#### Worth 591

## **Chapter 591: Rectifications!**

As the game became all the rage, the Spirit Internet gained popularity as well. It could be said that in these short few months, the Federation had transformed the Dao Palace significantly and had indeed achieved integration with the Dao Palace, which was the goal mentioned by the Galactic Dusk Sect Lord to Wang Baole when he first arrived!

He wanted to leave the mark of the Federation everywhere within the Dao Palace so that it would be difficult for the Dao Palace to get rid of the Federation!

It was also because of this plan, and the success of the Spirit Internet, that created a huge change in the lives of the Dao Palace disciples. Right now, they didn't leave their houses to get in touch with the news and gossip of the entire Dao Palace. There was also entertainment, friendship, and service transactions between them. The emergence of the game had changed the quality of their leisure lives.

All this was nothing to the Federation cultivators. Even though there was temptation, it wasn't strong enough to be earth-shaking. After all, even though the Federation's immortal cultivation paled in comparison to the Dao Palace, their daily lives were rich and fulfilling, as they were supported by the operations of the entire civilization. On the other hand, there weren't many Dao Palace disciples, and their civilization was lacking. That was perhaps not the case in the past, but they were clearly in a deficit these tens of years.

Therefore, the clash of civilizations from both sides was extremely impactful to the Dao Palace disciples. While it enriched the lives of the Dao Palace disciples, it also allowed the Federation to set its roots within the Dao Palace.

The next mission that Sect Lord Xu of the Galactic Dusk Sect had to accomplish was to carry out the construction of the teleportation array formation in secret. At the same time, he had to be a guardian of the union between the Federation and the Dao Palace. While spending time with the upper echelons of the Dao Palace, he didn't neglect his own cultivation. He was inching closer to advancing to the Nascent Soul realm.

In addition, as the game continued to grow in popularity, and as the amount of battle credits he earned swelled, Wang Baole began to live an increasingly comfortable life. However, he didn't teleport cultivation techniques back immediately. Instead, he exchanged his battle credits for large amounts of refinement materials.

A significant portion of the resources were supposed to be used to advance his intrinsic scabbard. However, even so, Wang Baole didn't dare attempt it, as he wasn't completely confident. Furthermore, according to his analysis, if he failed, he would damage the intrinsic scabbard greatly. If not for the previous battle with Dugu Lin, Wang Baole wouldn't have realized that fact. However, after the battle, the ferocity of the intrinsic scabbard made Wang Baole realize how important it was.

The more he focused on its importance, the more he was unwilling to try it haphazardly. Therefore, Wang Baole planned to refine an eighth-grade Dharmic Armament first and advance the scabbard once he succeeded in doing that and became more confident.

In the meantime, Wang Baole's gaming business boomed. Jin Duoming, after noticing the astonishing earnings from the game, couldn't sit still any longer. He didn't know Xie Haiyang and only came to know about such a formidable character through the game. Therefore, he naturally didn't know that Xie Haiyang had once been in the Ethereal Dao College. After all, only people from the Ethereal Dao College would know about it. In addition, Xie Haiyang was also secretive, with Wang Baole apparently being the only one amongst the Federation Seedlings who knew him well.

Even Zhuo Yifan and Zhao Yameng could only make some guesses, but they didn't verify it out of caution.

As such, Jin Duoming was unable to know much about Xie Haiyang. Even though he tried to find out, he didn't manage to obtain much information. He then decided to ask Wang Baole directly about Xie Haiyang's background.

He didn't have eyes on the profits that Wang Baole had gained from his game, he didn't dare to... However, he still had some intentions with regards to Xie Haiyang. He thought that everything would be perfect if he could gain some profits from him...

"Xie Haiyang?" Wang Baole raised his head to look at Jin Duoming, who was sitting with a smile on his face in front of him. Wang Baole put aside the bottle of Ice Spirit Water in his hands. Wang Baole didn't dislike Jin Duoming, as even though he was his competitor and had some intentions against him, Wang Baole felt that all this was the result of Duan Muque's manipulation. At the same time, Wang Baole was confident in emerging victorious with the revenue from the game. In addition, Wang Baole's cultivation was also formidable, which made him feel that he had the right to turn the tables on Jin Duoming anytime he wanted.

On the other hand, Jin Duoming also knew how to handle relationships well. Wang Baole smiled at Jin Duoming as well, as he had learned from reading the high officials' autobiographies since he was a boy. He understood that the world didn't revolve around one person, and it was important that one didn't think of himself as the center of the universe.

Setting aside all those thoughts in his mind, Wang Baole thought about Xie Haiyang's background, as well as his suspicions, before enlightening Jin Duoming.

"Little Ming, Xie Haiyang isn't a simple person. I don't understand him fully either, I only know that he seems to have a strong backing in the Dao Palace. I encourage you to not have any intentions towards him." Wang Baole looked deeply at Jin Duoming.

That gaze sent ripples through Jin Duoming's heart. Even though he wanted to become Federation President, he didn't want to offend Wang Baole. According to his plans, even if he were to really become Federation President, he could still give up the position. Therefore, he didn't bring the matter up and simply thought about what a big favor Wang Baole would owe him if he were to give up his position as Federation President. That would be sufficient for him to lead an extremely comfortable life in the Federation in the future.

Therefore, he believed whatever Wang Baole said. Amidst the silence, he immediately aborted his original intentions and decided not to investigate Xie Haiyang's background anymore. If Xie Haiyang were to find out about it, misunderstandings might happen. With that, Jin Duoming took a deep breath and bowed at Wang Baole with cupped fists. He then chatted with Wang Baole briefly before taking out some refinement materials from his storage bag and passing them to Wang Baole.

"Baole, I heard that you've been buying materials recently. I have some materials as well, and you can use them first."

Wang Baole took a look and was moved slightly. That was because those refinement materials weren't from the Dao Palace but the Federation. They were also extremely expensive materials that were needed for the refinement of ninth-grade Dharmic Armaments.

Therefore, Wang Baole laughed and didn't act as if he didn't need them. He took the materials and sent Jin Duoming away before going into seclusion to cultivate. A week passed, and as the cultivation in Wang Baole's body increased to a high level, Wang Baole opened his eyes while still meditating. He felt an indescribable sense of satisfaction coming from within his body.

That feeling made Wang Baole realize that he had truly stabilized the cultivation that was elevated through the devouring seed when he was in the trial grounds back then. He was now at the peak of the late-stage Core Formation realm, and he was only a step away from perfection!

At this time, he was also extremely clear with his understanding of the Lightning Immortal Transformation. As such, with continued cultivation over the next few days, he finally succeeded in cultivating the third level of the Lightning Immortal Transformation!

When he sealed his hands, an overlapping figure emerged immediately from his physical body. When the lightning avatar stepped out, it was extremely difficult to distinguish it from Wang Baole, and it was basically an identical replica of him—down to his flesh and bones.

That was especially so as the Lightning Avatar also possessed a devouring seed. To a certain degree, it was almost a true avatar.

Looking at his Lightning Avatar, Wang Baole was filled with anticipation. He controlled his avatar and flew it out of the cave abode and into the distance. When it was several thousand feet away, Wang Baole began to feel that he had reached a limit. He stopped and murmured in his heart.

#### Lightning Escape!

Almost the instant those two words reverberated in Wang Baole's heart, his avatar became blurry instantly. In the blink of an eye, his physical self in the cave abode interchanged with the lightning avatar, and he appeared above the Sea of Fire.

In his exhilaration, Wang Baole tried several more times. When he returned to his cave abode, he couldn't help but chuckle heartily.

With the Lightning Escape allowing me to change positions with the avatar instantly, my combat power has been boosted! Numerous unexpected techniques that could be used for battle surfaced in Wang Baole's mind instantly. In his excitement, he sat down to meditate and attempt the second level of the Flame Snatch Thearch Armor.

Despite the second level of Flame Snatch Thearch Armor being challenging, Wang Baole had managed to gain an understanding of it over time. Right now, as he cultivated, the outline formed from the blood-colored meridians emerging from his body began to be covered with white threads. The white threads weren't numerous, but Wang Baole knew very well that it was a sign of bone formation.

What was needed next was a long period of unrelenting persistence to form the complete bone structure. Only then could the second level of Thearch Armor be considered to have been cultivated successfully.

I shouldn't rush into this matter... Unless there are some shortcuts similar to back then when I used the Flame Snatch technique to cultivate the first level Thearch Armor... With that thought, Wang Baole checked on his Thearch Armor. He had many ideas but eliminated most of them.

Forget it. Whatever the case, I am currently much more powerful than I was when I went into the battle on the trial grounds previously! Wang Baole smiled and took out a petal from his storage bag. It was the petal that Wang Baole took away from Dugu Lin's five-colored flower. After the battle, Dugu Lin didn't ask for it, and Wang Baole didn't return it.

After examining the petal, Wang Baole took out a copper coin. Looking at the copper coin, a peculiar glow flashed across his eyes.

"I should never stop trying to decipher this object. At the same time, I also need to repair that black pike..." As Wang Baole murmured, he took a deep breath and made preparations to put in more effort and thought into refining his treasures before the Worship Palace Pavilion opened.

