Walker 821

Chapter 821 - A Path Of Entry

Hearing Lin Mu's determined words, Elder Weimin didn't know what to say.

"We would greatly like that too, but the current situation is not really conducive to that. There are top sects here already and they have their best formation masters here trying to unlock the formation that is blocking the entrance.

They were evidently targeting anyone that manages to enter first. We are still not done making the alliance with the Long Cloud sect, so we will probably be targeted. All the other sects that are here are either under the Zither Wind Alliance or the Long Cloud alliance.

The top three sects have nothing to fear and can't be targeted. As for the weaker sects, they are unable to enter before us, so they are not considered. But the people in the alliances will band together against us." Elder Weimin explained.

"Elder is right. Even if we have to ability to open the formations, we would have to go to the area where everyone else is doing the same. We are bound to get noticed when there are people standing just a few meters away from us." Hu Yun chimed in.

Lin Mu narrowed his eyes and looked towards the distance. He closed his eyes for a second and opened them again. This time they flickered lightly and a strange pressure exuded from his body.

The pressure was felt by everyone around him and even Elder Weimin who was at the Dao Shell realm, was not exempt from it.

~gulp~

Elder Weimin tried to resist it but found that he could not.

"Just what is this..." Elder Weimin was confused as he did not find it to be due to spirit Qi.

He was a Dao Shell realm cultivator and should not have been influenced by another Dao Shell realm cultivator. Unfortunately for him, Lin Mu was no average cultivator and had a lot more in his arsenal than most people knew.

~shua~

"Where did he go?!" The disciples were stunned.

Lin Mu had just disappeared suddenly in front of their eyes. It was almost unbelievable for them and they wondered how it happened.

"Just how fast is he?" The disciple wearing the gauntlets wondered.

"That... was no speed." Hu Yun said as he wiped the sweat off his brow.

Unlike the others, he was at the Nascent soul realm and could tell that Lin Mu had not run or anything. He had simply disappeared.

"What?" the disciples were confused.

"Space... he used spatial spirit Qi?" Elder Weimin realized as his eyes went wide.

Even though the elders of the Noon Grass sect knew that Lin Mu had made the Kong plane his own and had made a teleportation formation from it with the help of Jing Luo, they thought that this was just because he was proficient with formations.

They never thought that Lin Mu was proficient with Spatial spirit Qi instead. This was out of their normal thinking and no sane person would think of it directly. Even the Elder only thought of it, since he could sense it very clearly at his level.

The disciples were taken aback and didn't know what to make of this. While they had learned of the space element, they also knew that it was something beyond the use of most cultivators.

One had to be at the Nascent soul realm to even be able to touch upon the very basics of it and needed to have a strong spirit sense to feel it.

Jing Luo who had seen the same string of events a few times before, simply rolled his eyes and spoke, "he'll be back. We just wait."

"Will it be fine? He didn't even change into the sect's uniform?" Elder Weimin asked.

"Yes. If he wants to hide, no one will be able to find him easily. Don't worry. As for the sect uniform... can I get some robes too? It'll be better if I disguise as well." Jing Luo replied.

"Of course! Disciple Yun, bring junior Jing Luo to the tent and give him a sect of our robes. Also, keep some robes for junior Lin Mu ready." Elder Weimin ordered.

"Yes, Elder!" Hu Yun replied and took Jing Luo to the test.

While Jing Luo changed into the robes, Lin Mu was checking out the ruins. He was currency underground and was using his spirit sense to observe it in detail.

"Hmm... it extends rather deep. There is an entire area dugout two kilometer below the surface." Lin Mu discovered.

"That should be the place where the ruins usually recede to when inactive," Xukong spoke.

"Hmm... but that doesn't tell us how Elder Liqiang disappeared. Was it really a different plane?" Lin Mu asked.

"What did you sense with your spatial perception?" Xukong asked in repose.

"There are some spatial disturbances here, but they could also be due to the many people interfering with the formations here. The disturbance they are causing is muddling my perception here as well." Lin Mu replied.

"One option would be for you to directly descend to the depths, but your phase cannot do that at this moment. And even if you enter, the others will have to wait outside." Xukong stated.

"Hmm... Phase might just be enough to reach it, I think... but I don't want to take that risk. And unraveling the formations from the front is not an option either." Lin Mu replied.

Hearing this, Xukong went silent and Lin Mu continued to observe the area around the ruins. He had gained a little idea that there might truly be the entrance to a minor plane inside it as the spatial fluctuations got stronger when he got closer.

It was at this time that Xukong spoke again.

"There is another option that might work. Why don't you... just break in from the back. There is no one there and you don't really need to care about the formation arrays here, do you? The others won't see it either, so you can enter with the Noon Grass sect quickly." Xukong suggested.

Hearing this, Lin Mu smiled.

"That might just work..."

Chapter 822 - A Path Of Entry - II

Elder Weimin and the others were just discussing some things about the other powers here when suddenly a presence was felt by them.

~shua~

Everyone turned to look at it and saw none other than Lin Mu standing there.

"Senior Lin Mu!" The disciples said in surprise.

"Did you find anything?" Jing Luo questioned.

"I did. I have a way to get in. We don't need to care about the rest." Lin Mu answered calmly, but the others certainly were not calm upon hearing it.

"WHAT! You really found a solution to the blockage?" Elder Weimin asked.

"I did indeed. We won't even have to see the other powers that are here. So that disguise might not even be needed now." Lin Mu replied.

Hearing this, the others were confused, but since it was Lin Mu speaking it, they chose to believe it right away. Lin Mu was someone that had the approval of their patriarch and several elders.

Not to mention he was at the Dao Shell realm as well, thus they had to respect him one way or the other.

"How are we going to enter in front of everyone, though? You might be able to sneak in, but I doubt we all can go." Jing Luo said after thinking for bit.

"We are not going from the front. There is another path I can take." Lin Mu explained.

"If that's true, then others should have an idea too. Won't they suspect if we manage to enter through there?" Hu Yun expressed his concern.

To everyone, the only path that they could think of was the main path that was at the front, and even if there were some other one's they could only think of them as the flaws in the formation.

And with the large number of formation masters that were here currently, they would be foolish if no one else would have not discovered the flaw as well.

"No... the path I've chosen does not exist for others. Rather to choose the path, it would be more accurate to say I'll be making one for us." Lin Mu explained.

"This..." Elder Weimin didn't know what to say.

