

Walker 861

[Chapter 861 - The Intricate Teleportation Array](#)

In the end, Lin Mu could only push it to later for now. He had neither the time nor the luxury to ponder on it as of now, and there were more pushing matters to attend to instead. The situation with the ruins had not been solved yet, and they were all in danger.

"I should check the final room and get to that... eerie thing." Lin Mu muttered before leaving the underground room.

He flew up and came to stand in front of the last room. This room had a door as well, but it was different from all the others he had seen until now. It was certainly not made of the same stone that the rest were made of.

In addition to stone, there were also metal fittings and inlays embedded into the stone, which reinforced it. Lin Mu could even see the fine engravings on the metal parts which showed that these doors were once strengthened further with formations.

Though they had now all but faded away to the annals of time.

~pat~pat~

Lin Mu placed his hands on the two doors and pushed them.

~DENG~

~CREAK~

At first, the sound of something getting struck was heard. It was like metal hitting an edge, but it soon turned into a creaking sound. One thing Lin Mu could tell from this was that the door had been used recently.

"This one was smoother than the others... did Kushao set up the teleportation array in here?" Lin Mu wondered.

A couple of seconds later, the doors were open and Lin Mu could observe the dark insides.

~spark~

Creating another ball of fire, Lin Mu illuminated the area.

The moment that happened, he could see a marvelous scene.

"WHOA!" Lin Mu said out loud.

In front of him was something that was no less than an art piece. Dense and intricate runes carved whichever from the floor to the roof. They were directly engraved into the stone before being filled with special ink to solidify their properties.

~shua~

Lin Mu felt bad stepping on them, so he simply hovered in the air. He lightly touched the wall and the runes came alive.

~HONG~

Some of the runes turned out to be part of an illuminating formation and provided proper lighting in the room. This allowed Lin Mu to see the beauty of the runes properly. It left him speechless, and he could easily say that it was one of the best rune work he had seen till now.

At least if one considered direct engravings and carvings. There were many more intricate ones that were simply built using spirit sense and other materials.

Lin Mu felt a little lost in the carvings and didn't know where to start and where to end it. It had no apparent beginning point and neither was there an end point. As if an unending loop had been formed, one would be helpless to find the center.

"Is this really the teleportation array?" Lin Mu couldn't help but question.

He had seen the teleportation array in the Kong Plane's Nexus and while it was rather complex too, it didn't have as many runes on it. Most of its formations had been directly melded into the structure of the nexus and thus were hard to understand.

"It is indeed a Teleportation array. A very tedious and complex one, but a functional one regardless." Xukong confirmed.

"It's different from the one in Kong Plane." Lin Mu said while looking around.

"Well, there is a difference in the distance needed to cover, not to mention this one does not transport you between different worlds and planes. It simply moves you within a single world.

Theoretically speaking, it is of a lower grade than the one you saw in the Kong Plane, but practically this is not something that will be easy to make. In fact, there would be far more efficient methods of doing this.

Whoever made this certainly had a limited number of options." Xukong said.

Lin Mu's eyes glimmered as he looked at the formation array. But about a minute later, his gaze turned cold.

"We need to get rid of it... if the Northern Tribes really decided to come, they would be taking this array, won't they?" Lin Mu stated.

"Yes, you do need to destroy it. But first, I reckon you should record it in a slip. It will come in handy for you. Some of the runes used in them can help you in spatial manipulation further on." Xukong suggested.

"Alright senior." Lin Mu said before he took out a jade slip.

It was one of the common jade slips that was used to store things like documents, notes, and pictures. One could both record, write and send information if they had the need to do so. Lin Mu had kept

several different jade slips of various capacities so that he could make benefit from them whenever it was needed.

Lin Mu had often recorded the books and documents he had come across in the jade slips. He had several small ones that had long since been filled, and now this formation array was perfect for a new jade slip.

Lin Mu spent about an hour doing this before finally taking a breath of relief.

~pew~

'Even if nothing has happened till now, it felt like everything would disappear like a dream if I blinked.'
Lin Mu thought to himself.

With the teleportation formation array successfully recorded, Lin Mu decided to destroy it. But the moment he raised his hand, the formation reacted as well.

~HUMM~

A triple layered barrier appeared around the walls and the runes protecting them from being so much as scratched. At least before Lin Mu could touch the walls, but now his hands were restricted from going any further.

This made him surprised and prompted him to find the cause of this first. After a few minutes of nothing through, an idea appeared in his mind.

"Hang on... the source of spirit Qi... it needs to be removed. Without it, the formation array would perish.." Xukong chimed in as well.

[Chapter 862 - The Suppressed Beasts That Hold The Ruins](#)

Hearing Senior Xukong's suggestion, Lin Mu decided to do exactly that.

"I have a good hunch where the formation array's spirit Qi source is..." Lin Mu said before he looked towards the other end of the floor.

While it could not be seen directly from here, Lin Mu was dead sure that the runes should definitely link up with other runes in the corridor and then they finally reached the sphere that was located on the other side.

Lin Mu used his spirit sense to check all the runes in this room before finding the layout for the spirit Qi channeling formation that was included in it. Though the moment Lin Mu figured it out, he felt angry.

"Dammit, other than the direct links on the surface, all the rest are hidden and melded with the ruins." Lin Mu said.

While it was not an absolute sign of failure, Lin Mu could still figure out a certain pattern to them and he reckoned if he spent a certain amount of time with them, he will figure them out.

~Sigh~

"Let's see what it really is like on the other side." Lin Mu muttered and moved like the wind through the corridors.

A short while later, he ended up facing the dark blue sphere. Here the uncomfortable aura was many times stronger and he felt the hair on his hand stand up. He chanted the calming heart sutra and wiped away the feeling before taking another look at it.

This time his eyes could perceive the fine runes that joined up with the dark blue sphere, but it seemed more like multilevel clothes. If you wanted to remove one layer, he would have to remove the topmost layer.

While Lin Mu was analyzing the formations and runes, Xukong was focusing on the dark blue sphere.

"Just what is this... A Dao Crystal? Epiphany Crystal or... An Ascendancy crystal." Xukong went through a few options.

Other than the Dao Crystal, Lin Mu had no knowledge about these things. Besides, they were not something Lin Mu could learn at this point in time, either. He had neither the cultivation base nor the basic understanding to learn about them.

Xukong would certainly not let this be known to Lin Mu and didn't think he should burden him with it.

