao Fang looked at the expression of his fellow disciples and felt glee. It had been far too long since he had felt like this. He had been often busy in keeping a facade and couldn't really show himself, which lead him to suppressing his true self most of the time.

He had gotten good at it, but now what Lin Mu had done really threatened to break that mask. Though he didn't feel bad. Instead, he felt like this was something he was lacking.

"Wu Lian, Wu Lian... you are an interesting man... much more interesting than this sect." Jiao Fang muttered to himself.

The man he was speaking about though, was not having a good time like him.

Chapter 538 - Helplessness

~thud~

A body manifested out of thin air and fell to the ground helplessly. This was none other than Lin Mu. He had managed to use fade and then travel in the parallel world with blink by using the mid grade spirit stones.

But once the time limit for Fade ended, he couldn't do much and ended up in the real world. The problem was though... Lin Mu had no sense of direction when he entered the parallel world using fade.

Usually, he would use his spirit sense as a guide, but since he was paralyzed, it was hard for him to use his spirit sense. Thus currently he had no idea where he had ended up. All he had done was to use blink in a straight line once he got to the parallel world.

"Is little shrubby close?" Xukong asked.

"He... he's coming." Lin Mu said in his mind.

Without the help of his spirit sense, he couldn't observe the situation around him and since he was lying on the ground with his face down he couldn't use his eyes to see anything either.

Lin Mu wanted to check the condition of his body but couldn't use his spirit sense. This left him with his old method of checking.

He tried to chant the calming heart sutra and the severing heart sutra, but was unable to do so. His tongue would not move, and neither could his lips.

'This... is this what the Lost immortal felt? Such helplessness?' Lin Mu thought to himself.

But his time was only about to get worse.

"HE'S HERE! ELDERS I FOUND HIM!" A voice suddenly came from afar.

Lin Mu heard it and realized he had already been found. Unknown to him, when he used fade he hadn't gone much far from the sect. Instead of going perpendicular to it, he had gone parallel.

The only reason why the elders hadn't found him first was that they thought he must have gone in the outer direction of the sect and not just within it. This was why a random disciple ended up finding him.

~whoosh~

~whoosh~

~whoosh~

The sound of wind tearing could be heard as some elders arrived on their spirit weapons, flying in from the sky.

"It really is him!"

"He's here, patriarch!!"

The elder's face lit up as they saw Lin Mu lying on the ground. They had been truly worried that they may never be able to find Lin Mu and that blame would all fall upon their head.

But now... now they were relieved. One of the elders was about to approach the collapsed Lin Mu when he was interrupted.

"Careful! He was able to fight multiple elders on equal terms, he's dangerous. Watch out for any tricks!" A fellow elder warned.

The elder nodded and took out a staff from his spatial storage treasure that was a bracelet. He controlled the staff with his spirit sense and poked Lin Mu with it, as if he was a dead animal on the side of the road.

Seeing as he didn't respond, the elder thought he was unresponsive.

"Is he dead?" one of the disciples questioned.

"No... his chest is moving, he's still breathing." Another one pointed out.

Grins appeared on the elder's faces as they realized their enemy was a fish in a barrel. They got bolder and directly went to pick up Lin Mu.

"Let's see who it is that dares to offend the Tri Cauldron peony sect." A white haired elder who used the staff previously spoke.

He approached Lin Mu with an evil gaze and was just about to touch him when a loud sound was heard.

~ROAR!!~

A blood chilling roar was heard as the sound of tearing wide accompanied it.

~boom~

A blinding flash appeared out of nowhere and made everyone's vision go white. The odor of burnt flesh could be smelled as blood spilled on the ground.

~thud~ thud~

~Roar!~

"ARGH! What is this!" The disciples shouted.

~boom~

Multiple flashes kept on happening, which prevented the people from seeing anything. It wasn't until a few seconds later that they could finally see.

And when they did... they were horrified. A large tiger like beast stood in front of them, its claws pressing upon the dead bodies of two elders and five disciples. It bared its teeth at them as a murderous aura emanated off its body.

"Wh-what beast is that! It killed the elders!"

"Elder Guan was killed! How! He's at the peak stage of the core condensation realm!"

A cacophony of noises that consisted of confusion and terror spread in the area.

~shua~

The claws of the beast suddenly heated up and flashed like burning phosphorous. A scorching heat came from it as six more disciples lost their lives.

A short distance away from where Lin Mu was, the other elders and the patriarch Mudan were located. They had gotten the messages on their communication jade slips and were rushing to the area.

But now they had heard the beastly roar coming from there along with the terror filled shouts of the disciples. They didn't know what had happened, but they knew it must be something really bad.

"It's the scent of blood!"

"Quick, we need to hurry!" Mudan urged.

He waved his hand and a wind blew from the back, pushing them faster toward the location where Lin Mu was. In less than ten seconds, they reached there and saw the horrific sight.

Dead bodies of the sect's disciples along with the elders were spread in the area; some decapitated, some crushed under great force.