"Just come with me and I'll show you. But before that, I recommend you all prepare for it." Lin Mu interrupted.

"Alright, all disciples are to get ready within ten minutes!" Elder Weimin declared.

"YES ELDER!" The disciples replied.

Lin Mu nodded his head and took a seat for the time being. It was at this point that he saw Hu Yun approaching him.

"Yes?" Lin Mu looked at the man, who seemed to be carrying something in his hands.

"Senior Lin Mu, you should take these robes. Even if they are not useful now, you may as well keep them." Hu Yun spoke.

Lin Mu took the folded robes from Hu Yun's hands and saw that they were the robes of the Noon Grass sect that were their uniform.

"Thank you." Lin Mu said highly, accepting the offer.

Lin Mu thought for a bit before deciding to change into them anyway.

"It'll help, since we still need to head to the back of the ruins. Some of the others or scouts might notice us, so it's better if we have the same look." Lin Mu stated.

"As you wish, senior. It is an honor that you will be wearing the same robes as us though." Hu Yun said with a smile.

Lin Mu simply nodded and let the man return before he changed into the robes. He simply wore them over the robes he was already wearing since they were made differently than normal ones.

Lin Mu had gotten robes that were a few sizes larger than his size. This was due to the fact that the Burning Heart sutra had the effect of bulking up his body. While he had not used the sutra for a while now, he never knew when the need would arise.

Plus, losing more and more clothes was a bit annoying too. He wished there were robes that could bear through the battles. By this point, Lin Mu had seen that most cultivators carried around several tens of clothes with them.

At least the ones that had a spatial storage tool did that. As for the others, they would have to suffer some nakedness as a side effect of a battle. Though after one reached the core condensation realm or the Nascent soul realm, they would be able to afford at least a low grade spatial storage ring.

Thus, most disciples that were here with Lin Mu had them. One thing he didn't notice while changing through was the disappointed looks of a few female disciples.

Exactly ten minutes after the order was given, everyone was ready for the mission.

"I trust everyone is prepared for anything that's about to come?" Lin Mu asked one last time.

"YES SENIOR!" They all said in unison.

"Good. We leave now and will circle around to the back of the ruins while trying to avoid as many people as we can." Lin Mu stated.

There were a total of forty five members of the Noon Grass sect here currently, which includes the elder, thus they would have to take a slightly longer route to avoid others. A few people moving around were fine and wouldn't gather much attention, but forty seven people and a beast certainly would.

Elder Weimin looked at Little Shrubby and furrowed his brows.

"Umm, what will we do about him?" Elder Weimin asked while pointing to Little shrubby.

"Oh, it won't be a problem. They can't see him once he starts running." Lin Mu said and gestured to Little shrubby, who gave a little growl before leaving.

~Zoom~

In just a few seconds, Little Shrubby had disappeared off the horizon, leaving them stunned. Even if everyone had seen Little Shrubby approach with Lin Mu at the start, this speed was even faster than that.

"Can even patriarch match that speed?" Hu Yun and the rest couldn't help but wonder.

Chapter 823 - Ripping A Barrier

Lin Mu was currently guiding everyone around the ruins. They were circling from the western side since there were the least number of sect camps there. Plus with Lin Mu's spirit sense, it was easier for him to detect people and avoid them.

In about three hours, they finally reached the location that Lin Mu had decided on.

"This is where we will be entering from?" One of the disciples asked.

"Yes," Lin Mu replied.

"But... there's nothing here." Another disciple said.

"To the naked eye, there is indeed nothing here." Lin Mu agreed and walked ahead before reaching out with his hand.

~ring~

A low humming sound was heard as a membrane appeared to stop Lin Mu's hand.

"What? Why can't we feel it?"

"Even my spirit sense can't detect anything there."

"How is this possible?"

The disciples were truly confused now. Elder Weimin on the other hand, was impressed by Lin Mu. He knew just what level of skill and perception was needed for one to detect illusory formations on this level.

Even if he wasn't the head elder of the formation pavilion of the Noon Grass sect, his skill with formations was just inferior to Elder Liqiang. That was the reason why he was sent on the mission here.

The patriarch and the other higher ranking elders were currently in the Long Cloud sect, trying to negotiate a meeting without being forced to do something else. It was a delicate process that they could not abandon mid way thus they had to let others handle this.

"Hmmm... a combination of a bewildering formation that is imposed on a barrier? If I remember correctly, this one is a Sheltered Mirage formation array." Jing Luo identified.

"Is that so?" Lin Mu spoke.

While Lin Mu could somewhat tell how this formation array worked and what its components were, he didn't know the name of it. There were far too many formations and formation arrays in the universe and they could have multiple names, thus often it wasn't feasible to know them all.

Lin Mu too had focused on learning how they worked, rather than memorizing everything about each formation since it wasn't truly efficient. The clans and sects though, would rather have them learn about each formation individually.

Though this was mostly due to the fact that they did not know the Dao Script. If one knew Dao Script and could use it, the best way to learn the formations was to learn from the runes and inscriptions.

That way, even if you encountered a completely unknown formation, you would still be able to figure out its functions and workings.

"Do you know how to get in?" Elder Weimin asked Jing Luo, since he seemed to recognize the formation.

"I do... but unraveling this formation array will take at least five days." Jing Luo said, much to the disciples shock. "Plus, it is expanded in a rather large area, so finding the nodes will also take a while and they might be located in different areas." He added.

"This... how are we supposed to enter without alerting others, then? I don't think we can wait for five days either." Elder Weimin said with concern.

The other disciples were the same and didn't know why Lin Mu had brought them here if it was not possible to enter.

"I'm sure Lin Mu has a solution to this," Jing Luo said while taking a look at Lin Mu. "Don't you?" he asked.

"Of course..." Lin Mu said with a nod.

His spirit sense spread around and observed everything in the area all at once. When his spirit sense spread overs the disciples, they couldn't help but shudder. They felt like all their secrets had been revealed just now.

Their defenses against spirit sense probes were nothing but air in front of Lin Mu. He didn't even look at them intentionally, his spirit sense was simply far too refined for them to be able to resist it.

A minute later, Lin Mu had gotten what he wanted and opened his eyes.

"Can you set up a spirit Qi isolating formation around us quickly?" Lin Mu asked.

"Sure," Jing Luo said and pulled out the pre-made components from his spatial storage treasures.

~shua~shua~shua~

He flicked several flags around and made gestures with his hands.