"For a world like this, the options are quite less. Other than those three, nothing makes sense. What could cause some power to seal and hide it away?" Xukong wondered.

Lin Mu spent a few hours doing this and the longer he went, the deeper he fell into the mystery of the formations. He unknowingly started chanting the calming heart sutra as a means to get better focus and found a certain node of the formation that seemed to be the most accessible.

Lin Mu's spirit sense extended at that moment and touched that node. The moment he did that though, he felt a string of memories entering his mind. His vision turned blank before something else had replaced it.

Instead of the fifth floor, Lin Mu found himself what could only be somewhere underground outside of the ruins. But what Lin Mu saw surprised him. Below the ruins, there were thousands if not tens of thousands of beasts hidden.

All of them were seemingly asleep and all of them had a crystal on their bodies. They were faintly absorbing some kind of an energy and growing. The most shocking thing was their cultivation speed.

Lin Mu saw what were just a handful of pill worms turning into a dog sized beast before condensing a crystal in their forehead and continuing to grow into a ferocious beast, the like of which Lin Mu had seen before.

Lin Mu focused on their crystals and could estimate their cultivation bases from them.

'Core condensation, Nascent soul, and Dao Shell realm beasts. Though there is something strange here.' Lin Mu thought to himself.

Continuing his observation, he soon found the biggest beast of them all. It had very Dark Pupils and had a body that was massive. It had a purple core embedded in its head and was emanating a killer aura.

"Dao Treading realm beast!" Lin Mu muttered.

He looked at the other places that were suppressing the beasts and preventing them from waking up as well. Lin Mu's mind traveled wide, and he saw the outer part of the ruins.

The entire ruin was built on top of a pillar of strange beasts. Seeing this, a few thoughts came to Lin Mu.

"Doesn't this mean... the reason why the ruins appear and disappear is due to the beasts? If their numbers increase and reach a certain point, the ruins rise and appear on the surface.

Once the cultivators kill a certain number of beasts, the ruins fall back down. And that Dark Blue sphere... it's the condensed aura and energy that has leaked out from all the beasts this entire time." Lin Mu analyzed.

Having learned this all, Lin Mu felt a bit anxious and knew that he needed to leave this place.

~shua~?

His connection with the formation was severed, and he returned to the real world.

"Did you find something?" Xukong questioned, having sensed the change in Lin Mu.

"Yes, I did senior. Please take a look." Lin Mu answered.

Xukong checked the memories and saw the massive number of beasts being suppressed beaten the ruins. Their aura and energy would leak to the top before being used by the teleportation array and other formations to work.

"It is certainly more than we expected. But our initial hypothesis turned out to be true. This is not an inheritance ground, it is a seal to stop some evil beasts from appearing here." Xukong replied.

"Yes. Guess we need to leave quickly now." Lin Mu said before he moved to the room with the teleportation array.

His gaze was like a sharp knife and it felt like it would cut anything. Lin Mu's spirit sense quickly isolated the formation he needed to sever and in the next second, it was done.

~shua~

~HONG~

Soon, great changes started in and around the ruins.

[Chapter 863 - A Quake](#)

In the camps of the sects above the Kushao ruins, a group of disciples were heading to a tent.

"Elder, may we come in?" One of the disciples spoke.

"Enter," A voice was heard.

The three disciples lifted the flap of the tent and entered it. In there, they could see a relatively simple interior, with a bed, a table, a chair and a mediation pillow. An elder was currently sitting at the table and reading through a jade slip.

His eyes were closed, but his spirit sense was alert.

"What is it?" The elder asked, while keeping his eyes closed.

"Our progress has been steady and we are expecting to be able to enter the ruins by tonight." The leading disciple spoke.

Hearing this, the elder opened his eyes and gazed at the disciples.

"And the normal opening of the ruins?" the elder asked next.

"We think it might open tomorrow." A second disciple replied.

"Hmm... so we get a day's lead... good! That will be enough for us to gain an advantage." The elder said with a smile.

"Shall we inform the others to get ready?" The leading disciple asked.

"Hmm, get our sect disciples ready first. We will inform the allies an hour before we go." The elder said in a sly tone.

The disciples understood his meaning and cupped their hands in greeting before turning around to leave.

~RUMBLE~

But just as they were stepping out of the tent, the ground started to shake. The sand around the ruins rippled, and it looked like a calamity was about to happen.

"EARTHQUAKE!"

"GATHER UP! GATHER UP!"

People became startled by the sudden phenomenon and tried to save themselves. Thankfully, this was a desert and there weren't really things that could fall on them and hurt them.

Plus, the sand below them could act as a cushion too. But that was if there was no danger underneath them.

~SHUA~

~SWOOSH~

"AHH! SAVE ME!" A couple of disciples shouted as they started to sink into the sand.

They were merely in the Qi refining realm and thus could not fly up directly. Plus the area that was sinking was rather vast and did not allow them to escape in time.

"All disciples are to fly up! Don't stay on land!" The elders swiftly gave out their orders. "Those that can fly are to rescue the ones stuck!"

~shing~ shing~

Various spirit tools appeared in the air as people were rescued from the sinking sand.

The elder sitting in the tent furrowed his brows and waved his hand.

~HONG~

A wave of energy spread from his hand and the tent was ripped open with ease. The wave of energy spread in an area of two hundred meters around him and covered the people that were present there.

He then stretched his right hand forward and brought the index and middle fingers together before curling them upwards.

"RISE!" He ordered.

The moment he said that, pillars of sand rose up below each person that was covered with his energy and was raised to the sky. The elder then stepped onto the air and rose up to take a look around.

Several more such elders appeared in the sky as well and were looking for the cause behind this occurrence. Thankfully, under their supervision, no one had died yet.

"Elder Xieyan!" A middle aged man approached the elder.

"Elder Ren," Elder Xieyan acknowledged him.

"There seem to be some strange things happening at the ruins. You wouldn't happen to know why, would you?" Elder Ren questioned.

"Oh? What are you implying, Elder Ren?" The old man asked.

"I'm not implying anything. I just know that the Sky Precepts sect has the highest chance of unraveling the formation array of the ruins. Thus if anything happened, you are likely to know more." Elder Ren stated.

"Hmm... has the Rainbow pill sect started to dabble in Divination arts too? You have started to predict things now..." Elder Xieyan replied in a straight tone.