In the center laid Lin Mu on his face, and on its side was none other than the beast who had killed everyone.

~ROAR!~

The beast turned to face the patriarch and the others before roaring at them fearlessly. The elders felt their bodies involuntarily shiver at the roar while the patriarch's gaze stiffened.

Lin Mu who had heard everything from the start, knew who had come.

"Little Shrubby... you're here..."

Chapter 539 - Mighty Shrubby!

Xukong had been terribly worried upon seeing the state of Lin Mu. He didn't know what kind of damage had been caused by the tribulation lightning either. The thing was that Lin Mu was hit by was pure tribulation lightning, but it was not intended for him.

If it was punishment tribulation lightning, Xukong would be able to assess it much better. But this was something that he had rarely seen happen before. He had heard of certain cultivators who had special cultivation techniques that needed the Tribulation lightning to progress.

But even they didn't use pure tribulation lightning that was intended for someone else. The laws of heaven simply did not work like this. The tribulation lightning that was intended for someone would only hit that specific person.

If an extremely powerful person interfered, they may be able to stop the lightning, but it would still not go to them. Instead, a bolt of punishment lightning would descend instead. With so many unknown parameters, there was little Xukong could do.

And since Little Shrubby had not arrived yet either, and the sect members had, it only made the situation worse.

Xukong had even thought of using his trump card, but hesitated. Him interfering by descending directly into a world was extremely dangerous. Not only to the world, but also to him.

And it was not like he was without enemies either...

But the arrival of little Shrubby gave him a great sense of relief. Upon seeing him though, he felt like little shrubby was a bit different than before. His aura was much stronger and he could even feel that there had been some kind of a change in its bloodline.

But this relief didn't last long as the sect patriarch Mudan and the rest of the elders had arrived at the location as well.

Mudan looked at the beast in front of him and felt a bit uneasy. Even though he was far above the cultivation base of the beast, he didn't know why but approaching it himself felt dangerous to him.

~Roar~

"Go get that beast! And get that man too!" Mudan ordered his elders, wanting to wait and see.

~gulp~

The elder's suppressed their fear and approached Little Shrubby. Their weapons gleamed as they floated in front of them.

"Die filthy beast!"

~shing~

A spirit sword shot towards Little Shrubby, but it was stopped mid way.

~DENG~

A hand was wrapped around the blade of the spirit sword... or more accurately, a metallic hand.

"Wh-what? What the hell is that?" The elder couldn't help but wonder.

"It's a spirit tool! There's someone else here!" another elder said as they all became alert and looked around.

~roar~

Little shrubby had blocked the sword with the prosthetic hand, which was a spirit tool. Taking the opportunity while the elders were distracted, he slashed out with his claws, sending out streaks of scorching flames.

"Watch out!"

~shing~

The elder withdrew the short sword to block the streaks of flames in front of them, but then felt a strong force hitting his cheek.

~slap~

~ptui~

The metallic hand had just slapped his cheek, making him spit out a couple of teeth.

The other elders watched dumbly, as this was not something they had expected.

~slap~

Another slap hit the elder which knocked him back. Little shrubby took this opportunity to withdraw the harness from his spatial storage belt. He then picked up Lin Mu with his teeth and threw him up in the air before catching him on his back.

Only now did the patriarch and the elders realize the beast had actually come to rescue Lin Mu.

"STOP HIM! IT'S A TAMED BEAST!" Mudan shouted, this time acting personally.

~ROAR!~

Little Shrubby let out another roar that shook the air and made the elders flinch for a moment before bursting into a sprint.

~whoosh~

He wasn't running at full speed though, as Lin Mu was still not strapped into the harness. Right now his legs were slid into the hoops, thus he wouldn't fall at this speed, but if he did not strap in properly, he would fall off.

~shua~

~piak~

The patriarch's head bobbed as he felt something hit it from the behind. He lifted his face, that was angry, and looked at the culprit.

"You! YOU!!! YOU DARE INSULT ME!" He shouted.

The metallic hand had just now slapped the back of Mudan's head before it returned to little shrubby.

But this only unnerved the elders more.

"Patriarch! That beast! It's controlling that spirit tool."

"Not only that, didn't you see that harness appearing on its back!"

"Wait, that's a spatial storage treasure on its neck!"

Realization dawned upon their head as they put two and two together.

"There is no other person... that beast is behind it all!"

They sped up, but couldn't keep up with the beast.

Little Shrubby had recalled the metallic hand to his side and used that to strap Lin Mu into the harness. Once that was done, he stored the hand back into the storage treasure and increased his speed.

~thud... thud... thud... thud~

The sound of heartbeats echoed in the forest. The sect patriarch who was the only one able to keep up with little shrubby noticed that they were coming from it. The heartbeats kept on getting louder until they were like war drums.

And then he saw a sight he would never forget.

Seven illusory beasts appeared around little shrubby. Each of them looked different, but they were all big cat type beasts similar to lions, tigers, panthers, leopards, etc. The illusory beasts roared in unison before merging with Little Shrubby.