~HONG~

Runes appeared in the area and quickly assembled themselves into formations that spread into a dome shape around everyone. The flags acted as the borders of the formation and a node stone acted as the center that was buried under Jing Luo's feet.

The Noon grass sect was once more surprised by the speed and efficiency of Jing Luo.

"Hey, what was the record from last year's formation tournament?" A disciple whispered to his companion.

"Fifteen minutes for a simple barrier formation..." he answered.

"Damn... this is on a completely different level. Just two minutes..." the first disciple said in shock.

With the formation set up, Lin Mu gestured for everyone to take a step back.

~huu~

Lin Mu took a deep breath and entered a Stace. His right hand cocked back and spirit Qi started to swirl within it. A few seconds later, he punched forward!

Boulder Collapsing Fist: Second form- Piercer!

~Zoom~

~Kew~

Barely visible to the eyes of the disciples, a small projectile was shot out of Lin Mu's fist. Only Jing Luo and Elder Weimin saw it clearly.

'So it's that technique... it managed to get through my defenses back then... wonder how strong it is now.' Jing Luo thought.

The needle easily pierced through the barrier, as if it were an eggshell. The moment this happened, the formation quickly tried to repair itself.

"Not so fast!" Lin Mu said before blinking right in front of him.

~DENG~

Lin Mu thrust his hands into the small gap that was made by the needle and was now closing up.

"Ha!" Lin Mu turned his hands to the side and pushed them in further.

~Crack~

"Heavens!" Elder Weimin couldn't help but exclaim.

"BREAK FOR ME!" Lin Mu said as he pulled apart the barrier with his bare hands.

His muscles flexed as the vital energy within his body stirred.

~КАСНА~

Chapter 824 - History Of The Kushao Ruins

Lin Mu was using both his body and cultivation base right now. He had not exerted this level of power yet and it was his first time testing it out.

His body had two fully refined treasured organs that gave him the physical strength of someone at the peak of the Nascent Soul realm. And even that was not something that could compare to that of an average cultivator.

Then there was his spirit Qi cultivation base that was at the Shell Initiation stage of the Dao Shell realm. Combining both of them put his power at a completely different level. The barrier in front of him would have greatly injured someone if they tried to do the same.

Not to mention pulling it apart with their bare hands, even cracking it like that would be close to impossible.

"YAAAAAA! SHATTER!" Lin Mu said as his power increased by another level.

~КАСНА~

~SHATTER~

A loud breaking sound was heard, and it seemed as if some glass had been broken. The jaws of all the Noon Grass sect remember dropped at seeing this. Jing Luo had already seen plenty of feats that Lin Mu had accomplished and wasn't as shocked.

But seeing this level of power was still new for him. Unlike others, he knew the defense of the Sheltered Mirage formation array. It was an old formation array that had mostly been lost to the time.

For it to protect this ruin for such a long time, it had to be very strong. Otherwise, the people who came here in past would have plundered it completely a long time ago.

"ENTER!" Lin Mu said out loud as a wide hole about ten meters wide was torn out by him.

The people didn't need a second to respond to this, and they hurriedly ran into the hole. In less than five seconds, everyone was inside and the hole soon closed behind them.

~huu~

Lin Mu took a deep breath and looked at the formation that looked like it was not damaged at all.

"That's certainly a strong formation if it can recover that fast..." Lin Mu muttered to himself.

"Mmhmm, it's something that even Grandfather will take a while to unravel with his skills. And yet... you managed to enter it forcefully." Jing Luo replied in a low voice.

"Hmm, we best not loiter here. Even if we managed to enter, we don't know if others have sensed it or not. The flickering in the formations' integrity might be felt by a formation master that has a higher sensitivity." Lin Mu recommended.

"You're right. Let's head forward," Jing Luo agreed.

They turned around and looked at the ruins ahead. It was a bit astonishing since they had not seen the ruins from the outside. It looked like there was just endless desert in front of them.

"It can truly present a mirage... but in the opposite way..." Hu Yun muttered to himself.

The ruins were far bigger on the inside than they had thought. In the main area of the ruins, they looked to be only a kilometer big, but here they could see that it was far bigger than that.

"The barrier served as a means to hide its true size and location. Even if someone managed to wander here, the bewildering function of the formation array would activate and they would just lose their way before being ejected out from a different side.

I wouldn't be shocked if many people have actually gone by here and just never noticed." Elder Weimin explained.

The disciples felt enlightened after learning this. This was one of the Elder's duties when they accompanied the disciples anywhere; they needed to teach them the things that they had not seen.

But what Elder Weimin did not tell them was that the way Lin Mu managed to directly touch the formation was unnatural. One should not have even felt it and just passed through it, falling into bewilderment.

But Lin Mu still managed to touch it somehow, not to mention ripping it apart with his hands was a completely different feat that he couldn't even comprehend.

"So what do we do now, senior Lin Mu?" one of the disciples asked, feeling a bit lost.

The ruins in front of them were vast and made out of materials that were inscribed with fine runes that restricted their spirit sense. Perhaps only Lin Mu, Elder Weimin, and Jing Luo might be able to use their spirit senses here.

"Can you do anything about these formations?" Elder Weimin questioned.

"No... these are different. There are multiple of them in every square meter of them. And they are spread everywhere, it would be useless to even attempt that." Jing Luo answered.

~Sigh~

"This is the way the ruins were meant to be... after all, this is a trial in a way, isn't it?" Lin Mu said.

"Indeed," Elder Weimin agreed and nodded his head.

The Kushao ruins were originally the tomb of an expert by the name of Kushao. He was said to have been at the very cusp of the Immortal Ascension realm, but some even said he had managed to reach it.

Not much was known about him since he preferred to stay low key and seldom took part in the matters of the world. People didn't even know he had died until someone discovered his tomb.

It had been a very popular site for the disciples of various sects to gain fortune and resources, but then five hundred years ago a disaster happened that damaged the tomb and turned it into the ruins that are known now.

They sank into the depths of the earth and were said to have been gone forever. Their appearance now was completely unexpected and very desirable for every cultivator. Not to mention the sects had other intentions with it as well.

"There are thousands if not hundreds of thousands of cultivators buried here. They either perished in the trials or failed to escape.." Jing Luo spoke.

Chapter 825 - The First Trap

Lin Mu heard the information given out by Elder Weimin and Jing Luo and thought of something.

"The sects that came here... they have other intentions for it, don't they?" Lin Mu said.