His expression was calm as well, but the aura coming from him was a bit turbulent. Elder Ren secretly clenched his fist, but held his ground.

"Regardless, I think this will be a bit of a problem. If the sand has started sinking, it means there are hollow areas underground. Or the quake has shifted things. We don't know how the ruins will be affected." Elder Ren said, trying to change the topic.

Elder Xieyan stayed silent and simply nodded his head.

"Just be ready to act... we might not have enough time this cycle." Elder Xieyan said after a few seconds.

"Of course." Elder Ren replied.

While the people on the surface were somewhat panicking, the same was happening on the fourth floor of the ruins.

"What do we do, Elder Weimin!?" one of the disciples called out anxiously.

Unlike the surface, the floor here was shaking even more intently. They could see runes flickering on the walls and roof, seemingly getting unstable by the second.

"Where is Lin Mu?" Jing Luo asked Little Shrubby.

He knew that something had happened and it was not a good situation for them.

~GRRR~

Little Shrubby gestured towards the floor.

"What?" Jing Luo did not fully understand it.

Little Shrubby furrows his eyes and then thought of an idea.

~SHUA~

In the next second, a stream of fire shot out of his mouth. He aimed it like a circle around him and created a ten meter wide area. Elder Weimin and the rest saw it and were confused, but Jing Luo got the clue.

He looked toward the disciples and shouted, "Everyone, get away from the circle!"

The disciples that were there didn't question it and quickly moved away. Just two seconds after they did that, an explosion happened.

~KABOOM~

It was as if a ribbon of fire had just erupted from the floor. It was blazing hot and melted the floor and the roof above like it was wax. Red hot molten stone dripped down as the formations reinforcing them broke apart.

The disciples were left with their jaws hanging, and Elder Weimin made a gesture with his fingers.

~Woo~woo~woo~

The disciples that were about to get pelted with debris were quickly yanked away and protected from getting injured.

~BOOM~BOOM~BOOM~

The flaming ribbon pierced through the roof and reached the third floor, before continuing onwards to the second one. It continued doing that until it pieced all the way out of the ruins.

~WEENG~

A figure floated up from the hole that had just been created and pulled everyone's attention.

"Come on! We have to leave right this instance! This place won't last long!" Lin Mu shouted.

The disciples were quick in response and took out their respective spirit weapons and got onto them. Elder Weimin stayed at the back while Jing Luo joined up with Lin Mu at the front.

The group then ascended and left the ruins through the hole that Lin Mu had just made. He didn't even stop for a second there and quickly headed towards the boundary of the ruins.

Blink!

Lin Mu had a stern expression on his face as he used blink consecutively and reached the barrier before the others.

~CRACK~

He clenched his fist and punched out, shattering the barrier and opening a hole for them to pass through. It was much easier for him than before, as the formations had gotten weaker now.

'Severing the power was enough to weaken the formation arrays by at least 50%.' Lin Mu estimated.

With this done, he turned around to look at the rest that were still on their way here.

"Don't stop! Continue on and keep on heading straight! We have to get away as far as possible. Don't stop even if the other sects or cultivators try to speak." Lin Mu ordered.

"YES SENIOR!" The disciples replied promptly.

Jing Luo gave a nod to them and guided them out of the barrier. His spirit sense spread around and was keeping track of everything that approached them. A few seconds later, all the disciples were out and so was Elder Weimin.

Lin Mu started flying forward again and Elder Weimin came to fly beside him.

"What's exactly happening?" He questioned.

"Beasts! Hundreds of thousands of beasts. Perhaps even in the millions! I may have made a mistake with a formation array." Lin Mu replied.

He knew that while he had severed the power source to the teleportation array, it had also caused the seal on the strange beasts to get a bit weaker. Lin Mu only found that out after he did that, thus he had no chance but to rush out.

Lin Mu had hoped something like this would not happen and that his mistake would now be causing a lot of problems for everyone.

"What about the teleportation formation? Is it gone?" Elder Weimin questioned.

"Yeah, that is destroyed. But there were a lot of beasts sealed underneath the ruins, they have now been released." Lin Mu answered.

Elder Weimin furrowed his brows and let his spirit sense reach the ruins again. They were still close enough that his spirit sense tendril could reach the very bottom of the ruins.

With the hope that Lin Mu had made and the weakened formation array,s there was nothing that could fully restrain his spirit sense anymore.

The moment his spirit sense reached the bottom of the ruins where Lin Mu was before, his eyes went wide. He quickly reeled in his spirit sense as a horrified expression appeared on his face.

"This... how do we stop this?"

[Chapter 864 - Two Elders](#)

In the scope of Lin Mu's spirit sense, he could see hundreds if not thousands of beasts bursting out of the seal. Thankfully, the seal was not fully broken, so not all of them had been released all at once.

But the ones that were being released were still more than Lin Mu had killed in the entire ruins till now. He and the team kept on running away and five minutes quickly passed.

"Is this far enough? We need to halt and asses our situation. Plus, I don't think the disciples can keep up such speed any longer." Jing Luo spoke up.

Lin Mu checked up on the disciples and saw that the ones that were in the core condensation realm were already showing signs of being tired. It was normal since they had covered a long distance in a very short time.

It was fine for Lin Mu to be able to keep up that speed in the core condensation realm, but the same could not be expected for the disciples. Even with their spirit tools, it was difficult for them to fly for extended periods of times and would be taxing on their spirit Qi.

"All disciples are to quickly replenish their spirit Qi. Use as many spirit stones as you have to!" Elder Weimin quickly ordered, knowing the situation.

"The beasts will be pouring out in droves soon enough." Lin Mu informed.

"What do we do now?" Elder Weimin questioned.

Lin Mu furrowed his brows and considered the different possibilities that might happen.

~BOOM~

But just as he was doing that, he heard a loud explosions happening in the distance. Narrowing his eyes, he could see a black dot speedily approaching the ruins.

"A Dao Shell realm cultivator?" Lin Mu sensed.

He could also tell that this person was strong and was at least at the shell completion stage of the Dao Shell realm, if not higher. The man seemingly used some technique and a large red sword appeared in the sky.

~Crackle~

Everyone could hear the sharp sound of embers crackling.

"Ember Dawn Blade! That's a technique of the Centennial Sword Sect!" Elder Weimin recognized.

Lin Mu furrowed his brows upon seeing this, but at the same time felt a bit relieved.