#### **Chapter 592: Eighth-Grade Dharmic Armament Cultivator!**

Previously, Wang Baole could already refine a one-use eighth-grade Dharmic Armament, and he had also occasionally succeeded in refining eighth-grade Dharmic Armaments that could be used several times.

The greatest obstacle preventing Wang Baole from refining a true eight-grade Dharmic Armament was his lack of Spiritual Sense. Even though it was boosted slightly by the shriveled fruit that he possessed, the growth of his Spiritual Sense was still slow and was only a little better than no growth. However, it was different now. Having achieved a breakthrough at the trial grounds, which allowed him to advance from mid- to late-stage Core Formation realm, and even approach the peak, he was now just a step away from perfection!

Because of the increase in his cultivation, Wang Baole's Spiritual Sense was significantly advanced. That made it easier for him to refine the artifacts compared to the past.

Right now, equipped with sufficient materials, Wang Baole tested it out briefly and could already feel that it was different from previously. He then decided to focus on refining the artifacts after stabilizing his cultivation and after successfully mastering the cultivation technique.

Seven days passed. In those seven days, Wang Baole tried to refine eighth-grade Dharmic Armaments many times, ranging from those that were one-use to those that could be used multiple times. When he

finally managed to refine a true eighth-grade Dharmic Armament, Wang Baole was extremely excited and exhilarated.

Finally... I can refine an eighth-grade Dharmic Armament! Wang Baole felt a torrent of emotions in his heart. Looking at the bell that he had refined in front of him, he couldn't help but sound it a few times. Listening to the reverberating and loud ring, and imagining the scenario when someone was trapped within it, Wang Baole was delighted.

I still have many fake eighth-grade Dharmic Armaments. When the time comes, I will first toss out a fake one, have them break it, then toss the real one out! With that thought, Wang Baole was filled with glee. He wanted to celebrate and patted his tummy, which now already had a little bit of spirit fat on it. When he thought about how slim he was now, he immediately took out several bags of snacks and began munching on them delightfully.

He also took out five bottles of Ice Spirit Water and chugged them down. With that, he finally felt satiated, and he began the process of refining artifacts again. The next item he refined was the seventh-grade Dharmic Armament megaphone.

As the grade of the megaphone was too low, it hadn't been used by Wang Baole for a long time. However, he still liked it very much. Now that his knowledge of refining artifacts had risen, he immediately made plans to advance its grade.

Other than the megaphone, there was also the scandalous rope and the large seal. Those two Dharmic Armaments had personalities of their own, which made them different from the rest. They were also two of the few Dharmic Armaments that Wang Baole could continually upgrade until now.

After spending four days and successfully upgrading the three Dharmic Armaments to the eighth grade, Wang Baole took a look at his storage bag and thought of the self-exploding ribbon that he had used in the battle against Dugu Lin. His heart ached.

What a pity... Wang Baole sighed. He thought about his arsenal of weapons, which included the tricolored flying sword and a few eighth-grade Dharmic Armaments. While it seemed a little inadequate, he had a plan. However, in terms of protection, he felt that he still faced a significant deficit. Even though the bell could be considered a protective item, Wang Baole felt that it was more suitable to trap his enemies.

Therefore, after thinking about it, a look of determination appeared in Wang Baole's eyes. He felt that there was a great need for him to refine an eighth-grade Dharmic Armament for the sole purpose of protection. As for its appearance, after thinking about it, Wang Baole decided that if it were to be used to protect his life, it was best that it was armor!

Furthermore, it couldn't be too thick and should be fitting. At the same time, it shouldn't restrict him from unleashing Thearch Armor. That way, even if he were to be in a similar battle like the one against Dugu Lin, he would still have protection from the armor even if Thearch Armor breaks apart. That, coupled with his physical body, could make him more resistant to attacks than he was previously.

If Wang Baole were now in the Federation, he wouldn't have suitable materials even if he had the idea. However, that wasn't an issue in the Vast Expanse Dao Palace. After all, there was an abundance of

materials there. After browsing through the items on the Spirit Internet, he immediately noticed a refinement material known as Dark Scarcity.

Other than a memory storage function, its protective qualities also satisfied Wang Baole. It also had an antishock quality. After Wang Baole had chosen it, another round of artifact refinement began.

This time, Wang Baole put in a lot of effort and used half a month before successfully refining the Dark Scarcity Armor. When he realized that he still had a substantial amount of refinement materials left, the idea of repairing the ninth-grade black pike surfaced in his mind.

That was especially so as Wang Baole had already thought in detail about how to repair it. After he considered it for a moment, he immediately got to work, putting in his best effort to repair the pike that he had found in the body of the sword.

However, as Wang Baole was unable to refine a ninth-grade Dharmic Armament, the repair process was imperfect as well. However, since he had enough materials and was willing to invest the materials in the repair process, he had managed to repair most of it, even if it was incomplete. Right now, as he waved his hand, the pike floated in the air in front of him loudly, releasing a ferocious aura.

The aura was surrounded by black smoke. A black snake with fleshy wings could vaguely be seen within the smoke, and it was staring coldly at Wang Baole.

When they locked eyes, a chill was immediately felt in Wang Baole's heart. That made Wang Baole shudder, and he realized that the pike was perhaps no different from the tri-colored flying sword.

It may not be a strong ninth-grade Dharmic Armament, it can still be considered a weak one. Wang Baole was satisfied. He was about to raise his hand and put away the pike, but the moment his hand neared the pike, the black snake emerged out of it. It charged towards Wang Baole's hand and bit onto it.

Wang Baole was unaffected. He didn't stop moving his right hand, and the instant the black snake neared, he snapped his fingers. Immediately, a ball of Dark Fire began burning. Amidst the crackling, the black snake trembled vigorously, screaming shrilly as it retreated quickly. Its body was also surrounded by Dark Fire, and it was only when it had retreated completely into the black smoke that the Dark Fire let go of it and returned to Wang Baole's palm.

"You're not to do it again!" Wang Baole spoke calmly without even looking at the black snake. He then placed the pike into his storage bracelet, and his gaze fell on the small mountain of refinement materials in his storage bracelet.

I have bought too much... Looking at those materials, Wang Baole felt that it would be a waste if he didn't use them. That was especially so because, while over half of it was prepared for his intrinsic scabbard, the other half was of lower quality. Even though the materials could be used to refine an eighth-grade Dharmic Armament, they didn't fulfill the high requirements that Wang Baole had set for refining the scabbard.

Therefore, after thinking about it, Wang Baole went into action immediately and began refining puppets. He began to try out the idea of refining Dharmic Armament puppets.

At the same time, since it was rare that he had so many materials, Wang Baole also made plans to make some miniature armor for his mosquitos. It was challenging, but with Wang Baole's current level of refinement knowledge, he would still be able to refine sixth-grade Numinous Treasures if he put in the effort, even if he wasn't able to refine Dharmic Armaments.

Eventually, when Wang Baole emerged out of seclusion after refining the items, seven of the eight puppets that followed after him as he stepped out of the cave abode were already extremely close to the level of a seventh-grade Dharmic Armament. As for the last puppet, when Wang Baole turned to look at it, joy and satisfaction filled his eyes.

That puppet was his old buddy who had followed him for many years, Zhu Gangqiang.

Perhaps it was because of Zhu Gangqiang's uniqueness that Wang Baole had unexpectedly managed to refine it to become a seventh-grade Dharmic Armament. That was especially so with the integration of spirits, which gave Zhu Gangqiang a soul and made others feel that it had intelligence.

In terms of combat power, Zhu Gangqiang was also on the level of early-stage Core Formation realm!

Apart from that, Wang Baole also upgraded all the other Dharmic treasures that he could upgrade. Even the Fireworks Canister from before was modified. Wang Baole also managed to refine the armor for the mosquitoes. However, as the mosquitoes' form was only seen when they flew out, Wang Baole kept the miniature armors after testing their strength. Right now, basking in delight, Wang Baole waved his hand and put away all the puppets. Afterward, he charged towards the main island of the Dao Palace!

He was making the journey to the main island because he had received notification that the Vast Expanse Dao Palace had finally managed to complete the preparations for the teleportation process that was needed for the trip to the Worship Palace Pavilion. The time to make the journey was set to evening on that very day!

Feng Qiuran also gave an explanation to why it was to happen in the evening. That was because the teleportation to the body of the sword had the highest accuracy during the evening.

Therefore, after notifying Zhao Yameng and Kong Dao, Wang Baole charged directly to the Dao Palace. He was slightly early, as before being teleported, he had something big that he wanted to do!

That was... to scare Little Duanmu!

Little Duanmu, this time, I will let you know that I, Wang Baole, will be Federation President.

#### **Chapter 593: Worship Palace Pavilion!**

Wang Baole had the overbearing and respectful air of a tycoon as he used the battle credits that he had gained from the game's earnings to purchase numerous cultivation techniques from the Vast Expanse Techniques Chamber. People crowded around him as he began to send each cultivation technique back to the Federation through the teleportation array formation. The Federation was shocked!

Outside the Mercury array formation, Li Xingwen's eyes were about to fall out of their sockets as he stared dazedly at the cultivation techniques appearing one by one from within the brilliantly glowing array formation.

On the other hand, Duan Muque had begun to feel extremely uneasy ever since the eighteenth cultivation technique was sent back by Wang Baole. As such, he paid close attention to the matter using the projected image of himself that was formed using technology from the Federation.