"What do you mean?" Jing Luo questioned.

"How many people failed to escape when the disaster happened?" Lin Mu asked.

"Hmm... it is said to be about half of them." Jing Luo replied.

"No... it's far more than that." Elder Weimin suddenly said.

"Oh? Do you know something else, elder?" Lin Mu asked.

"Officially, it was said that half of them had died, but the reality was different. The sects had secretly sent more cultivators, including some of their high elders, to the tomb. There are rumors that the disaster that happened was because of those that entered it secretly.

They managed to do something that caused a failure in the formation arrays and that resulted in the disaster. Of those that entered secretly... none of them ever returned." Elder Weimin replied.

"This... then just how many percent does that become?" Jing Luo asked, feeling surprised.

As far as he knew, his own clan hadn't taken part in it when the disaster was said to have happened. His grandfather was still the patriarch back then and had chosen to avoid sending his people to the tomb because of the ongoing conflicts with the northern tribes.

There were many orders that they needed to fulfill, thus they could not go then. But when the news about the disaster spread, everyone in the clan couldn't help but take a breath of relief.

"If we consider the number of people and add both the ones that entered official and the ones that did so secretly... the numbers of people that never escaped is at around 90%." Elder Weimin answered.

"No wonder..." Lin Mu said as the things started to make sense to him.

"The sects are in such a hurry not because they want to be the first to enter... but because they want to claim whatever was lost by their people five hundred years ago." Lin Mu stated.

Elder Weimin nodded his head, and Jing Luo furrowed his brows.

"Did the Noon Grass sect take part in this, too?" Jing Luo asked in concern.

"We did, but only in the official aspect. And the ones that entered were just disciples and two elders. Nearly all other than one of the disciples managed to escape. The elders failed too..." Elder Weimin answered.

"Hmm... the elders sacrificed themselves, didn't they?" Jing Luo asked.

"They did indeed. One of the elders was the junior brother of patriarch Hua too. He was struck by grief when that happened. It was also one of the reasons why we withdrew even more from the secular world." Elder Weimin replied.

Lin Mu walked ahead and spread his spirit sense as much as he could before speaking.

"I guess this is our chance at some redemption then. We will rescue Elder Liqiang and if it's possible we will reclaim the remains of the two elders as well." Lin Mu stated.

"The sect will be in your debt, Junior Lin Mu." Elder Weimin said with his hands cupped.

Even if he called Lin Mu a junior, he knew that it was only temporary. Elder Weimin himself was only at the Shell Genesis stage of the Dao Shell realm, and Lin Mu might overtake him soon enough if his growth stays the same.

Lin Mu simply nodded his head and continued on, taking the lead in guiding them in the ruins.

~shua~shua~shua~

Since most of the areas were dark and they were unable to use their spirit sense, the disciples used several methods to illuminate the area ahead. Some used techniques, some used tools and some just lit up some lamps they carried in their storage.

Lin Mu was still able to use his spirit sense, to see what was ahead, though his range was rather limited to just a few tens of meters right now. Another problem was that he couldn't see beyond the walls either, as they completely isolated the spirit sense.

"Be careful everyone, we could encounter something hidden in the corners." Lin Mu stated.

The ruins were like a large labyrinth and had multiple turns and forks. Unless one reached the very side of it, nothing could be seen if it was hidden behind them. Lin Mu was fully alert and ready to act if something happened.

"Nothing seems to be the problem now though?" One of the disciples said to his companion in a low voice.

~click~

Little Shrubby's ears perked up as he heard an almost inaudible click. Then in the next second, his eyes went wide as he felt something.

"FIRE! COMING FROM THE BOTTOM!" Little shrubby growled out, stunning the disciples.

Lin Mu though understood it and felt the approaching heat from beneath as well.

"DAMMIT! PULL THE DISCIPLES TO THE FRONT!" Lin Mu ordered.

~shua~

Little shrubby moved instantly and started yanking and throwing disciples beyond where Lin Mu was standing. Elder Weimin and Jing Luo understood the gravity of the situation as well and helped them out.

Still, they were not fast enough and a couple of disciples were still left when the heat started to rise up from the ground.

It was as if molten metal was pouring out from the floor and the area lit up with the bright red color from the glowing metal.

"ARGH!!!!!" One of the disciples burned his legs in the molten metal.

The other one managed to jump up, but his clothes were still burned.

"SHIT!" Lin Mu cursed as his mind worked quickly.

"MELDDDDD!" Lin Mu waved his hands.

~humm~

The moment he did this, it was as if something had changed around them. The two disciples were frozen in place, but the same could be said for the molten metal that was around them.

Lin Mu gritted his teeth and gestured with his hands, carefully controlling the space he was handling.

He separated as much of the molten metal as he could from the disciples and pulled them towards him.

Chapter 826 - A Lesson For The Disciples And Wrong Mindset

The two disciples who were currently under distress were extremely scared and felt like death was grasping their neck. But then Lin Mu's quick action had managed to pull them back out, albeit with some injuries.

Still, they weren't anything that they couldn't recover from.

~thud~

Lin Mu lowered the two onto the ground and made sure that there was enough distance between them and the molten metal that was still flowing out from the ground.

"Get even further, I don't think it will stop just here!" Lin Mu ordered everyone.

Meanwhile, his mind worked quickly and got an idea.

~Boom~

~Crack~

Lin Mu punched one of the walls at the side and uprooted it directly from the ground.

~DENG~

Throwing it at the passage, he blocked the molten metal that was still flowing out from it. Some of it still seemed out from the gaps, but the flow was slow and eventually stopped. Seeing that it was now over, Lin Mu took a breath of relief.

~Phew~

Others did the same and some of the disciples slumped down to the ground. Even though they were disciples of a top sect, they weren't as used to problems like this. They had not gotten used to danger as much and had thus been unable to pick up on cues quickly.

"Healing Pill!" Elder Weimin ordered.

"Take this," one of the female disciples took out a small pill bottle that contained some pills.

They fed those to the two disciples that were injured and also applied some herbal pastes that helped with burns.

Lin Mu furrowed his brows and wondered if coming here with the disciples was even a good choice.

~pat~

Jing Luo put his hand on Lin Mu's shoulder having guessed what Lin Mu was thinking.

"They need to get used to this. There will be far more problems they will come across. If they can't even handle this, then they will only suffer more later." Jing Luo stated.