"As long as they don't discover us, we might not have to do anything." Lin Mu muttered.

~ZING~

The Dao Shell realm cultivator from the Centennial sword sect weaved his fingers in the air and the large red sword followed its path.

~BOOM~

The sword lights shot out of the large red blade and created explosions that destroyed the ruins. But at the same time, another sound was heard.

~SKREEE!!!~

The screeching sound of a beast could be heard coming from the depths of the ruins.

~RUMBLE~

The ruins burst open as a large beast flew out of it. It had a navy blue crystal on its neck and looked like a monkey with white scaly skin and long fingers that looked like tentacles.

"A Dao Shell realm one..." Elder Weimin also recognized.

The beast and the man facing it started to fight and soon a battle ensued. The large red sword waved through the air and slashed at the monkey beast, but was unable to do much damage.

The beast's scales were far too strong and could easily withstand the very attacks that had broken through the ground. It was something that would stun the other sects if they ever saw it.

The Ember Dawn Blade was one of the top five techniques of the centennial sword sect and was very strong. The average Dao Shell realm beast or cultivator would be split apart with even one of its attacks.

The Dao Shell realm cultivator furrowed his brows and realized that the beast in front of him was different from the others that they had information about. While they knew about the crystal and the peculiarity of the beasts, the toughness of this beast was still beyond their expectations.

"Humph! It's just a matter of attempts. If one doesn't work, I'll do hundreds!" The man said before slashing out many more times.

The attacks were very fast and the ape beast was unable to fully keep up with them. After about a minute, the man finally managed to make the very first injury on the ape.

~SKREEE!~

The beast cried out in pain as one of its legs was chopped off.

The man smiled seeing this and spoke, "so I just need to focus on a single part till it's cut off!"

The beast became angry in pain and started to rampage, attacking randomly.

~RUMBLE~

While the elder of the centennial sword sect was busy in dealing with the monkey beast, the ground started to shake again.

~kijij~

~ziziziziz~

Various sounds could be heard, as the ruins were broken even more.

~thud~thud~thud~

Soon, hundreds of different beasts came out of the debris. They were covered in blue black blood and some body parts of other beasts could also be seen sticking to their bodies. It was as if they had dug their way out of a pile of corpses.

"Humph! So there were more of them there?" The Elder said.

"Violet Myrtle Drop!" Another voice was heard coming from the back as a second person appeared.

This was a middle aged man and held a small cup in his hand. Above that cup, a small drop of liquid was floating. It was violet in color and looked rather vibrant. The man looked at the beast with a lofty gaze and poured the cup towards them.

The violet drop flew out of the cup and started to fall towards them. There was no sound made from it, but even then, the pressure exuding from the drop was different. Even Lin Mu could feel the strangeness that made him wrinkle his brows.

~splat~

The drop finally struck the ground in the middle of the beasts and showed its power.

~FIZZ~

Almost immediately, it started to spread and covered all the beasts.. In the next second, the beasts started to melt and disappeared within thirty seconds.

[Chapter 865 - Decisive Retreat](#)

Seeing the entire series of events, Lin Mu was stunned.

"How's that little drop so powerful? Is it a poison?" Lin Mu couldn't help but say.

"That's the Violet Myrtle Drop, one of the more... unorthodox techniques of the Rainbow pill sect. Its said that it can melt flesh and metal like it was wax and takes years to refine." Elder Weimin explained.

Lin Mu had not heard of a technique like this and was intrigued by it. It was a very powerful one, as could be seen and he was certainly interested in it. Not only for his own but also because there was always a chance that he might have to go against it someday.

The best option was to know the enemy and their skills so that Lin Mu would be able to overcome them.

Back at the ruins, after the beasts were melted away, the man looked at the Centennial sword sect elder.

"Elder Kijian's Ember Dawn sword is certainly as impressive as I've heard." Elder Ren praised.

"Hmm... I could say likewise for your Violets Myrtle Drop too, Elder Ren. Though... was this the right time to use it? Wasn't this a waste of it?" Elder Kijian replied.

"Haha, I know what you mean. But no... I don't have the same restrictions as others." Elder Ren said before he stretched out the hand that held the cup.

He made a scooping gesture with the cup and the liquid that had spread all around started to gather.

~SHUA~

It rushed towards a single point and condensed back into a single violet colored drop. It then rose up into the sky and went back into the same position it was at in the cup.

"Oh? You already reached that stage?" Elder Kijian was surprised.

"It's just some tricks. You don't have to worry about it, elder Kijian." Elder Ren chuckled before putting away the cup.

Elder Kijian narrowed his eyes at the hypocrisy, but decided it was not worth talking to the man any longer. Instead of that, he observed the area around them and felt more auras appearing from the depths.

"Are the other elders done yet?" Elder Kijian questioned with a frown.

"They should be soon. The beasts that appeared around the camp are already being taken care of. The disciples will have retreated soon enough." Elder Ren replied.

"Mmm... we will have more to fight. I doubt it will be enough for just the two of us." Elder Kijian said frankly.

Hearing this, Elder Ren raised his brows. His spirit sense was slightly inferior to that of Elder Kijian but even then he could let it reach the depths of the ruins. When it finally reached the fifth floor that was now fully revealed, his expression changed.

"Looks like this is not an inheritance ground anymore. The destruction within it was way beyond what we imagined. There is no distinction between floors now. Plus, the beasts make it impossible to proceed, anyway." Elder Ren spoke.

"We will take out the stronger beasts and let the disciples handle the rest. That will have to suffice for their training this time around." Elder Kijian replied.

"The Centennial sword sect seems to have benefited this time. These kinds of situations are just perfect for your style of training." Elder Ren said as he withdrew a pair of fans from his spatial storage bracelet.

The fans were folded and were about a meter long in lengths when closed. There were fine runes carved on it as well and a strong spirit Qi fluctuation could be felt coming from it.

Even Lin Mu could sense it from here.

"A High grade spirit tool? No... it's almost at the peak grade." Lin Mu assessed.

"It can reach peak grade as long as a few more improvements are made to it." Jing Luo added.

Seeing that there was an elder of the Rainbow pill sect with such a spirit tool, Lin Mu was sure that the current situation was a bit more different from what he thought.

'With so many strong people, these beasts might really be manageable.' Lin Mu thought to himself.

But this also made him understand that he wouldn't need to deal with the beasts on his own.

At this point, he made up his mind.