Right now, Duan Muque quickly turned upon noticing the glow from the teleportation array formation. Initially, he was delighted, but this delight only lasted the time of twenty breaths. When he noticed that one cultivation technique was being sent back every second, his heart trembled.

"Twenty-one, twenty-two..."

"Thirty-seven, thirty-eight..."

"Forty-two, forty-three..."

Those who were similarly shocked were the Federation cultivators who were on guard. Everyone was bewildered by the constant glow from the teleportation array formation and by the number of cultivation techniques that were being sent back. Even though they had seen numerous cultivation techniques being teleported back the past year, it was unbelievable this time, as it had far exceeded the total number that had been teleported back previously!

Amidst the silence, and while Duan Muque sank in astonishment, the process of teleportation continued for the time of a hundred and twenty breaths.

The number of cultivation techniques that were teleported back stood at a hundred and forty!

For the last twenty cultivation techniques, they were all tossed in at one go. Apparently, the person teleporting them back had grown irritated by the slow process...

That scene instantly gripped all the people from the Federation who were viewing the process with shock. They couldn't help but begin to exclaim.

"A hundred and... forty!"

"Are those cultivation techniques? Why do I feel like they are cabbages that can be bought for cheap instead?"

As the exclamations reverberated, Li Xingwen willed himself to remain calm while quickly grabbing the hundred and forty cultivation techniques with his hands. After taking a look at each of them, he carried a peculiar look on his face, one that conveyed that he was unsurprised, before looking towards the bewildered Duan Muque.

"Muque, you should make some preparations. It is very likely that you will have to relinquish your position when Wang Baole returns..."

"They're all from Wang Baole?" Duan Muque trembled. He didn't believe it, and he hurriedly took a look at the cultivation techniques himself. The more he checked, the more awkward he became. He felt a complicated mix of hopelessness and happiness in his heart. In the end, Duan Muque let out a long sigh. He felt that he had really shot himself in the foot. Even after sending Jin Duoming over, Wang Baole still held a huge advantage over him.

"This is something to celebrate. Haha, I look forward to Wang Baole returning and becoming Federation President!" Duan Muque cleared his throat, and a smile appeared on his face. He was extremely heartened, and one wouldn't be able to notice if he were feeling other emotions. At this time, Li Xingwen cleared his throat and reminded Duan Muque.

"In addition to the eighteen cultivation techniques that he sent back previously, this fella had already accumulated a hundred and fifty-eight cultivation techniques..."

When Duan Muque heard Li Xingwen's words, he shuddered.

D\*rn it... I have been President for less than ten years... It wouldn't matter as much if I stepped down after accomplishing something significant, but now, it seems like I have been forced to step down... What is this? I will lose face! Duan Muque was anxious. He thought that it was a blessing that he was now a Nascent Soul realm cultivator. Even if he didn't step down, Wang Baole wouldn't be able to eliminate him through battle... However, when he thought about the updates on Wang Baole's combat capabilities sent by the Vast Expanse Dao Palace, Duan Muque lost confidence.

Should I change the system within the Federation before Wang Baole returns? For example, by increasing the number of Noble positions above Secondary Rank Two by ten? Duan Muque sighed. He knew that it wasn't possible to do that, and he began to feel frustrated.

While Duan Muque was sunken deep in frustration, Wang Baole, who was in the public square of the Dao Palace on the ancient greenish-bronze sword, patted his tummy in delight. Even though he couldn't see Duan Muque, he could guess that a dark cloud must be hanging above his head now.

You want to compete against me, Little Duanmu? Do you think over one hundred cultivation techniques marks the end of everything? I am going to do something major. The game of Noble advancement between us hasn't ended! Wang Baole was energized as he arrogantly raised his chin. With the Federation cultivators and Dao Palace disciples around him looking at him in shock, he left the public square and proceeded towards Feng Qiuran's cave abode.

Wang Baole didn't bring the donkey along with him. Other than heading out occasionally to feed, the donkey was now completely immersed in the game. That saved Wang Baole a lot of trouble as well.

As time was tight, it was already almost evening when Wang Baole arrived at Feng Qiuran's cave abode. Zhao Yameng and Kong Dao also rushed to the cave abode after receiving the notification from Wang Baole.

Soon, the trio met outside Feng Qiuran's cave abode. After the trio had greeted Feng Qiuran in unison, Feng Qiuran handed the three Hyacinthus Tree leaves to Wang Baole with a spirited look in her eyes.

Feng Qiuran agreed to Wang Baole's previous proposition of distributing the Hyacinthus Tree leaves to Zhao Yameng and Kong Dao. That was because, according to Feng Qiuran's understanding, Zhao Yameng had the heritage of the Eye of Infinite Techniques, allowing her to survive and be considered an inner sect disciple even if she failed in the trial.

Feng Qiuran looked highly upon such a status. As for Kong Dao, even though he didn't have the heritage of the Eye of Infinite Techniques like Zhuo Yifan, it was awkward for Wang Baole to hand the leaf to Zhuo Yifan instead.

Thankfully, Zhuo Yifan was understanding of the matter. In addition, Feng Qiuran didn't wish to interfere with the choices made by Wang Baole and company. Therefore, after handing the Hyacinthus Tree leaves over, she brought the trio towards the mountains on the Dao Palace main island.

The teleportation array formation on the mountain had already been prepared. Mie Liezi and Daoist You Ran didn't show up, as the matter was completely handled by people from Feng Qiuran's lineage. However, Sect Lord Xu was invited to witness the process. After ensuring that everything was safe, Sect Lord Xu greeted the trio with cupped fists and a smile on his face.

"Here's wishing the three of you have a smooth journey, emerge at the top, and are awarded the status of a Vast Expanse Dao Palace disciple!"

Wang Baole's impression of Sect Lord Xu had already changed, and he cupped his fists towards him as he heard those words. Zhao Yameng and Kong Dao also returned the greeting. After that, the trio looked at each other before stepping into the array formation in unison.

As the cultivators from Feng Qiuran's lineage sealed their hands, the array formation began operating. Feng Qiuran had a serious expression on her face as she looked at the trio and gave them a final reminder.

She reminded them to remain vigilant, and she also informed them of what she understood about the process of entering the Worship Palace Pavilion.

"The Worship Palace Pavilion is divided into two parts. One is the Road of Brilliance, and the other is the Seven Worships Palace. There is no danger in the former, as it merely tests whether one has the caliber to enter the Seven Worships Palace. On the other hand, a certain level of danger exists for the latter!

"Therefore, all of you must remain vigilant. Failure to pass the trial is better than risking your life there. In addition, based on my understanding, Baole and Yameng, both of you have received the inheritance of the Eye of Infinite Techniques. As such, after entering the Worship Palace Pavilion, both of you should be able to skip the first few trials and enter the trial to become a core disciple directly!

"Once you succeed, you will become a core disciple!

"Lastly, I wish all of you success!"

With that, Feng Qiuran produced a seal with her hands and pointed. Instantly, a loud boom was heard from the teleportation array formation. Wang Baole and company, who were in the array formation, saw nothing but a blur. They felt a force that could contort their bodies at that instant. The trio was immediately being teleported away, but it took a long while after they had disappeared for the array formation to return to normalcy.

"I hope they will have a smooth journey." After seeing that the trio had been teleported away, Sect Lord Xu from the Galactic Dusk Sect murmured before looking at Feng Qiuran and clearing his throat.

"Elder Qiuran, have you made a decision? That Brother Xingwen of mine has true feelings towards you."

Upon hearing that, Feng Qiuran instantly experienced a headache, and she stared at Sect Lord Xu.

"Let Li Xingwen tell me about it himself!" With that, Feng Qiuran left hurriedly.

The other cultivators from Feng Qiuran's lineage looked at each other before leaving. Some within them couldn't keep the matter under wraps and began to spread information about the incident on the Spirit Internet's Panel for News and Gossip. Instantly, the matter involving Li Xingwen and Feng Qiuran created waves on the Spirit Internet once again!

At the same time, in the depths of the sword body, an unusual looking mountain stood within a heavily restricted region!

There was only one mountainous path on the mountain, but there were seven peaks. The peaks were arranged like a flight of stairs, with one taller than the previous!

There was no Sea of Fire surrounding it, but there were countless bolts of black lightning that were striking across the sky continuously. It made the seven peaks appear extremely imposing!

Seven majestic palaces were clearly visible on the seven mountainous peaks. At that moment, something was glowing on the mountainous path. In the next moment, Wang Baole and the others appeared!

When they emerged, the thunder roared noisily, and the lightning flashed more intensely, lighting up the signage that indicated that the mountainous path was under repair. The trio also noticed three words written clearly on the signage at that moment!

Worship Palace Pavilion!

#### Chapter 594: Road of Brilliance!

After briefly acclimating to the aftershock from the teleportation, as well as the surrounding environment, Kong Dao suddenly spoke.

"Baole, Yameng, I paid Yifan a visit a few days ago to transfer the eligibility to him, but he didn't want it..."

"Kong Dao, you're overthinking." Wang Baole patted Kong Dao's shoulder as he shook his head and smiled. Wang Baole had also approached Zhuo Yifan regarding this matter, but Zhuo Yifan had rejected him as well. After all, he didn't take part in the trial, and even though Wang Baole had the right to decide who was eligible, it was an opportunity that was to be given to Kong Dao, without a doubt.