Lin Mu clenched his fist but then let out a breath.

"You're probably right... but I still can't help but want to let them avoid being harmed." Lin Mu replied.

"Junior Lin Mu, that is a dangerous mindset." Elder Weimin who had heard the two's conversation said.

"I especially brought them here so that they can see the reality of the world. For far too long have they been protected in the sect. If they do not suffer now, they will only die later. Our future is dark and we will need to be determined if we are to survive it.

Do not blame yourself if they die, they will only have themselves to blame. Each of them knew the danger before they came here, we did not force them, they volunteered." Elder Weimin stated.

Lin Mu didn't know what to say and still felt a bit uncomfortable but then nodded his head.

"I can only trust Elder Weimin's judgment then." Lin Mu said with a nod.

Elder Weimin smiled and then turned around to look at the disciples. The moment he did, his smile turned into a harsh frown.

"YOU FOOLS! Have you not learned anything? Have you lost your sense of alertness?" Elder Weimin exploded.

~EEK~

Some of the disciples were startled by the sudden outburst.

"I am telling you all this only once! You all have to look after yourself and your companions. While we are here to oversee you, if you cannot even deal with minor dangers like this, then you all are better off being flowers in the sect!" Elder Weimin scolded.

~gulp~

The disciples shuddered at the scolding, but then lowered their heads. They knew they were partially at fault here and that they needed to be better. All the disciples were at the Core condensation realm at the very least and should have been able to avoid the trap as long as they had a fast reaction time.

"We understand our mistake, Elder Weimin; Senior Lin Mu." The disciples apologized.

~humph~?

"Make sure it is not repeated." Elder Weimin said and walked to the side, letting the disciples rest for a bit.

Even though they had just started, the very first trap had been enough to exhaust their minds. Plus the scolding would serve as a reminder to them that there would be danger at every step.

Lin Mu watched the entire series of events and just sighed to himself.

"This is just how they need to be taught. Not everyone is diligent like you, they can't pick up from their mistakes as fast." Jing Luo said as he sat beside Lin Mu.

Even though Jing Luo might not say it outright, he knew just how hardworking Lin Mu was. The young man barely rested and every moment of his was spent in bettering himself, learning things, or solving problems.

Jing Luo could count on one hand, the people that could compare to Lin Mu.

'If there was someone like him in any sect, they would very easily become a chief disciple... becoming the next patriarch would not be impossible either. And it's not just his talent either... his own hard work and personality is also a major part.

Even if he did not have the talent, he would still have been a great expert...' Jing Luo thought to himself as he looked at Lin Mu.

While Jing Luo was doing this, Lin Mu was scanning the area, trying to see if he could find any more traps. Little Shrubby came to sit beside him and purred lightly, calming Lin Mu's mind a little.

"Thank you..." Lin Mu said in a low voice.

~purr~

Rubbing little Shrubby's fur a little Lin Mu was about to look away when he noticed something. He was looking at the wall he had just broken off.

"Wait a second!" Lin Mu said out loud.

"What's the problem?" Jing Luo asked, as he saw Lin Mu stand up abruptly.

But Lin Mu did not answer him. Instead, he just walked up to the wall that was opposite him and slammed his fist into it.

~BOOM~

Chapter 827 - Breakable Walls And Spare Gifts

The disciples of the Noon Grass sect had seen Lin Mu suddenly rush to the wall and were confused. That confusion turned into utter shock as they saw Lin Mu break the wall as if it were made of glass.

~boom~

Lin Mu put a hole through the wall which then spread cracks through it eventually crumbling it entirely. Elder Weimin and Jing Luo were taken aback seeing this. While Lin Mu had broken a wall just a few minutes ago to block the molten metal, they had not put much thought into it.

But now it finally struck them.

"The walls... they are breakable?!" Jing Luo said and quickly went to try it out on his own.

His fist glowed with spirit Qi and struck the wall.

~thud~

But the outcome was completely opposite to what he had thought.

~shua~

Runes appeared on the wall before turning into a barrier that quickly repelled Jing Luo back.

~whoosh~

As if hit by a bull, Jing Luo was sent flying back but still managed to stop himself before he collided into another wall.

"Huh? What the hell?" Jing Luo was now confused.

Elder Weimin stroked his beard and spoke, "it's the spirit Qi..."

Lin Mu turned around and this point and nodded his head.

"As long as attacks don't contain spirit Qi, they can still break the walls." Lin Mu confirmed.

The disciples were intrigued upon hearing this and felt like trying it out themselves.

"HYAA!" One of the more muscular disciples punched the wall with his fists.

~thud~

"ARGH!" but his attempt only gave him pain instead. Tears appeared in the corners of his eyes as he held his fist that had turned red and was bleeding now.

"Even if it's dormant without spirit Qi doesn't mean you all have the strength to break it like that." Elder Weimin stated.

"Eh? So we're weak in that aspect to..." A short female disciple said.

"No... you all just need to use weapons. Why use your body which is not durable enough?" Hu Yun suddenly said.

He then took out a club from his spatial storage ring and raised it high up before slamming it into the wall.

~thud~

"Nothing happened?"

"No... look!"

When Hu Yun pulled his club from the wall, they could see a small dent that had now formed on the wall.

"It really can be damaged!" The disciples rejoiced.

"Ahaha! That'll make it way easier!" Jing Luo said out loud.

He then took out a war hammer from his storage. It was very crude looking and was made out of a chiseled stone that was attached onto the end of a thick stick. It looked like something that a caveman would use and not a dignified cultivator.

But then... its effects were spectacular.

~DENG~

~Crack~

Jing Luo smashed the hammer onto the wall and cracks spread across it while also leaving a substantial dent in the wall.

"Use normal weapons for it. Spirit weapons will be ineffective and will trigger the formations." Elder Weimin instructed.

"But... we don't have normal weapons?" Some of the disciples said.

After they said this though, they heard the sound of a large number of objects falling to the ground.

"All those that need a weapon can take one here!" Jing Luo announced.

At his side were easily over a hundred weapons piled into a small hill. Not all of them were like the crude war hammer he was using through. In fact, most of them looked like what mortal warriors would use and were properly forged.

Only a few of them looked as crude and unrefined as that. Lin Mu took a look at Jing Luo's hammer as well and recognized the materials used for it.

"Using the Grey metal Ore as the hammerhead and the Stone Heart Wood as the handle... no wonder the hammer is that strong." Lin Mu muttered.