"We shall leave now!" Lin Mu stated.

"Are all disciples ready?" Elder Weimin asked.

"Yes Elders!" The disciples replied.

"GOOD! We shall leave upon the next order." Elder Weimin declared.

Jing Luo looked at Lin Mu and asked, "you sure about this?"

"Yes, with all the sects here, I don't think we need to involve ourselves. Plus, this will give us an advantage. While the sects control the situation here, we can be done with our work at the Noon Grass sect as well." Lin Mu replied before looking at a certain old woman.

"Plus... we have her to get more information from as well." Lin Mu pointed towards Ku Waowen, that was tied to a pole and was being carried by two disciples.

Elder Weimin had used a rope spirit tool that could restrain the power of a cultivator as well as their movement ability on her. This way, there was next to no chance of her escaping.

Ku Waowen was still asleep, as Elder Weimin could not get any answers from here while she was unconscious. He did want to wake her up to get some answers, but could not do so due to the rapid change in the situation.

"We will be able to get Elder Liqiang to the sect to recover faster this way as well." Elder Weimin added.

"Very well." Lin Mu said before turning to look at the disciple.

"We shall head to the noon grass sect and won't stop till we reach it. Everyone is to watch their backs and their companions' backs. Make sure that both of you are safe and in a good condition." Lin Mu gave out an ordered.

"YES SENIOR!" The disciples replied in unison.

With this done, everyone left for the Noon Grass sect with Elder Weimin leading them at the front this time.

[Chapter 866 - Entering The Noon Grass Sect](#)

Lin Mu and the rest traveled non stop to the Noon Grass sect and finally reached it after two days.

~huu~

Lin Mu came to a stop at a small hill and looked at the sect in front of him. Similar to a lot of other sects, the noon grass sect was primarily built on top of mountains, but these were not natural mountains.

It was said that the founder of the Noon Grass sect started with a single mountain that he built upon a spirit stone mine with the use of a great Earth technique called as Mountain Raising Scripture.

With that single mountain, came into existence one of the top ten sects, The Noon Grass sect. From there on, the number of mountains increased and it finally reached the current thirteen peaks.

Though from these thirteen peaks, only five of them were official peaks where elders and other sect buildings were located. The rest of the peaks were used as a residences for the disciples and for other purposes such as spirit herb gardens and farms.

There were also beast farms built to raise special beasts that could be used for various uses in multiple fields.

Plus unlike the other top sects, the noon grass sect didn't really have a formal entrance test. And neither did it formally recruit disciples at regular time periods. Instead, the disciples were all either picked by the elders when they went out or they were brought in by the disciples.

The sect still had the right to reject the candidates, of course, but it was something that seldom happened. The Noon Grass sect was the most secluded of all the top ten sects and rarely participated in events that happened in the secular world, or even among the other sects.

Only when they were officially sent messages and requests would they appear. Having them to voluntarily appear for events was a matter of luck.

This was mostly due to the philosophy that the sect propagated among their members of keeping to themselves and focusing on self improvement without caring for the opinion of others.

"We're finally here!" Lin Mu said out loud.

"This is our Noon Grass sect and its thirteen peaks." Elder Weimin introduced.

Lin Mu looked around and got a sense of the area. He could feel the spirit Qi in the air being slightly higher than normal, but it was barely 30% of what was in the Kong Plane. He could also feel a dense life aura around the entire sect.

Not only that, but the more he focused on the south, the greater life he could feel there.

'This is truly a marvelous place. The southern forest is right beyond the sect, so the vital energy fluctuation in the region is quite strong too. It quite the opposite of the desert we were in earlier...' Lin Mu thought to himself.

"Come on, I'll take you to the main peak. The disciples who are not assigned duties right now will return to their respective posts." Elder Weimin stated.

Lin Mu nodded his head and followed behind Elder Weimin as he brought them to the main peak of the Noon Grass sect. The main peak was located far from where they were standing and was closest to the great Southern forest.

"So this is where the boundary between the former Central Continent and the Southern continent exists." Lin Mu muttered to himself.

He had long since been curious about the former continents and had been learning about them. This was his first time entering an area that was not originally part of the Central continent.

While flying over the sect, Lin Mu could see the various paths that were paved with unique rocks of the area. They were pockmarked and looked rather strange. But when many of them were put together, they gave off a rather calming vibe.

Lin Mu could see the winding paths forming a rather harmonious pattern around the peaks. It was as if they were in tune with the heavens, and the Feng Shui of the area was optimum.

He could even feel the change in his mind just by being here.

"This is different..." Lin Mu said, seeing the changes.

"Haha, new guests do feel like this whenever they visit our sect. The paths and various buildings you are seeing below are all in the form of a giant formation array. It is called as the Earthly Harmony Formation Array." Elder Weimin explained.

Lin Mu raised his brows upon hearing this. He had learned about the Earthly Harmony formation array and knew that it was one of the Formation arrays belonging to the rare category of Mental enhancement formations.

They were relatively complex to set up and often needed perfect areas to create them.

'Since the sect was made artificially, it makes sense that they could use this formation array.' Lin Mu thought to himself.

Usually, a cultivation sect would prefer to set a spirit Qi gathering formation array in the interior of the sect so that they could increase the concentration of spirit Qi in the sect. But the Noon Grass sect did not do the same.

Rather than that, they followed their unique philosophy and chose to set this array that could help the disciples improve their mental fortitude and temperament. One must know that it was one of the most important things that a cultivator needed to have.

After all, a cultivator with a weak temperament and fortitude might not even be able to reach the Core condensation realm. The higher they went, the better patience and fortitude they needed.

Not only would it keep them on the right path, but it would also prevent them from having mental demons, or perhaps even heart demons.

In the middle of the sect, Lin Mu could see a thin but very noticeable demarcation line that was made with a dark black rock.

"What's that?" Lin Mu pointed.

"That is the true boundary of the Central and Southern Continents. The Noon Grass sect is the only one that exists in two former continents at the same time and since they have different geomancies, we use this line to mark that.." Elder Weimin answered.

[Chapter 867 - Supreme Elder Hua Langya](#)

Lin Mu knew that geomancy was an important aspect in the setting of large-scale formation arrays. He had not yet done any progress on that aspect simply due to the fact that he had not gotten to setting any of them himself.

While he had indeed manipulated and changed them, he had not created them from the start. And since Geomancy was something that needed practical experience in order to learn it, Lin Mu had no proficiency with it yet.