Upon hearing Wang Baole's words, Kong Dao heaved a sigh of relief in his heart. He then held his chin up high as he looked at the mountainous path in front of him together with Wang Baole and Zhao Yameng.

"This should be the Road of Brilliance mentioned by Elder Qiuran. I sense the aura of an array formation from it. It's very strong, but there is no danger!" Zhao Yameng looked intently at the path for a moment, then she spoke softly.

"I'll go first!" As soon as Zhao Yameng finished her sentence, a look of determination appeared in Kong Dao's eyes. He was thankful that Wang Baole had given him the opportunity and wanted to be the first to take on the unknown Road of Brilliance. This way, Wang Baole and Zhao Yameng could make preparations if there was any danger.

Therefore, as Kong Dao spoke, he went straight ahead and stepped onto the first step of the stairway even before Wang Baole and Zhao Yameng could stop him. When Kong Dao's foot landed, he trembled.

Wang Baole and Zhao Yameng went forward immediately and observed the situation intently. After waiting for fifteen minutes, just as both of them began to grow anxious and wanted to pull Kong Dao back, Kong Dao suddenly exhaled deeply.

"I saw imagery... It should be safe here." As Kong Dao spoke, he continued walking forward. After taking a hundred steps, he trembled and stood where he was, motionless again.

Upon noticing that, Wang Baole and Zhao Yameng looked at each other and nodded. They then stepped onto the first step of the stairway together. Instantly, both of them trembled. It was at that moment that Wang Baole finally found out what Kong Dao had seen. He only felt that it was all a blur before him. It was as if an earthshaking transformation was happening in front of his eyes.

The black lightning in the firmament had disappeared and was replaced by the blue skies. The surrounding restrictions also vanished, and peaceful plains took their place. There were also birds flying in the air, and even the seven-peaked mountain looked less imposing. The mountain seemed to have shrunk and became a tiny hill.

A calm and peaceful feeling filled the air, making one feel relaxed. Wang Baole blinked several times and noticed a courtyard on the peak of the mountain he was at.

There was a well in the courtyard, and a large dog was lying lazily beside the well. A middle-aged man with an unusual air was sitting with his legs crossed as he caressed the dog's head. He was smiling at the two children who were hanging a plaque outside the gate of the courtyard.

The two children were very young but extremely agile. They didn't take long to hang the plaque on the door. Wang Baole immediately noticed the two words written on the plaque.

"Vast Expanse Courtyard."

The imagery paused at that moment and faded away. Everything began to return to normal. The black lightning, the surrounding restrictions, and the imposing Seven Peak Palaces returned!

Wang Baole was silent for a moment. When he turned, he noticed that Zhao Yameng had opened her eyes as well.

"Is the Road of Brilliance showing us the history leading towards the Vast Expanse Dao Palace's rising...?" Zhao Yameng murmured softly, but she spoke the words that Wang Baole was thinking about as well. After that, the duo continued to advance forward.

Looking from a distance, one could see Wang Baole and Zhao Yameng standing in line, with Kong Dao a hundred steps in front of them. The trio looked like they were on an expedition to the top of the mountain, amidst the black lightning flashes and the surrounding restrictions.

A hundred steps later, the second imagery appeared in front of Wang Baole's eyes. There were clouds in the skies, and townships had been built on the vast plains. The hill had been transformed into a mountain that was standing tall, and the courtyard had turned into hundreds of buildings. Greenery complemented the appearance of the entire mountain, filling the entire place with a mystical aura.

The disciples there no longer consisted of the two children from the first imagery. They had swelled to tens of thousands of people who busied themselves, filling the entire place with bustling activity. The rays of the sun landed on the plaque hung on the entrance of the mountain.

It was no longer 'Vast Expanse Courtyard' that was written on it. Instead, it was replaced by another two words!

Vast Expanse Clan!

With every hundred steps forward, new imagery would appear. The more the trio advanced, the stronger the suppressive force that landed on them was. It was as if it were challenging the limits of their physical bodies.

Kong Dao and Zhao Yameng could withstand the suppressive force initially, but as the trio continued to advance, only Wang Baole could maintain his initial speed. He didn't assist Kong Dao and Zhao Yameng, as he knew that there was no danger present on the Road of Brilliance. Instead, to a certain extent, the suppressive force that they experienced could be taken as a form of physical training.

Wang Baole didn't need the physical training, but to Zhao Yameng and Kong Dao, it was a valuable opportunity to strengthen themselves.

Therefore, after checking up on the duo, Wang Baole watched the third, fourth, and fifth imagery, as if he was playing a game.

The three imageries were similar to one another. They depicted that, several years later, there were several cultivation sects in the Vast Expanse Clan that performed well and took the lead. Those sects eventually ruled over the planets they were in, and that marked the start of the Galactic Era, which expanded from a star to the entire galactic system. Even though the tribulations involved weren't being shown, Wang Baole could imagine and understand that the entire process involved the efforts of many generations of people. That allowed the expansion of control over to numerous galactic systems, then to the entire galactic domain, until they became the dominant force!

Throughout the entire process, three changes were made to the name of the sect. From the third imagery of a sect which became a sect school of thought in the fourth imagery, all the way to the fifth imagery, where the sect school of thought was transformed to that of a palace. That was where the name 'Vast Expanse Dao Palace' was finally adopted!

Even though only snippets of the Vast Expanse Dao Palace's history were seen, one could already feel a sense of glory and brilliance. After all, that small courtyard had slowly advanced to become the ruler of the entire galactic domain. Despite not being from the Dao Palace, Wang Baole still cheered for its rising. It was imaginable that before crisis struck the Vast Expanse Dao Palace, the Dao Palace disciples were definitely filled with hope and anticipation for its future.

Completing the journey on this mountainous path would be akin to witnessing the history of the Dao Palace. It creates a natural sense of belonging and pride to the Dao Palace... Wang Baole took a deep breath and experienced a wave of respect for the Dao Palace. However, Wang Baole still felt torn between the contrasting image of the Dao Palace's glorious uprising seen from the imagery, with the wastelands, lightning, surrounding restrictions, and the Sea of Fire that was presented before him in reality.

It was difficult to reconcile history with the present reality. After a moment, Wang Baole shook his head as he reached the top of the mountain and took his final step on the Road of Brilliance.

When his foot landed, the sixth imagery appeared before his eyes. Wang Baole had thought that he would see the fall of the Vast Expanse Dao Palace, but what was presented before him was a familiar image.

It was a silver-haired middle-aged man who brought a cheeky little girl along with him to the Vast Expanse Dao Palace. The Vast Expanse Dao Palace put great emphasis on his arrival, and even the Patriarch greeted him personally. In that imagery, the little girl looked curiously at her surroundings, and the image faded to become an eternity.

"Little Missy..." Wang Baole stopped in his tracks and murmured in silence. As the imagery disappeared slowly, Wang Baole stepped off the Road of Brilliance. He stood on the mountain peak, with the palace in front of him and the road behind him.

Time passed slowly as Wang Baole stood where he was and waited for Zhao Yameng and Kong Dao. He managed to return to a state of peace as he looked at the palace in front of him. The palace looked vast and majestic, with large pillars that supported the firmament like walls. The sculpture erected in front of the temple gave off an air of authority as well. However, the entire palace still looked visibly aged.

Wang Baole recognized the sculpture. It was of the middle-aged man who was meditating with his legs crossed in the first imagery.

Perhaps, that person was the Patriarch of the Vast Expanse Dao Palace!

Even though the palace stood amidst the destruction of the body of the sword, it was still well preserved. Standing in front of it was like standing at the foot of a giant. Wang Baole was observing it when he began to hear panting sounds behind him. Kong Dao arrived with a glow in his eyes despite still trembling. The physical training he had experienced along the Road of Brilliance had strengthened his body significantly. After another five minutes had passed, Zhao Yameng finally reached the end of the Road of Brilliance.

She had the weakest physique amongst the trio. As such, she also benefited the most along the Road of Brilliance.

"Next is the journey to the Seven Worships Palace!" After Zhao Yameng and Kong Dao had taken their rest, Wang Baole suddenly spoke with energy and anticipation in his eyes!

# **Chapter 595: Black Spirit Dwarf Planet**

According to the information given by Feng Qiuran to the trio before the teleportation, a trial would take place in each of the seven palaces in the Seven Worships Palace of Worship Palace Pavilion. Passing each trial would mean that they had successfully conquered one of the seven palaces, and that would eventually allow them to earn the title of a Dao Palace disciple.

The different ranks of disciples that could be attained, in ascending order from the first to the sixth palace, were in-name disciple, outer sect disciple, inner sect disciple, core disciple, personal disciple, and adopted disciple!

As for the highest rank that one could attain in the seventh and the last palace, it would be Vast Expanse Dao disciple!

Feng Qiuran didn't reveal the details of the trial.

Right now, standing in front of the first palace, Wang Baole was filled with energy. He turned to look at Zhao Yameng and Kong Dao and noticed that they were fueled with anticipation as well. Without speaking excessively, the trio looked at each other before moving in unison towards the first palace in front of them!