Elder Weimin who heard him was surprised and took another look at Jing Luo's hammer.

'They truly are that! Who would use such precious materials like this!?' Elder Weimin was astounded.

Both Grey Metal Ore and the Stone Heart Wood were special materials that could be used to refine and forge high grade spirit tools. Using them crudely like this would not be something that any sane cultivator would imagine.

"Did you make this during our time in that plane fragment?" Lin Mu questioned.

"Mmhmm... I made a lot of weapons back then and didn't really have the needed condition to refine them further. They're pretty much incomplete projects." Jing Luo answered.

"At least they are getting some use now." Lin Mu replied.

"Indeed." Jing Luo said with a nod.

Some of the Noon Grass sect disciples had also caught onto the fact that the weapons they were holding, while not Spirit weapons were still very durable and strong.

"This! These can be easily refined further to become spirit weapons!"

"Heavens! Isn't this Cyan Mist Copper? It's not even found in the southern regions!"

One by one the disciples started to recognize the materials used. They also understood the value of the weapons and just how much of a favor Jing Luo was doing by giving them this.

"We will return these back to you with care, Senior Jing Luo." The disciples said quickly.

"Ahaha! There's no need for that. You all can keep them. They're just lying around unused with me anyway." Jing Luo waved his hand.

"Really ?" The disciples were stunned.

"Yes, go ahead." Jing Luo confirmed.

"Thank you!" They all said feeling grateful.

Seeing their morales were back up again, Elder Weimin couldn't help but smile.

"Everyone! Let's get to breaking the walls! We have to hurry and find Elder Liqiang!" Elder Weimin ordered.

"YES ELDER!" They said in unison.

~boom~

~thud~

~Crack~

Immediately they started attacking the walls and trying to break them. Still, even if they managed to damage them they couldn't break them as quickly as Lin Mu.

"I'll take the lead and head on first!" Lin Mu said before turning around and beginning his demolition session.

~BOOM~BOOM~BOOM~BOOM~

Chapter 828 - Demolition Man

Lin Mu's fists were like sledgehammers, taking down walls after walls without stopping for even a second. While the others struggled to even put a crack, Lin Mu had already gone over a hundred meters in that time.

The others could only watch on in shock as a trail of debris and broken walls were left behind.

"Are we even needed at this point?" The disciples couldn't help but question.

Jing Luo and Elder Weimin had also ended up stopping after a few minutes upon realizing that their work was not needed at all. Lin Mu was already making circles around them, removing all the walls one after the other.

"This... ~Sigh~ I got excited about nothing..." Jing Luo muttered.

Elder Weimin was simply silent, as he knew there was nothing left for him to say. Lin Mu to him at this point was a great anomaly that probably would not be seen ever again. He could simply watch on as Lin Mu cleared out a path for them.

~boom~

~shing~

~DENG~

Various traps were activated while Lin Mu broke down the walls, but to him, they were easy to avoid. Most of them couldn't even damage him, even if he didn't dodge them. The ones that he needed to dodge were the ones that forced him out of the way or made him fall.

The rest that directly damaged were just borne by the armor of the Mortal Strengthening scripture.

"What do we do now, elder?" The disciples asked.

"What do we do now? We follow him, of course. You should be thankful that he removed all the obstacles." Elder Weimin replied.

"Yes, elder!" They replied in unison before following behind Lin Mu.

By now Lin Mu had gone two hundred meters away from them. He was moving in a spiral, breaking walls around a radius. This way, any hidden places or entrances would be revealed to them.

By now, Lin Mu had understood that the entire place was basically a large labyrinth. Though it didn't make full sense to him, as it didn't serve any particular way to test the people that entered.

This made Lin Mu think that perhaps this wasn't an inheritance ground at all.

"You might be right." Xukong suddenly spoke in Lin Mu's mind.

"You really think so, senior?" Lin Mu asked.

"Yes... while there are some experts who like to be sadistic and keep unnecessarily dangerous obstacles on the path, they are rare and few in between. Not to mention, we already know that many people have already entered this place before." Xukong replied.

"Hmm... they say this place is also the tomb of Expert Kushao. But what if that is not true?" Lin Mu proposed.

"What are you thinking?" Xukong asked.

"With so many mazes, and the disaster in the past, I'm thinking... this might actually be made to keep people away, rather than let them enter." Lin Mu replied.

"Hmm... that could be possible. If it really is a place that prevents others from entering and is securing something, the disaster might have been caused by the people of the sects entering in secret." Xukong agreed.

"If we consider it to be like that, then the question is, what is being hidden inside it? Plus, it also doesn't fully make sense that people thought of this place as an inheritance ground since they did find resources and other fortunes here." Lin Mu spoke.

"That might just have been a misdirection tactic on the end of the creator of this place. One must know that people are bound to discover things at one point, no matter how much they are hidden.

Rather than trying to hide it even more, it is better to disguise it as something else. There may even be some benefit to this place with the people entering it." Xukong explained.

"That might be it, but what could be the benefit that this place gets?" Lin Mu wondered.

"We may be able to figure it out. What else do we know about this place? What do people encounter other than these traps here?" Xukong asked.

"From what I've heard till now, there are supposedly strange beasts living in these ruins called as Kushao beasts. The people who enter it need to kill them to proceed. The beasts are native to this place and aren't found anywhere else.

There are many variants of them too and some are more dangerous than others. I think the strongest ones they've seen are at the Dao Shell realm." Lin Mu replied.

"Strange beasts unique to this place, huh? That does seem peculiar but it is not correct to make assumptions. We'll see if we can find more." Xukong stated.

"Yes senior." Lin Mu said as he continued breaking more and more walls.

And while Lin Mu was doing this, Little Shrubby was doing another task. Lin Mu had secretly told him to keep an eye on the changes in the area. He knew that even if the traps were seen by him, there was still a chance that some might have been missed and were not activated yet.

Little Shrubby had the fastest reaction time of everyone here and would be able to warn them in time. While Jing Luo would be able to help and so would Elder Weimin with their strength, Little Shrubby was still faster.

Lin Mu continued his demolition for about six hours, after which the entire floor was leveled.

~huu~

The disciples took breaths of relief after seeing the wide open floor. Lin Mu came to stand at front and didn't look tired at all. Rather, he looked the same as before and not a single bead of sweat could be seen on his head.

Instead it looked like he had just been relaxing the entire time.

"That man is a monster..." A few disciples whispered.