Thus, he was interested in the demarcation that was made in the sect. After crossing over to the next side, Lin Mu could feel the change in the aura as well and faintly sensed the flow of energy in the environment.

'It is certainly different.' Lin Mu took note.

The border soon passed, and Lin Mu arrived at the main peak. The main peak was rather empty looking and no one could be seen on it.

"Is this place like this most of the time?" Lin Mu asked, remembering how the other peaks of the sects were.

"The main peak only has the sect patriarch, his personal disciples, and the supreme elder residing on it. The other members of the sect only go there when summoned or if they need to ask something.

Plus, our sect is very vast and has a lot of space with proportionately fewer disciples. The disciples get a lot of space for them to live privately; the largest in any of the top sects." Elder Weimin explained, with the last part being said proudly.

"Ah, I see." Lin Mu responded, but then thought of something.

"But if Patriarch is not at the sect, who are we going to talk to here?" Lin Mu questioned.

"The supreme elder of course." Elder Weimin answered.

"Huh? Has he recovered already?" Lin Mu asked, raising his brows.

"He still has a while to recover fully, but this should not be a problem for him. After all, he can still deal with the sect matters relating to the normal decisions since he doesn't need his cultivation for it.

While the sect patriarch is out, the supreme elder is the in charge." Elder Weimin replied.

Lin Mu could only nod his head in response and head into the large hall that was located at the top of the mountain. It was rather peculiar looking since it hung off a cliff and half of it was suspended in the air.

Lin Mu entered the building under the supervision of Elder Weimin and was quickly brought to an inner room. This was not the central area where all the matters were discussed, but rather a separate room in it.

"The Supreme elder resides in his own residence in the hall. Plus, since he's injured, the room is especially conducive to healing." Elder Weimin spoke.

"That's rather good." Lin Mu said and finally came to stand in front of the door.

Jing Luo looked at Lin Mu and nodded at him in assurance.

"Please come in," A voice came from inside, before Lin Mu even got the chance to say anything.

"We are coming in, Supreme elder." Elder Weimin said as a formality before opening the doors.

The two doors slid apart and the interior was revealed. In there, Lin Mu could see a few formations that were painted onto the floor and were lightly glowing. They let out very faint vibrations that were hard to sense normally.

But coming into contact with them, Lin Mu could feel some of his injuries healing faster.

'This is better than I thought. I need to take note of this.' Lin Mu thought.

"It won't really do you much benefit though." Xukong suddenly spoke.

"Huh? What do you mean, senior? It seems to be working pretty well." Lin Mu replied.

"It is for now, yes, but the healing will only be temporary and for your surface wounds. For normal cultivators, this would be very good, but for you who has the Xiantian physique and body cultivation of two treasured organs, it would barely make a dent." Xukong explained.

Hearing this, Lin Mu understood.

"So in simple terms... I'm beyond the capabilities of the formation." Lin Mu muttered.

"Yes... at least for a formation of this level. There are other healing formations that will be effective on you of course." Xukong replied.

Lin Mu hummed in agreement and finally gazed upon the man who was sitting on a mediation pillow in the back of the room. He rested his back against a bolster and had his eyes closed.

In his hands, a set of beads could be seen. He was rolling the beads between his thumb and index finger, as if praying. The man opened his eyes and gazed at the youthful face of Lin Mu.

"Greetings, Junior Lin Mu. I have been wanting to meet you for a long time now." The supreme elder spoke.

"Greetings, Supreme elder. It is nice to finally meet you too." Lin Mu replied.

"No, no... the pleasure is all mine. I am very grateful to you and owe you my life. After all, if it were not for you, Hua San and Hua Wu might have never found thousand year old Hong Lin trees.

If I am alive here today, it is because of you." The supreme elder spoke.

He then stood up and cupped his hands before bowing his head. Seeing this, Lin Mu was rather surprised and the eyes of the disciples that had accompanied them went wide.

"This... there is no need for this," Lin Mu wanted to stop the elder.

"No... this old man named Hua Langya will forever be grateful to you." The supreme elder said.

Jing Luo lightly patted Lin Mu on the back and gestured him to go ahead.

"Please stand up Supreme Elder Langya, this is enough." Lin Mu said, finding it a bit overwhelming for him.

The old man finally accepted and stood back up normally.

"Please sit, we shall talk about what happened." The old man gestured.

A pair of disciples rushed in at this point and quickly set up the pillows for everyone to sit in the room.. It was all very efficient.

[Chapter 868 - Elder Liqiang Wakes Up!](#)

Lin Mu and Elder Hua Langya's conversation lasted a long time. A day passed by and they didn't even realize it.

~CHIME~

The sound of light bells could be heard all of a sudden and pulled the attention of Lin Mu, who had been speaking.

"Huh?" Lin Mu's ears perked up.

~CREAK~

The door of the room opened and an old woman entered. She was wearing the robes of an elder and seemed to be in her fifties.

"Elder Yi? What's the matter?" Hua Langya questioned.

"Elder Liqiang has finally woken up." She answered.

Hearing this, everyone's eyes lit up. Elder Liqiang had been carried over to the alchemy peak to be taken care of. He was being personally being taken care of by the elders there to ensure that there was no problem with him.

"GOOD! We shall all head over." Hua Langya stated.

"Yes, let's go! I have some questions to ask him too." Lin Mu spoke.

"We shall go back elder, I don't think it would be appropriate for us to disturb Elder Liqiang." The disciples who had been sitting at the back spoke.

"Very well. Your part here is done, anyway. You can return." Hua Langya dismissed them.

The only reason they had been asked to stay back was that the elder wanted to assess their experiences along with the second perspective of events that would come from the disciples.

After all, no matter how insightful Lin Mu, Jing Luo and Elder Weimin were, there were bound to be things that they may have missed, but others might not have. Thus, these disciples were here for that reason.

But in the time that Lin Mu had spoken, almost all the events were discussed and there was no use for them. Plus, it would not be appropriate for them to be in the presence of the injured elder either.

The now smaller group left for the alchemy peak and arrived there in a few minutes. Usually, guests would not be brought this easily to the alchemy peak, as it was a rather sensitive area, but considering Lin Mu's identity, there was no issue now.

Plus, Elder Hua Langya had talked and listened to Lin Mu enough that he was convinced of him and fully approved of his leadership. The most he was impressed with was Lin Mu's strength that was beyond that of a normal cultivator of the same level.