The trio reached the main gate of the first palace instantly. When they stepped in, Wang Baole and Zhao Yameng suddenly trembled. An illusory image of a giant tree appeared on Zhao Yameng's glabella. It was a representation of the Ecang Ancient Array Formation heritage that she had attained. At the same time, the Thearch Armor marking on Wang Baole's heart also glowed, as if being inspected in detail by a mysterious force!

The bodies of both of them then blurred out, before disappearing entirely as if they had been teleported away. They didn't appear on a trial ground but in the great hall of the fourth palace on the fourth peak!

Only Kong Dao stepped into the first palace to begin the trial to become an in-name disciple!

Due to the heritage that Wang Baole and Zhao Yameng had attained at the Eye of Infinite Techniques that was sensed by the Worship Palace Pavilion, they were both allowed to skip the first three palaces. They didn't have to begin at the stage of an in-name disciple and could instead enter the trial to become a core disciple directly!

If they could pass the trial, they would become a core disciple. Even if they didn't, as long as they survived, they would be an inner sect disciple!

That was the advantage of the powerful heritage of the Eye of Infinite Techniques!

Right now, the moment the two of them appeared in front of the great hall of the fourth palace, an extremely strong suction force immediately sucked the both of them in. When Zhao Yameng and Wang Baole appeared inside, they saw nothing but a blur. They couldn't even see each other, and it was as if they had been separated. They felt as if they were alone in the surrounding nothingness.

Wang Baole immediately grew vigilant as he inspected his surroundings. Suddenly, in the emptiness, a cold and emotionless voice arrived by his ears.

"The trial to become a core disciple in the fourth palace will begin after the time of a hundred breaths.

"Trial-taker, please prepare. You will be sent to the Black Spirit Dwarf Planet of the Scorpion's Pupil Star System. You are to kill an alien cultivator formed from the accumulation of a cloud of black wind who has usurped the Microstar. Complete the kill to accomplish the mission!

"The alien cultivator has the cultivation level of a Nascent Soul realm cultivator. If the trial-taker doesn't voice his rejection within the time of a hundred breaths, it will be taken that he accepts and is willing to

take on the trial! Please note that this is not an illusion but reality. If the trial-taker dies, he will be deemed to have fallen. If he gives up during the trial, he will still have to persevere for a month!"

As the chilly voice stopped speaking, Wang Baole was thrown into a daze. He had heard and understood every word loud and clear. However, the message that was being revealed to him made him feel incredulous.

Scorpion's Pupil Star System? Black Spirit Dwarf Planet? An alien cultivator formed from the accumulation of black winds? What on earth is all that... Wang Baole blinked in disbelief. However, despite those doubts, he still made preparations and ensured that he was at optimal physical condition. He counted down the time of a hundred breaths in his heart, and at the end of that period, a force of teleportation stronger than what he had ever felt before exploded in the emptiness he was in!

As the force exploded, an invisible hurricane swept towards him from all corners, circling Wang Baole as it spun at high speed. It was pitch black in front of Wang Baole's eyes. It felt as if a century had passed, yet it also seemed as quick as the blink of an eye. When Wang Baole regained clarity of vision, he was no longer in the fourth palace.

## A heatwave enveloped him!

The heated air was dry and carried an unusual scent which made one feel extremely uncomfortable breathing it in. Even though Wang Baole was physically tough, he also became queasy upon the first whiff, retching while hugging his stomach.

However, he didn't vomit anything out. With his head lowered, he could only see the ground, which was composed of black-colored sand. After a while, when Wang Baole had slightly gotten used to the new environment, he raised his head with his face still pale and noticed the boundless desert surrounding him!

The entire desert was made up of the black-sand and made one feel indescribably constrained. The sky was green in color, completely different from the one that existed in Wang Baole's memories.

There was also no moon and no sun where he was. There was only an uneven and oddly shaped source of light that hung high up in the sky to light up the land. At the same time, it also made the entire place feel eerie and bizarre.

Wang Baole was somewhat confused. He had already inspected the area when he had first arrived by teleportation, and he understood that it was not a threatening place. Despite that, he still stood frozen for a long while.

"Is this an extraterrestrial civilization?" Wang Baole mumbled after a moment. He was curious about the fact that he could breathe in the air in the area, and he was also curious about whether the extraterrestrial civilization really existed.

He had an explanation for the former. After all, he had the physique of a cultivator and not a commoner. If he could traverse the cosmos, there was no doubt that he could withstand the poor weather conditions on some of the stars.

Wang Baole was more troubled over the latter issue. He wouldn't be fretting so much if he hadn't experienced the fame of Descend. However, having played the game, Wang Baole took a look at his

surroundings and touched his own body. He even took a look at his storage bracelet. Eventually, he came to the conclusion that he was indeed not in an illusory world.

# Everything present was real!

This place should be the Scorpion System Black Spirit place... or something like that. However, if there is really a black wind alien cultivator, then how could the Worship Palace Pavilion be so sure that he is still at the Nascent Soul realm? After all, the Vast Expanse Dao Palace has already fallen due to the crisis...

At the same time, how did this trial come about? Is it the same trial for both Zhao Yameng and me? A glow flashed across Wang Baole's eyes. He had too many doubts, and he couldn't help but ask Little Missy about them.

After all, Little Missy had once told him that when his name appeared on the Dao Plate, she would assist him so that he could advance.

Wang Baole's doubts were extremely simple to Little Missy. Therefore, she didn't feign ignorance this time. Instead, she carried the tone of a know-it-all and spoke nonchalantly.

"This question..."

"I know, I know. Little Missy knew the answer since you were three years old..." Wang Baole cleared his throat and replied to Little Missy in his head while he glanced at his surroundings.

"Wrong! I knew the answer since I was one!" Little Missy seemed somewhat displeased as she snorted. Then, she continued with her reply.

"The Worship Palace Pavilion is similar to the Lands of Five Senses. They didn't belong to Vast Expanse Dao Palace initially and were both alien items that were found in the universe by the Vast Expanse Dao Palace. They were then modified to become areas where trials for the disciples took place. All the trial grounds were once colonies of the Vast Expanse Dao Palace. Furthermore, even if the Dao Palace has fallen now, these colonies still continue to exist. Despite them being transformed significantly, they are still under constant surveillance."

"Now, go on and complete your mission. After attaining the status of a core disciple, go take on the trial to become a personal disciple in the next palace. When the next mission is announced, activate the scabbard in your body. That way, there is a high chance that you will be sent to a place where it is suitable for me to give you a hand. With my assistance, becoming a personal disciple would be a piece of cake!" Little Missy announced proudly. Wang Baole blinked several times before singing some praises to Little Missy. Then, he turned and charged forward.

The mission is to kill the black wind alien cultivator. However, how am I to find him on such a vast star? I only have a month's time. Wang Baole had no plan of action. In his silence, he continued to pick up speed and was so fast that he created a sonic boom. After fifteen minutes of charging forward at high speed, Wang Baole suddenly stopped in mid-air.

He turned and looked to his right for several seconds as if noticing something. He then turned and charged towards the left. Before long, in the area a distance away, a village-like gathering area appeared!

The gathering area wasn't large, and the buildings were shabby and had the appearance of mud huts. There were about a hundred of them, and it was there that Wang Baole noticed the indigenous people of Black Spirit Dwarf Planet!

Unlike the Federation, the Vast Expanse Dao Palace, and Herodium, the indigenous people on Black Spirit Dwarf Planet were all skinny and had small heads. However, their legs were very well developed. The length of their legs made up half their body lengths.

Therefore, at a glance, they looked somewhat like ducks.

They also had black skin. Even though they had a pair of eyes, there was only the sclera and not the pupils. Right now, hundreds of them were gathered at the center of the village as they prayed towards a sculpture.

The sculpture looked even more unusual, with a skull that looked like an elderly human whose face was covered with wrinkles. However, it had the black-colored body of a bird that gave out a red glow.

Wang Baole was surprised and couldn't help but inch closer. However, the moment he stepped forward, all the indigenous people in the village turned their heads to look at Wang Baole, who was in mid-air. When they noticed Wang Baole's appearance, their facial expressions changed. They screamed in a language that Wang Baole didn't understand and appeared to have been frightened by Wang Baole's appearance as the scrambled to retreat...

If Wang Baole could understand their language, he would definitely be surprised. That was because the indigenous people were all exclaiming that a monster had arrived. It seemed that, in their eyes, Wang Baole, who had an entirely different appearance from them, was an extremely frightening monster!

#### **Chapter 596: Dark Town Ghost Planet**

Looking at those trembling indigenous people who were scrambling to escape, a glow flashed across the depths of Wang Baole's eyes. However, on the surface, he appeared helpless as he turned and landed beside the statue in the village, sweeping his gaze at the frightened indigenous people.

"Does anyone know the language of the Baole Federation, the top immortal civilization?" Wang Baole cleared his throat and spoke calmly in the language of the Federation.

However, the fearful indigenous people looked at each other with confusion evident from their faces. They clearly didn't understand what Wang Baole said. That made Wang Baole sigh and repeat his words using the language used in the Vast Expanse Dao Palace.

When Wang Baole spoke this time, the indigenous people turned their heads immediately to look at an elderly man amongst them. The elderly man, with his body covered with wrinkles, looked bitter as he emerged from the crowd while trembling with fear. He cupped his fists, which were clearly smaller than his feet, and greeted Wang Baole.