"And handsome *too*~" A female disciple added.

~shua~

A flickering sound was heard as Lin Mu found the entrance to the next floor.

"So it was located in the center, makes sense. And it's being protected by the same barrier as that of the surface entrance." Lin Mu noted.

Behind Lin Mu, he could see the main entrance of the ruins in the distance. It was still protected by the barrier, and nothing could be seen outside it.

"The others will be rather surprised after entering now," Jing Luo commented.

"They will indeed... thankfully we will be gone by then." Elder Weimin added.

"That'll be for the best. We do not want any extra attention. As long as we are not here, they have nothing to attribute to us." Lin Mu said.

He then walked up to the entrant of the next floor and ripped it open, just like he had done on the surface.

~Crack~

With the barrier torn, everyone quickly descended to the next floor. The next floor was rather deep, and it took them 5 minutes to reach it. But the moment they did, they could feel the aura change.

"Be careful everyone! We are not alone!" Lin Mu spoke.

"More than six hundred beings are here." Little Shrubby informed.

His sense of smell was going crazy and was alarming him about the danger here. Lin Mu's spirit sense also spread around and saw the numerous beasts that were spread around on the floor.

Unlike the first floor, the walls here didn't restrict spirit sense, but the sheer number of beasts made it difficult for normal people to sense other things, as it would distract them too much.

The floor was divided into multiple rooms and halls, and along with the beasts, Lin Mu could feel the presence of other things as well.

'There are certainly plants and spirit herbs growing here...' Lin Mu thought.

Everyone drew out their weapons and was ready to fight.

~step~step~step~

The sound of footsteps could be heard coming from the front. The footsteps were strange, and it felt like whatever was coming was heavy as the sound was deep. The disciples gulped and looked on intently at the front.

Lin Mu, Jing Luo, and Elder Weimin had already seen the beast through.

"What is this thing?" Jing Luo muttered in confusion.

The beast in question looked like a flat beetle but had a pale white exterior. It had a long spined tail that extended from the back and mandibles that were like wide scythes. The most eye catching feature of it was a black and blue crystal that was located on its back.

The Crystal's edges were black but its center was dark blue in color. It was nothing like what Lin Mu had seen before and made him confused. Which was strange as he had read about a lot of strange beasts in the memoirs of the Lost immortal and others that he had read.

"Senior, do you know what they are?" Lin Mu questioned.

"They don't seem like any particular species. What you said about them being native seems to be right. They are probably some normal beasts that were mutated by something and have now proliferated enough to become a dominant species." Xukong answered.

"Mutant beasts huh... if they can continue to grow, that means the mutation was stable and successful..." Lin Mu remembered.

"There is another problem... I cannot estimate its strength." Elder Weimin suddenly spoke.

"What?" the disciples were surprised.

Lin Mu narrowed his eyes and tried to sense the beast in question, only to find that while he could feel its presence and body, he could not find a cultivation base.

"What is this... they have no Dantian?" Lin Mu realized.

Seeing the situation was getting even stranger, everyone became nervous.

Chapter 829 - Testing The Beasts

Lin Mu had not heard of any beast that didn't have a Dantian and was now confused. Xukong on the other hand, narrowed his eyes as something appeared in his mind.

"Could they be... no, that's not possible." Xukong suddenly spoke.

"What's the matter, senior? Do you know something?" Lin Mu questioned.

"That beast... it's similar to a race of creatures that are found in the universe. I mean them having no Dantian and not their appearance." Xukong replied.

"So they can be linked? Did they mutate from that?" Lin Mu asked.

"No, that does not seem possible. Those creatures I'm talking about... they cannot possibly appear in this world. But them having no Dantian seems familiar. Do you see that crystal? That thing is similar to a core that a being can form in the core condensation realm." Xukong explained.

"Hmm... so that means that beast is at the core condensation realm?" Lin Mu asked.

"Not exactly. Those crystals are basically a form of modified vessel that works as a Dantian for them. If you take them out, they should die rather quickly. But I doubt they will be easy to get to." Xukong replied.

"I see... I'll attempt this first." Lin Mu said and in the next moment, he blinked to the top of the beast.

"Huh?" his companions were a bit surprised but then saw Lin Mu thrust a short sword towards the beetle like beast.

~CLANG~

A loud sound was heard and it was like metal hitting metal.

"Damn, its carapace is very strong. Even a high grade spirit sword is unable to pierce through?" Lin Mu was a bit surprised.

He had simply used the force of the sword and had not particularly used his own strength or spirit Qi. This was because Lin Mu wanted to see how the others would fare against the beast.

He was sure that he could kill the beast, but it was more important if the others could do so as well.

~SKEEEEEE!~

The beast let out a strange screeching sound and was angry at seeing Lin Mu hit him. It even sounded a bit hurt, and it was obvious that even if there was no damage on the surface, the beast had definitely been hurt internally by the impact.

Blink!

Lin Mu teleported to the back of the beast and swiped the short sword at the joints of the beast.

~slick~

~thud~

~SKWEEEEEEE~

This time the attack was successful and managed to cut off the tail of the beast. Dark blood splattered from the joint, spilling on the ground.

"So joints are its weak point..." Lin Mu said before he teleported again and let the beast squirm in pain.

~SHING~

~CRACK~

The next moment, his short sword was thrust against the open mouth of the beast. It first struck its mandibles, which were broken and then pierced the interior of its mouth.

"Mouth is another weak point, though the mandibles might be harder for others to get through..." Lin Mu muttered as he flickered and dodged the swipe of the beast's sharp leg.

Appearing above its body, Lin Mu stabbed straight down to the black-blue crystal embedded into its back.

~SHATTER~

The moment Lin Mu's sword hit it, the crystal shattered like glass and scattered around the beast.

~SCREEEEEEE~

The beast thrashed around and squirmed for a few seconds before falling silent, dead.

Lin Mu scanned the beast with his spirit sense one last time to ensure that it truly was dead. He could feel the active aura of the beast fading away, which confirmed it for him that it was dead.

"Truly strange..." Lin Mu muttered to himself.

~shua~?

A few moments later, he could feel the spirit Qi in the area increase.

"Huh? The crystal fragments... they're evaporating?" Lin Mu noted.

The crystal fragments were letting out spirit Qi as they evaporated and also some bluish gas that faded away after a few seconds. Lin Mu tried to sense what the gas was but could not really identify it.

He walked back to everyone that had been observing and spoke.