The old woman came to a stop in front of a building that was built from white and grey stones. There was a board that was hung on top of it which read: Healing Hall.

"Unlock!" Elder Yi chanted.

~shua~

A few formations appeared in the air for a moment before disappearing.

"We can proceed now," she said and they could finally enter.

'Guess they have higher security here due to the injured people.' Lin Mu thought.

It was made this way since they could not protect themselves easily on the off chance that someone infiltrated the sect. This way the enemies would not be able to target the patients.

It was a smart choice according to Lin Mu and he approved of the caution, especially since there was someone like Gu Yao who could control people. In that way, they wouldn't even have to infiltrate the sect and simply needed to control someone from the sect itself.

Lin Mu and elder Hua Langya were quickly brought to the room where Elder Liqiang was recovering.

~Creak~

The door of the hall opened, and Lin Mu could see a faint smoke in the room. It was rising from the four censurs that were placed in the four corners of the room. The smoke that they let off was lightly aromatic and had a calming effect on the mind.

"Spirit Rose Frankincense?" Lin Mu recognized what was being burned.

He recalled that it was a special type of Frankincense that was made from the sprint Rosewood that grew only in the Great Southern Forest. It had the effect of calming the mind and promoting spirit Qi harmony in the body.

It was in fact similar to the formation array that was in the supreme elder's room, but was far more effective. Though it was also limited by the amount of Spirit Rose Frankincense that was used and could not be activated indefinitely like the formation array.

Elder Liqiang was currently resting on a bed and had his back against a triangular pills that supported it. It was reclined at a 45% angle and allowed him to look at everyone with far more comfort.

"Greetings, Elder Liqiang!" Lin Mu said out loud with a smile.

Elder Liqiang similarly smiled and cupped his hands in greeting.

"Allow me to offer you, my gratitude Brother Lin Mu," Elder Liqiang said, changing the designation he used.

He also bowed at the same time and raised his hands in a salute above his head.

"No need for that, Elder Liqiang. I simply fulfilled my duty as an ally." Lin Mu stated.

"No, you went above and beyond what was needed of you. Even if you never came, it would have been reasonable. After all, you were treading in uncharted territory and had no compulsion to enter a dangerous situation.

Yet even then you chose to come to help me out and save me. For this, I will be eternally grateful." Elder Liqiang said with pure gratitude in his eyes.

Lin Mu could only nod and accept the words as he knew that saying anything else would be insulting the trust that the man had showed in him.

"While the thanks are good, we still need to know the entire story behind your capture. So... tell us what happened." Elder Hua Langya interrupted.

"Ah yes! How did you end up in the Ruins Elder Liqiang?" Lin Mu questioned.

~Sigh~

Hearing this, Elder could only sigh.

"It was a series of unfortunate events." Elder Liqiang replied.

"I can imagine," Lin Mu nodded his head in agreement.

All that they had come across could only be explained by luck at this point.

[Chapter 869 - The Unfortunate Events And Elder Liqiang's Decisiveness](#)

~gulp~

Elder Liqiang drank some water from the cup that was kept on the side of his bed and let out a breath.

~huu~

"It was all going well according to our plan, and I was heading back to the sect, but when I entered the Broken Sand Desert, I sensed a few people flying across the sky at great speed.

If it were not for the special detection spirit tools I had for the installing of the teleportation gate, I would have never even found those people. Since the tool was sensitive to spatial fluctuations, it sensed the people that were hiding under an invisibility formation array.

Finding it very suspicious, I followed the signals and soon reached an empty area. But there I found myself trapped in a bewildering formation array. I couldn't even tell how or when it surrounded me and I was lost.

After trying to escape it for a few minutes, I was forcefully pulled to the inside of the Kushao ruins. I was confused at first, but seeing the strange beasts in the ruins, I realized where I was.

I was fighting the beasts when I was discovered by the people of the Northern Tribes. They managed to overwhelm me with a sneak attack and trapped me. Seeing that I was an elder of the Noon Grass sect, they tried to extract information about our sect.

To me, it seemed like their goal was to infiltrate the sect. And hearing what Gu Yao could do reminded me of the level of threat we would face if she found out about the location of the sect.

They might ambush some disciple or elder when they leave the sect and then use them to infiltrate the sect. It would be a simple yet effective strategy considering the ability of Gu Yao." Elder Liqiang answered.

Hearing all this, Lin Mu and the Supreme elder couldn't help but frown.

"For them to be able to hide their presence that well, it's surely a spirit tool at the Peak grade or a special talisman." Supreme Elder Hua Langya suddenly spoke.

Lin Mu found it to be strange as well as he knew the spirit tool made by Jing Luo were used to find a good place with stable spatial fabric. If the teleportation gate was built in an area with unstable space, it would either not work or break upon use.

That was the entire reason why Jing Luo had made that spirit tool.

"What happened after you got trapped?" Lin Mu asked.

"Hmm, well they beat me up and tortured me, trying to gain information, but I did not give in. After a few attempts, they realized that they could take another approach. Thus, that old witch tried to steal my spatial storage ring!" Elder Liqiang spat out with fury.

"I knew that if I was fully restrained and unable to move, the ring would be as good as lost.

But at the same time, it contained the components for the teleportation gate, as well as our sensitive information. I could not let it fall into the hands of the enemy and thus I destroyed my spatial storage ring." Elder Liqiang answered.

Hearing this Lin Mu's face became serious. He knew that destroying a spatial storage treasure of any kind in this world was a difficult thing and would definitely cause pain to someone who wasn't used to dealing with formations and high grade spirit tools.

Not only that, but if a mistake was made during the process, the spatial storage ring might self implode and tear the fabric of space around it. That was a situation that had occurred many times in the past, with most times being very disastrous.

The destruction of the spatial fabric was the same as a great calamity and could cause damage to almost any cultivator if they were not prepared or knowledgeable about them. For most people, it would just be dead as they would be reduced to pieces.

Lin Mu couldn't help but be reminded of the massive spatial tears caused due to the destruction of a spatial storage tool he had read about in the Lost Immortal's memoirs.

Not only that, but even Elder Xukong had specifically told Lin Mu to be safe from things like that. As even if Lin Mu could control them with relative ease, there were still many faces of danger he could not fight with against at this time.