"Greetings, Sir. I am the only person in the entire village who understands the language of the superior sect. Please direct any questions you have to me." The elderly indigenous man spoke in parts with a weird intonation and a heavy slang. Thankfully, Wang Baole could understand him.

"Oh, what planet is this? In addition, why are all of you praying to this statue? Who is this statue of?" Wang Baole thought about it as he expressed his doubts and looked at the elderly indigenous man.

The elderly indigenous man blinked. With a cautious expression on his face, he sized Wang Baole up before speaking softly.

"Sir, we are on the Black Wind Planet. The statue is the altar of the Patriarch. Altars similar to it are present in every village on the Black Wind Planet. We have to pray to it every day, and if we don't, the glow from the statue will dampen and eventually extinguish. Patriarch Black Wind inspects the villages frequently and will deem villages with statues that no longer glowed as disrespectful to him. He would then eat everyone in that village."

So that is how it is... Wang Baole seemed to be in deep thought and didn't bother himself with the other indigenous people around him anymore. Instead, he turned his head to analyze the sculpture in detail. However, as he was analyzing the sculpture, the elderly indigenous man who was answering Wang Baole's questions suddenly made small movements to his toes. Instantly, a blood-like reddish glow emerged from the sculpture's eyes.

The glow appeared extremely suddenly and enveloped Wang Baole in the blink of an eye. It seemed to have been turned into a seal that froze Wang Baole where he stood. It appeared as if his body and soul had been frozen, and they were both unable to move at that moment!

At the same time, the initially frightened indigenous people revealed eerie smiles on their faces, regardless of whether they were men or women, young or old. They no longer trembled in fear, and instead had a peculiar glow in their eyes. At that moment, their glabella split apart, and a black fog emerged from the crack, forming spirit-like existences in mid-air. As they smiled eerily, they charged directly towards Wang Baole!

"It's been a long while since someone with flesh and blood has arrived. What good luck we have this time!"

"This fella is destined for death, having been frozen by the Patriarch's gaze now!"

"How dare he come to this ghost planet of ours. Hah, I like his eyes, don't any of you try to snatch them from me!" As the ghost spirits shrilled with high-pitched voices, they excitedly charged towards Wang Baole. The one who moved the fastest amongst them was the elderly indigenous man who had spoken with Wang Baole previously. The ghost spirit that emerged from his glabella was of the biggest size and had the most concentrated aura. Right now, as his ghost spirit charged forward, the ghost spirit arrived right beside Wang Baole. It opened its large mouth and was about to swallow Wang Baole's head whole!

Its large mouth seemed like it could be opened infinitely without tearing apart. It was expanded to a size that could swallow Wang Baole's head in its entirety, but when it was about to swallow, an annoyed voice reverberated in the surroundings.

"All of you are irritating." As the voice was heard, the ghost spirits didn't even have time to react before Wang Baole's right hand rose slowly to grab the neck of the elderly ghost spirit in such a manner that it couldn't escape. Wang Baole twisted his right hand after grabbing hold of the ghost spirit's neck, and instantly, its eyes widened as it exclaimed breathlessly. It wanted to struggle and break free, but Wang Baole's wrench-like grip made escape impossible for the elderly ghost spirit.

That instantly made those excited ghost spirits surrounding Wang Baole shocked as they stopped in their tracks and retreated at high speed. However, even though they moved at high speed, they still couldn't escape the Dark Fire that emerged from Wang Baole's body.

The chilly ball of Dark Fire had Wang Baole at its center as it spread in all directions. The ghost spirits didn't even have time to scream before the Dark Fire instantly filled the entire area, enveloping the entire village. It was like a cleansing process taking place. All of the ghost spirits, except for the one Wang Baole was grabbing onto, trembled and vanished into thin air once the Dark Fire swept across them.

They all ceased to exist!

Noticing what had just happened in a dazed manner, the struggling elderly ghost spirit shuddered. When it turned towards Wang Baole, there was a real look of fear in its eyes as its body trembled uncontrollably.

Without bothering himself with the ghost spirits that had been wiped out, or the elderly ghost spirit that he was grabbing onto, Wang Baole stood there, enveloped by the red glow as he continued to observe the statue.

In reality, when Wang Baole first noticed the village, he had already realized that the indigenous people here were actually ghost spirits. Put more accurately, they were ghost spirits who were residing in the corpses of the indigenous people!

It could be taken that, to a certain extent, the bodies of the indigenous people who had died an unknown number of years ago but didn't rot, were the clothing of the ghost spirits. Others, even Nascent Soul realm cultivators, might not have been able to realize the truth. They might land themselves in danger even if they were able to resist the attacks of the ghost spirits.

After all, the red glow from the sculpture targeted one's spirits. This was nothing to Wang Baole. As a Dark Child, he wasn't the least bit afraid of ghost spirits.

As such, from beginning to end, Wang Baole wasn't bothered by anything. The only thing that piqued his interest was the material of the sculpture. Now, Wang Baole continued to analyze it, stepping forward to touch and knock at it. His eyes then lit up.

That's right. This is... made of Stellar Source! Wang Baole was somewhat agitated. He was doubtful previously, but now that he had confirmed his hypothesis after detailed analysis, he grew delighted.

He was well aware of the value of Stellar Source. He also understood that the most important material he needed to repair the Dark Artifact from Mars was Stellar Source. However, it was difficult to obtain Stellar Source unless one eliminated a star.

Therefore, Wang Baole was left helpless in the Federation. He had never thought that he would receive such a huge gift through this trial on this ridiculous planet.

In his exhilaration, Wang Baole waved his left hand and was about to put the statue away when the red glow emerging from it increased in scale. It was as if it were a form of resistance. However, when a ball of Dark Fire appeared from Wang Baole's right hand, the red glow from the sculpture lost all its effect. Wang Baole could then put the sculpture away without any difficulty.

After that, Wang Baole lowered his head to look at the elderly ghost spirit that he was holding onto. Wang Baole licked his lips and smiled.

"Two options. Either you bring me to the other villages, or I eat you whole."

The elderly ghost spirit shuddered. It wouldn't have believed it if someone else claimed that they would eat it. However, having seen how Wang Baole had handled the other ghost spirits with its own eyes, and looking at the manner Wang Baole had licked his lips, it had a strong feeling that the monster in front of its eyes would really eat it up.

"I... I know of many villages!" the elderly ghost spirit trembled and exclaimed loudly immediately.

"Lead the way." Wang Baole released his right hand, seemingly unconcerned that the elderly ghost spirit would escape as he spoke calmly. The elderly ghost spirit hesitated for a moment, but after recalling how Wang Baole had licked his lips, it became obedient and began to show Wang Baole the way.

Man and ghost charged through the air in this manner, towards the other village mentioned by the elderly ghost spirit. Three hours later, Wang Baole obtained yet another sculpture and wiped out yet another village. The elderly ghost spirit was in constant fear, while Wang Baole's eyes glowed brighter by the moment.

Wang Baole was no longer anxious to complete the mission. To him, the entire place was a treasure land. The entire trial ground existed physically and wasn't an illusion, and that made it ideal for him to strike it rich.

With that thought, Wang Baole looked at the elderly ghost spirit with excitement in his eyes.

"Big Foot, perform well. If I'm satisfied, I'll not eat you."

# **Chapter 597: Patriarch Black Wind**

On the Black Spirit Dwarf Planet, the green skies, the glow from the irregular sun-like light source that lit up the black desert, as well as the peculiar heatwave, made the entire planet seem extremely barren from the surface.

There were no plants, no animals, and even the civilization that existed on the planet were ghost spirits using the corpses as their clothing.

There were villages, but put more accurately, they were merely ghost villages formed by the ghost spirits who were leeching off the corpses.

It appeared as if death had become the theme of this planet. It was like a puddle of still water that was without any ripples, until... Wang Baole's arrival.

Wang Baole was like a huge rock that had been thrown into the water, splashing it everywhere and creating ripples that broke the inactivity in the area...

I've struck gold! Wang Baole laughed heartily towards the sky in an agitated manner. It was the seventh day since his arrival. Under the elderly ghost spirit's lead, Wang Baole swept through over fifty villages using his Dark Fire.

Without any exception, all the villages had the statues that he needed. The statues were also all made from Stellar Sources, and that, to Wang Baole, was wealth!

Other than Stellar Sources, Wang Baole also found precious materials in some of the villages. They included ores and broken Dharmic Artifacts. They were items that didn't exist in the Federation, and not much information was recorded about them either. Wang Baole only came to know that they were treasures after entering the Dao Palace.

That raised Wang Baole's spirit. He finally understood how the three extraterrestrial Nascent Soul realm cultivators that he had killed by luring them into the Dark Artifact felt when they were reaping those gains.

This is all accidental wealth... In Wang Baole's excitement, he had forgotten all about Patriarch Black Wind. Right now, he only had the thought to scavenge all the sculptures. The elderly ghost spirit also became more experienced in leading the way, and with it showing the way, Wang Baole continued on his scavenging journey.