"I reckon you all know where to attack now?" Lin Mu asked.

"We do senior!" The disciples said in unison.

"Good. And if you want to, you can also try to get the crystal from their bodies. They have spirit Qi in them and can be used for other things as well. Though don't force yourself since the beasts can be strong." Lin Mu advised.

"Yes, senior!" The disciples replied in unison.

With this done, Lin Mu continued to take the lead and walked forward. Jing Luo joined him at the side while Elder Weimin stayed at the very back to ensure they were not ambushed.

"So what else did you learn from that beast?" Jing Luo asked.

He knew that Lin Mu was testing out the beast and probably had picked up on something.

"Those crystals on their backs are the vessel that they used to store spirit Qi and as long as you break them, they will die." Lin Mu replied.

"I see, like a Dantian then... but how do we judge their strength? The disciples may be in trouble if they fight a beast stronger than them." Jing Luo asked.

"I'll be fighting each different of the beasts that we encounter first and judge their strengths. The one that I fought just now was at least at the Nascent soul realm considering its general speed, but the defense is rather high too." Lin Mu replied.

"Hmm... encountering a Nascent soul realm beast right away... its not right." Jing Luo muttered.

"Yeah, I don't think they should have appeared right at the front. From all that we've heard, they only appeared mid way to the next floor. We'll need to be careful since the situation in the ruins has certainly changed since the last time." Lin Mu warned.

"Yes... I'll keep an eye out too." Jing Luo said and went back.

Lin Mu nodded his head and focused on the beasts that were about to just appear.

Chapter 830 - Teaching Experience And A New Finding

~SKREE~SKREEE~SKREEEE~

Several cries were heard all at once and made some of the disciples wince in pain.

"Heavens! They're so horrible!" A female disciple closed her ears with her hands.

"Pay attention, if you keep your hands like that, you won't be able to react as quick." Jing Luo warned.

He knew how important sense was and a small lapse could be the straw that broke the camel's back.

"Y-yes senior!" The female disciple replied.

"Do you know sensory suppression techniques? Use them to reduce your hearing if the screeches are too much for you to bear." Jing Luo added.

"Uh, we... don't know them."

"I know one!"

"I know too!"

"Those that know should teach the others after this fight." Jing Luo stated and focused on the beasts that had just appeared.

~shing~

~thud~

~Crack~

Lin Mu was already fighting the beasts that had appeared. This time there were three beasts and all of them were different from the beetle like beast that had just appeared before having pale white body parts.

The first beast looked like a dog, but had six legs and a long jaw. It had a crystal on the back of its neck but it was black and green in color than black and blue. The beast was also smaller than the beetle beast from before.

The second beast was a long lizard that had the claws of an eagle and the neck of a bird. It had the same black and blue crystal on its back. It was about the same size as that of the beetle beast.

The third beast was the same size as the lizard, but was far more bulky. It looked like a ball of fat and moved around by rolling. It had dense fur on it, that popped out like sharp needles.

Its mouth was on its stomach and had sharp teeth in it. The crystal that it had was located in the middle of its eyes and was black and blue in color as well.

"This dog like beast is far weaker than the one before." Lin Mu said as he easily broke the beast's limbs with a pat of the short sword.

~UWEEEEEE!~

The dog beast let out a cry filled with utter pain. With the loss of its limbs, all it could do was to lie on the ground and twitch now.

"It's equivalent to a core condensation realm beast, I guess..." Lin Mu noted and went to take care of the other beasts.

~swish~

The lizard beast swiped its tail at Lin Mu, but he quickly dodge it with blink while the Fat ball like beast rolled towards Lin Mu, trying to crush him.

~ROAR!~

Before the fat beast could even get close to Lin Mu thought, it was sent flying by a red blur.

~BOOM~

The fat beast exploded into a bloody mess and was now scattered around the wall.

~GRRR!~

Little Shrubby growled as he gave an angry look in the empty corridor. He could see the other beasts that were biding their time and gave them a warning.

Like saying, 'if you try the same thing, this will happen to you.'

~gulp~

The disciples who saw this couldn't help but swallow their saliva. The ease with which Little shrubby had utterly destroyed that beast was stunning to them since even Lin Mu was not doing something like that.

Though they did know that the way Lin Mu was fighting right now was so that they could see the weak points of the beast and had an easier time.

~CRACK~

Lin Mu broke the legs and tail of the lizard as well and left it writhing on the ground.

"All of you can now kill them and see how these beasts are. Test out your strength and judge it for yourself." Lin Mu said as he went ahead.

"Yes, senior!" The disciples said as they quickly got to fighting the now incapacitated beasts.

While they were doing so though, Elder Weimin came to stand beside Jing Luo and spoke.

"Does he have experience with teaching students before?" He asked.

"As far as I know, no." Jing Luo replied.

"You sure he hasn't taken any disciples before?" Elder Weimin asked doubtfully.

"No. He never had the chance... and I don't think he's looking to take any, either. He himself is just learning." Jing Luo replied.

"Hmm... I never would have thought. He does have the skills of a good teacher. He can be a good master if he decides to take disciples of his own." Elder Weimin praised.

"Maybe... but with his personality, I doubt that will happen any time soon. And the burden that he bears is not something that will allow others to come too close to him." Jing Luo stated.

"I see... I'll look forward to his accomplishment in the future. I'll be honored if I can simply be seen as an acquaintance in the future." Elder Weimin said calmly.

"Indeed." Jing Luo nodded his head and thought of his grandfather.

'He truly was wise to befriend Lin Mu. Others would die to have an ally like that...' Jing Luo thought to himself.

While he was doing this, Lin Mu was now surveying the area in the next hall. He was hidden near the ceiling of the roof, in one of the supporting pillars.

"There's way more beasts here..." Lin Mu muttered as he counted over twenty of them.

"Hmm... the disciples should be able to handle some of them. I'll let them fight and take care of the rest." Lin Mu said as he returned to the previous hall.

By now, the disciples had finished killing the two incapacitated beasts and even had the crystals extracted.

"Senior Lin Mu! Look!" Hu Yun held up the crystals.

~shua~

He probed it a bit and spirit Qi started to leak out of the crystal along with the bluish gas as well. He stopped doing that and the spirit Qi stopped as well.

"Huh, so it's like a spirit stone." Lin Mu took note.

He then touched the bluish gas that was close to dissipating in the air and suddenly felt something.

"What?"