"I see... so the components for the Teleportation are gone?" Jing Luo asked.

Since he was the one who had made them all, he was a bit disappointed.

"Yes. Since the ring was self-destructed by me, the items should forever be lost in some fragment of space." Elder Liqiang replied.

It was at this time that Lin Mu spoke up.

"Not necessarily!" he said out loud.

"Oh? What do you mean, brother Lin Mu?" Elder Liqiang questioned.

The supreme elder also wanted to know what Lin Mu was up to and looked on with interest.

"Do you have any fragments or leftovers from the spatial storage ring that you destroyed?" Lin Mu asked instead.

"Hmm..." Elder Liqiang furrowed his brows.

~Creak~

He then extended his hand to a side table and opened its drawer. In there, a bunch of things could be seen. This included a set of tattered robes and ornaments along with a few small metal fragments.

"I have this. The broken ring itself, I managed to keep some of its fragments even after it shattered." Elder Liqiang answered.

"Perfect!" Lin Mu exclaimed, confusing the people in the room.

"What... do you mean?" Supreme elder couldn't help but question.

"Well, we might not have to worry about the Teleportation Gate and its components. And neither will Elder Liqiang have to worry about the other things of his spatial storage ring.

"I can bring back the items." Lin Mu said, absolutely shocking them.

"WHAT!?" Elder Liqiang and Hua Langya were shocked.

"Yes. I just need the broken parts and some time. Once I have that, I will be able to retrieve the lost object.." Lin Mu stated with confidence.

[Chapter 870 - Retrieving The Lost Items](#)

Lin Mu knew that retrieving lost objects from the minor void was a relatively easy task for him. Though for almost all others, it might be an impossible task depending on how long or where the object was lost.

Usually, the destruction of a spatial storage treasure meant that the things kept in it were as good as destroyed, but some could eject the objects into the minor void instead. There were even specialists whose main occupation was to retrieve these objects.

Of course, someone that did this needed to be an expert in not only formations but also have a good affinity for the spatial element. The first requirement was sufficiently easy to fulfill, but someone having an affinity for the spatial element was incredibly difficult.

Thus, the specialists who could do this were in high demand. While they could not be found in the Xiaofan world, there were others that could be found in the higher world. And Lin Mu was about to become Xiaofan world's very first object recovery specialist.

"Here it is." Elder Liqiang handed the fragments of the ring to Lin Mu.

He nodded his head and took them before closing his eyes. He chanted the calming heart sutra and used his spirit sense to carefully analyze the metal fragments. There were almost no traces of spirit Qi left in it after all this time, but after about half an hour, Lin Mu managed to find a very tiny link.

It was volatile and seemed like it would disappear at any time.

'Rather than a link, it's more of a loose string...' Lin Mu thought to himself.

He tried to follow the path of the link and opened his eyes, that faintly flickered. Spatial perception activated and Lin Mu's gaze extended past the reality. The others that were sitting around and watching him didn't know what he was doing.

'Why is he just staring blankly?' they wondered.

But then, five minutes later, they saw Lin Mu extended his hand.

"Open," Lin Mu wordlessly said.

~shua~

Then under the stunned gazes of everyone, the space in front of Lin Mu started to distort. As if some fabric was being wrinkled, the space moved, then a second later it tore apart.

~HONG~

"How..." Elder Weimin and Elder Liqiang were stunned.

"Marvelous..." The supreme elder was amazed. 'Even those people from the Sky precepts sect can't do this, can they?' he thought.

Lin Mu's hand then entered the spatial crack that had just opened in front of him and searched inside. His spirit sense entered it as well and quickly found the objects that they were looking for.

"Got it," Lin Mu said before withdrawing his hand.

When Lin Mu's hand came out, one could see a long rod like object in it.

~clang~

Lin Mu put it down on the side and reinserted his hand into the spatial crack to find the other objects. About a minute later, Lin Mu was done pulling out all that he could find in there and finally decided to close it.

~Shua~

The black hole in the fabric of space started to shrink before it mended itself, and everything returned to normal.

"Brother Lin Mu this..." Elder Liqiang was at a loss for words.

"Ahahaha!" Jing Luo couldn't help but laugh. "This isn't even the most absurd thing he's done."

"Brother Lin Mu's attainments in the spatial element are truly great." Hua Langya couldn't help but say.

"They're just so-so. I have yet to learn a lot of things." Lin Mu replied calmly.

"Ahahah, Brother Lin Mu is simply too humble." The supreme elder said with a smile.

"We can set up the teleportation gate now." Jing Luo said after checking that the components were all right.

"Mm, please get it ready. It's best we are done before Patriarch Hua returns." Lin Mu agreed.

"What's the input on patriarch? Has he made any progress yet?" Elder Liqiang questioned.

He was the one who was out of the loop for the most part and thus wanted to know if their plan was going well or not.

"The last I heard, they are almost done with the initial negotiations. A few representatives from the Long Cloud Sect will be willing to talk to us under special conditions.

What those conditions are though, we will only know after the patriarch returns." Hua Langya informed.

"Hmm... tell them to head to the Hong Lin kingdom. They can use the teleportation gate there and use that to return to Noon Grass sect. They'll save a lot of time that way." Lin Mu stated.

"I should be done setting it up in a couple of days, just before they are done with their work as well." Jing Luo commented.

Lin Mu nodded his head and let Jing Luo leave to begin his work.

~Rumble~

While they were talking, a low rumbling sound was heard.

"Hmm?" They all looked towards the source and saw that it had come from the outside.

Lin Mu raised his brows and sensed something.

~Creak~

He opened the window and peered outside, only to see the figure of Little Shrubby.

"Master look!" Little Shrubby called out.

The others heard his growl too and came to see what was happening. Their eyes went wide seeing the scenes.

"Where did you get that bird?" Lin Mu asked, seeing the large beast that Little Shrubby had with him.

The beast looked like an oversized ostrich and had a frog-like bulge on its throat that moved up and down. The beast was currently being held by its neck by one of the prosthetic hands and looked to be in a pitiful state.

"A Howler Ostrich?" Elder Weimin recognized the beast.

"I found a few of them wandering on the outside of the sect. I was looking around and this one came to fight me. I thought it would taste good, so I brought it!" Little Shrubby said happily.

~GROAN~

The Howler Ostrich on the side didn't seem pleased upon hearing his words though and cried in displeasure, though only a groan could be heard due to its neck being clutched.