Days passed. Half a month later, when Wang Baole had scavenged most of the planet, he had accumulated over a hundred sculptures. Seeing that the one-month time limit was approaching and that he had only managed to cover half the planet, Wang Baole grew anxious. With a combination of threats and urging, the elderly ghost spirit brought Wang Baole to the place on the planet with the biggest sculptures!

It was a deep trench that was surrounded by a vast, empty area. There were no other ghost spirits present. There was only a thousand-foot-tall giant sculpture that was erected in the area, giving off a red glow. The sculpture appeared to have been rooted deep into the ground, and a mysterious force from the space between the heavens and earth seem to be channeled deep underground, using the sculpture as a channel.

When Wang Baole saw the sculpture from afar, he felt disbelief, and his heartbeat rose furiously. The sculpture seemed to be mostly, though not entirely, composed of Stellar Source. The material that made up the rest of it also seemed impressive.

That made Wang Baole feel extremely agitated as he dashed towards the sculpture immediately. As he neared the sculpture, he transformed into Thearch Armor while laughing. His body instantly grew to a size of a hundred feet as he hugged the sculpture and twisted it while roaring!

As Wang Baole twisted, the earth trembled. The sculpture was being pulled off the ground little by little by Wang Baole, creating a shockwave that spread from the connection point to deep underground.

Right now, in the cave underneath the sculpture, there was an altar that was shrouded by black winds. The black winds formed a vortex that spun continuously. In the vortex, there were originally over two hundred bright spots glowing brilliantly. Of them, three of them were the largest and appeared to be a cluster of light that became the center of the other bright spots. Every time the bright spots glowed, the black wind vortex would spin at an even greater speed.

However, right now, over half of those two hundred bright spots had been extinguished. That slowed down the speed of rotation of the black wind vortex. When one of the three largest light clusters began to extinguish rapidly and entirely, a pair of eyes within the vortex suddenly opened wide!

There was initially a look of bewilderment revealed in the pair of eyes, as if it was wondering why it was awakened prematurely. However, very soon, it realized that the number of sculptures that it had painstakingly refined to sustain its training had decreased by over a hundred. On top of that, one of its three intrinsic light clusters had been extinguished, causing furious screams to emerge from within the vortex immediately.

### "D\*rn it!"

When the scream reverberated, above ground, Wang Baole, who was forcefully pulling the large sculpture out, blinked. At that moment, the red glow emerging from the sculpture intensified, as if the sculpture was coming alive. A sign of activity was also visible from the sculpture's originally listless eyes.

"It's alive?" Wang Baole was shocked. In his disbelief, he raised his right hand and revealed a large ball of Dark Fire. He smacked his hand onto the head of the sculpture.

"Then, I have no choice but to snatch it!" As Wang Baole spoke, his hand smacked down on the sculpture loudly. The sculpture vibrated several times, and the red glow dissipated. When everything returned to normal, Wang Baole pulled the sculpture out of the ground completely. He was excited and wanted to put the sculpture in the storage bracelet. Only, he realized that the sculpture was too big and that his storage bracelet was almost entirely filled. Unless he dismantled the sculpture, he wouldn't be able to keep it.

Wang Baole regretted immediately, as he felt that he should have prepared more storage bags when he came. Right now, without a choice, he could only pull the sculpture along as he hurriedly left. At the same time, he raised his hand continuously and smacked it onto the sculpture to break it into pieces. He did everything while simultaneously putting the pieces into his storage bag.

As Wang Baole escaped, on the altar deep underground, a scream even louder than previously reverberated. The vortex had even detached from the altar and shrank significantly, eventually transforming into the illusory image of a human-like creature with the body of a bird.

The figure had the head of a woman, but not of an elderly lady. Instead, it looked like a middle-aged woman, but it wasn't the least beautiful. It looked extremely frightening, and there was a black mark on its face. It had a mouth full of sharp teeth. With viciousness in its eyes, it turned and transformed into a gust of black wind, emerging from the basin through the cave and shooting into the sky!

Instantly, black wind spread in all directions, charging towards the sky. It immediately noticed Wang Baole, who was hugging the sculpture and escaping at high speed into the distance.

"You have to die for stealing my sculpture!" As it screamed, the alien cultivator with the head of a human and the body of a bird pursued Wang Baole at immense speed.

Patriarch Black Wind? Wang Baole, who was attacking the sculpture and breaking it into pieces before storing them in his storage bag, turned to take a look upon hearing the voice. He recognized the owner of the voice, as the black wind was extremely powerful, which made recognition easy.

A Nascent Soul realm cultivator indeed... A glow flashed across Wang Baole's eyes as he picked up speed. As he continued to escape at high speed, he also attacked the sculpture even more furiously.

Seeing that Wang Baole was escaping, Patriarch Black Wind was extremely unhappy and refused to let Wang Baole get his way. It was formed by the accumulation of black winds and had an edge in terms of speed. That was especially so as Wang Baole was a mere Core Formation realm cultivator. Patriarch Black Wind didn't consider the issue of how a Core Formation realm cultivator could appear in the area. Instead, it picked up speed in its pursuit and resolved to swallow Wang Baole whole!

In reality, even though Patriarch Black Wind was at the Nascent Soul realm, it was only at the early stage. Furthermore, as it didn't train using a physical body, it didn't have a high Spirit Intelligence. It was so authoritative on the Black Spirit Dwarf Planet simply due to the crisis that the Vast Expanse Dao Palace had experienced previously, which left the area unattended. All the elites from the Vast Expanse Dao Palace were nullified, which gave it the unplanned opportunity to rule the area, transforming it into a place for cultivation. At the same time, it made use of the Stellar Source present in the area and spent many years to lay the sculptures so that it could cultivate.

However, now that its efforts were negated by Wang Baole, it grew furious, especially as Wang Baole continued to attack the sculpture.

"Little thief, I will swallow your flesh, extract your soul, and convert you into a ghost spirit. I'll whip you repeatedly for a thousand years to make you suffer for stealing my sculpture!" Patriarch Black Wind neared as it screamed. When it was a mere thousand feed from Wang Baole, Patriarch Black Wind screamed shrilly, sealing its hands as it pointed. Immediately, its body vanished, transforming into a black hurricane as it swept towards Wang Baole.

Realizing that his speed was no match for Patriarch Black Wind, Wang Baole was unhappy and wanted to pick up speed. However, noticing the black hurricane that it had transmogrified into, Wang Baole narrowed his eyes.

It's related to spirits indeed! Wang Baole laughed suddenly, tossing the remaining half of the sculpture aside. When he turned his head, a look of ferocity appeared in his eyes.

"Are you blind? I'm not a thief. This is the territory of my Vast Expanse Dao Palace. As a disciple of the Vast Expanse Dao Palace, I'm just here to take something. It's good enough that I didn't find trouble with you, yet you dare to threaten me?" Wang Baole sounded extremely righteous as he turned and clenched the right hand of Thearch Armor into a fist and punched!

#### **Chapter 598: Slaying Nascent Soul**

Hearing Wang Baole's words, Patriarch Black Wind trembled internally with shock. Without a doubt, the name 'Vast Expanse Dao Palace', along with the status of a disciple, created a natural response of fear.

Amidst its surprise, Wang Baole's fist landed!

After the trial for the Hyacinthus Tree leaf, Wang Baole had asked Feng Qiuran privately how his combat power compared with a Nascent Soul realm cultivator. If that question were asked by other Core

Formation realm cultivators, Feng Qiuran would have found it weird. However, since it was Wang Baole who asked the question, Feng Qiuran didn't find anything unusual about it.

Therefore, through Feng Qiuran's reply, Wang Baole came to know that his combat power was similar to an early-stage Nascent Soul realm cultivator. That was especially so as he later reached the third level of Lightning Immortal Transformation and had managed to stabilize his cultivation, both of which made him more confident of his combat power.

Putting in all my effort will allow me to battle an early-stage Nascent Soul realm cultivator! As Wang Baole punched, he closed his eyes. He seemed to have said everything carelessly previously. In reality, over the past half a month as he scavenged the statues and studied them, and as he suppressed those ghost spirits, Wang Baole had already arrived at the conclusion that it was very likely that Patriarch Black Wind's cultivation technique had something to do with spirits!

Even though Wang Baole was unsure how Patriarch Black Wind was formed from a gust of black wind, with his sensitivity towards spirits, he had already concluded that it had something to do with spirits the moment Patriarch Black Wind appeared. Now, as Patriarch Black Wind attacked, Wang Baole became even more certain of that.

Wang Baole's speed was no match for Patriarch Black Wind, and as such, he decided to attack directly. Right now, his ferocity and synchronization were both at maximum level, and the punch of Thearch Armor carried three times its usual force. The devouring seed in his body was activated, and his cultivation, which was at the peak of the late-stage Core Formation realm, was exhibited all at once. His Dark Core shook violently inside the devouring seed, causing the Dark Fire to emerge from Wang Baole's body and boost his punch, making it so powerful that it was transformed into a hurricane. Looking from a distance, a sea of fire seemed to have been produced!

At that instant, Wang Baole's hurricane clashed directly with the black hurricane transmogrified from Patriarch Black Wind. Immediately, a loud boom reverberated in all directions. The black wind was devastated, churning backwards and reforming into the figure of Patriarch Black Wind. Right now, it was taken aback, and a look of disbelief appeared in its eyes.