~KABOOM~

Little shrubby's body glowed before bursting entirely into flames.

These flames were massive and fully covered his body, increasing his size by four times. Lin Mu couldn't even be seen among the flames, as they had fully buried him within.

~ROAR!~

~KABOOM~

Finally, Little Shrubby let out a thunderous roar that shook the land, before disappearing with a sonic boom; knocking all the trees and soil back.

Chapter 540 - The Tragedy Of The Tri Cauldron Peony Sect

Patriarch Mudan and the elders were affected by the force of the sonic boom and were pushed back as well. Mudan was still able to handle himself but the elders couldn't do the same and ended up crashing into the trees nearby breaking them.

The ones who were lightly injured simply spat out blood while the others had broken bones and were directly knocked out.

Mudan stabbed his sword into the ground and stopped himself from flying back more. Even though he could fly on his own without the support of a spirit weapon, the force was still too much. It was as if there was more than just Air that had caused such an effect.

Mudan looked in the direction in which Little Shrubby had gone, but couldn't see it anywhere.

"YOU CAN'T RUN FOREVER!" Mudan yelled while flying after them.

His spirit sense was fully spread around, covering over a kilometer of the area as his eyes darted around. The old patriarch ended up searching for over a day, to no avail. He couldn't bring himself to believe it, but it really had happened. A core condensation realm beast had outrun him, an Adult stage Nascent soul realm cultivator.

If this news got out, there was a great chance he would become a laughing stock of the cultivation world.

Still, he knew news such as this would not be able to be suppressed. There were far too many disciples who had seen everything that had happened and they would probably let it out even unintentionally.

Besides, this was something he would need the help of other sects to resolve now. It had gone beyond the scope of just one sect. If a thief could steal from their sect, they could very well do with the other sects.

Mudan returned to his sect feeling disappointed, only to get fed with more despair. The sect had not known that it was not just the main peak and pill peak that had been robbed. It was later that they found out that even the Herb Peak had become a victim.

But this time they had a suspect that was most likely behind it or was at least part of it. No one would believe that this was done by just a single person. There was simply no way it could be done.

Currently the sect patriarch, the peak masters, and all elders of the sect were in a hall. Everyone's expression was tense as they looked at the patriarch pensively.

"So you are telling me the culprit behind this is the disciple who won the competition you organized?" Mudan questioned.

"Yes, patriarch." Shaoyan Qianyu ordered with a straight face.

She herself couldn't bring herself to believe that it was Wu Lian who had stolen all the things from the vault. But when she went to check the formations it was obvious that what opened the vault was the very token that she had issued the man.

"So a genius who can ignite an intermediate ranked Qi flame is behind all this?" Mudan questioned.

"Yes, patriarch." Shaoyan Qianyu repeated.

Mudan turned to look at the elders of the sect registry before speaking.

"And what information do you have on this disciple Wu Lian?" He questioned.

"Theres... none." The elder, who was the head of the sect registry answered.

"None? WHAT DO YOU MEAN NONE?" The patriarch yelled.

"We don't know how, but while his name is indeed in the registry, there is no other information in it. It is likely someone forged the records." The elder replied.

"Useless! The lot of you!" Mudan scolded as a bunch of expletives came out of his mouth.

The session lasted for five minutes, after which the patriarch forcefully calmed himself down and took a deep breath. No one dared to even speak a single word for the fear that the patriarch may very well execute them in rage.

"How did he... how did he break through the formations?" Mudan questioned after a few minutes of silence.

"Our formation masters checked it and have reported that it was a method they have never seen nor read about. It is likely that it was done using a specialized spirit tool that is made for breaking formations as there is no way anyone would be able to get through them in that short of a time.

Even if a formation master was given the literal blueprint of the formation array he would still need a lot of spirit Qi and time to unravel the formations one by one. In our case, it seems as if the formation posed no obstacle to the culprit and he went straight through them.

We... we think it may be a peak grade spirit tool." The Elder who was in charge of formations, spoke.

Mudan couldn't help but rub his forehead in frustration. This was perhaps the worst day of life since he was born. Even his heavenly tribulation was perhaps a ten times better than this.

"Another thing, patriarch... since the main vault was entirely taken, we believe the culprit also had a peak grade spatial storage tool with him. No other spatial storage tool would be able to accommodate something that large." Another elder added.

"Peak grade spatial storage tool... peak grade spirit tool... martial skills that allow him to defend against tens of elders at the peak stage of the core condensation realm at once... surviving a heavenly

tribulation... and that spirit beast... I don't think we are dealing with anyone normal patriarch." Yi Deng who had been silent all this while, spoke.

Mudan looked at him and gestured for him to speak more.

"If this man had so many powerful things, he must have a great backing. I believe he may be from one of the hidden trump cards of some sect or kingdom. They may be doing this to intentionally challenge us." Yi Deng spoke.

"Hmm... and what is it that you suggest we do?" Mudan questioned.

"I believe it is time to contact 'master'." Yi Deng answered, as his eyes glowed in a red light for a moment.