Wang Baole's punch had made Patriarch Black Wind tremble physically and emotionally with fear. The force of the punch had exceeded the capabilities of a Core Formation realm cultivator, reaching the level of someone at the Nascent Soul realm. That alone astonished it, but what shocked it the most was that the bizarre black-colored fire was capable of putting an indescribable restriction on it!

To a certain extent, it was inappropriate to call the black-colored fire restricting. More accurately, that ball of fire had made it scared out of its wits, such that there was an instinctive response of not wanting to come in contact with the fire!

All of that made what Wang Baole said previously about being a Vast Expanse Dao Palace disciple seem even more real. However, Patriarch Black Wind still found it difficult to believe.

"The Vast Expanse Dao Palace has already fallen, it's impossible that you are a Dao disciple!" As Patriarch Black Wind spoke, its facial expressions changed again. It suddenly thought about an issue that it had previously neglected, and that was... How did Wang Baole get there?

It didn't even have time to think much about it before Wang Baole's excited laughter was heard. Wang Baole retreated while breathing hurriedly after unleashing his punch.

Is this a Nascent Soul realm cultivator's capability? A sharp glow flashed across Wang Baole's eyes. He didn't feel that a Nascent Soul realm cultivator was weak. On the contrary, the fact that the alien cultivator was able to resist his punch, which was complemented by the suppressive force of his Dark Fire, gave Wang Baole a premonition that he might face the danger of death if he wanted to eliminate the Black Wind alien cultivator. That was especially so as there was an aura that made Wang Baole frightened hidden deep inside the alien cultivator's body.

Wang Baole wasn't confident of being able to dodge the alien cultivator if it were to attack after being pushed back. Therefore, in order to attain victory, Wang Baole had to lure the alien cultivator into unleashing its trump card... A glow flashed across Wang Baole's eyes as he took out a cylinder from his storage bag. When he opened it, a loud bang was produced, and a firework-like object exploded from the canister into the sky!

That canister was one of the many invented by Wang Baole when he was in the Ethereal Dao College in the Federation years ago. He had made some modifications to it, and right now, as it exploded, a large number of fireworks shot into the green skies. It was extremely eye-catching and was like a flare that could be seen even if one was far away.

It clearly surprised Patriarch Black Wind. Before it could react, Wang Baole was already laughing as he turned, his lightning avatar emerging. As Wang Baole waved his hand, the tri-colored flying sword flew out from his storage bracelet and was controlled by his Lightning Avatar, who directed it at high speed towards Patriarch Black Wind.

On the other hand, Wang Baole's actual body was now unleashing Thearch Armor. With his blood-colored meridians expanding and spreading at high speed, the bony threads of the second level of Thearch Armor also extended. That greatly increased Wang Baole's power as the desire for combat grew even more prominent in his eyes. Wang Baole rushed out, nearing Patriarch Black Wind instantly as he attacked. He didn't attack using force, but through trapping Patriarch Black Wind!

The loud boom reverberated endlessly. Wang Baole and Patriarch Black Wind began a battle in mid-air. Wang Baole's avatar, who was controlling the tri-colored flying sword, was astonishingly powerful as well. Despite that, since Patriarch Black Wind was a Nascent Soul realm cultivator, Wang Baole was no match for it. However, Wang Baole didn't unleash his Dark Fire or the full extent of his combat power.

As the two continued their duel, Patriarch Black Wind grew more troubled by the moment. Its opponent made it feel a high level of danger, especially after its question of how Wang Baole had managed to come was answered by the signal that Wang Baole had shot into the air.

It was initially not completely convinced by the answer to its question, but after seeing that Wang Baole's strategy seemed to involve dragging time out, it became certain of the answer!

He didn't come alone! As Patriarch Black Wind grew anxious, a frightening look appeared in its eyes. It knew that it couldn't afford to let Wang Baole continue dragging the time out and that everything should end as soon as possible. It quickly made a decision, and without any show of hesitation, it opened its eyes wide and screamed so shrilly that its voice seemed to be able to pierce through spirits.

The scream was so ear-piercing that it exploded, tearing apart the emptiness and causing a crack to suddenly appear on the ground. At the same time, Wang Baole felt like his head was about to explode, and his body was shaking extremely vigorously. A vortex appeared on Patriarch Black Wind's glabella, and a tiny bird flew out from it.

The bird was Patriarch Black Wind's Nascent Soul. It was clutching a miniature black sword the size of a finger. The sword gave off an air of antiquity, and immediately, when it appeared, the heavens and earth were transformed—the winds roared, and the clouds tumbled!

In the blink of an eye, the bird clutched the black sword and charged towards Wang Baole's glabella. That was the trump card of Patriarch Black Wind. It was so powerful, destructive, and unpredictable that it was capable of slaying another Nascent Soul realm cultivator!

However, despite it being powerful, it had a disadvantage. It could only be driven and controlled through contact with the Nascent Soul in one's body.

Just as the black bird clutched the black sword and neared Wang Baole, the Dark Fire in Wang Baole's body suddenly erupted, sweeping in all directions and surrounding Patriarch Black Wind. That surprised Patriarch Black Wind greatly, and in that instant, Wang Baole's physical body blurred and switched positions with his avatar!

Everything happened so quickly that Patriarch Black Wind hadn't managed to react when Wang Baole's lightning avatar, which had a combat power similar to Wang Baole himself, was pierced by the black sword carried by the black bird as it flew through the Dark Fire.

A loud boom was produced as Wang Baole's lightning avatar was devastated. When that happened, Wang Baole's physical body appeared where his lightning avatar was. Without hesitation, an intense desire to kill flashed across Wang Baole's eyes. That was the moment he had been waiting for. He raised his right hand, and the ninth-grade Dharmic Armament black pike emerged. He shot it out!

A sound so loud that it was akin to the emptiness being blown apart reverberated instantly. The black pike was like a flash of lightning as it charged directly towards Patriarch Black Wind!

Patriarch Black Wind was severely taken aback. Releasing its Nascent Soul resulted in it having difficulty controlling its body. It wanted to dodge the incoming attack, but Dark Fire was burning all around it, and the suppressive force was so strong that it was blocking all escape paths. Patriarch Black Wind stopped in its tracks, and the result of it doing so was the black pike being able to pierce through its chest at high speed!

A painful and pitiful scream reverberated instantly. The black bird that was released instantly flew back, wanting to return to Patriarch Black Wind's body. It was injured, but that was nothing compared to the large hand that emerged from Wang Baole, who now had a chilly glow in his eyes!

It was the Soul Guiding Hand!

Even though the hand was devastated by the black bird using the black sword when it emerged, it still reduced the speed at which the black bird was able to return to Patriarch Black Wind. The decrease in speed allowed the Dark Fire to suddenly tumble back and began burning Patriarch Black Wind. Instantly, as the Dark Fire spread out, Patriarch Black Wind's physical body was burnt to ashes!

The destruction of its physical body meant that the black bird, which was formed from its Nascent Soul, had lost its backing, and it was injured severely. It was on the brink of destruction and had turned blurry. With a frightened look in its eyes, it turned and tried to escape.

Trying to escape? A chilly glow flashed across Wang Baole's eyes as he went after the black bird!

Chapter 599: Vast Expanse Dao Planet!

A look of fear flashed across the black bird's eyes as it unleashed its full speed to escape. However, having lost its physical body, and coupled with the Nascent Soul suffering severe injuries due to backlash, the black bird was now without a base to fall back on. No matter how fast it was, it was affected. If its opponent were someone else, the effect wouldn't have been as devastating. However, of all people, its opponent was Wang Baole, a Dark Child.

After all, to a certain extent, a Nascent Soul was formed from a soul. As Wang Baole charged out, he raised his right hand, and the Soul Guidance Hand instantly emerged at high speed. Dark Fire also spread in all directions, blocking the black bird from all corners, such that regardless of how it struggled and how it used the black sword, it was useless. It merely made it a bit more troublesome for Wang Baole.

Soon, as the black bird grew progressively weaker after using the black sword multiple times, Wang Baole managed to grab hold of it!

Let's see if you're still able to create chaos! A chilly glow was revealed in Wang Baole's eyes as he activated Thearch Armor without hesitation. Instantly, the black bird screamed painfully as it was gradually absorbed by Wang Baole's Flame Snatch and integrated into Thearch Armor.

At that moment, the entire Thearch Armor glowed as if it had received large amounts of nourishment. Several white threads were produced and interlaced with each other. Even though there was still some way to go before bone armor was eventually formed, it was now clearly moving towards completion.

At the same time, Wang Baole also had a strong interest in the black sword. After inspecting it, he realized that the sword didn't have a core and was entirely different from how one would refine artifacts in the Federation. It was as if the sword was a whole on its own and had been produced naturally.

That made Wang Baole surprised. Eventually, after combining his understanding of Dharmic Armaments and linking it with how Patriarch Black Wind had activated the sword, Wang Baole suddenly narrowed his eyes.

Could it be... This is a treasure that can only be controlled in the presence of a Nascent Soul? Wang Baole's curiosity was piqued by the Dharmic treasure. Therefore, he kept the black sword cautiously. At the same time, he realized that after destroying Patriarch Black Wind, no signs of teleportation had appeared.

He suddenly grew anxious and worried about the possibility that no teleportation would happen. He even asked Little Missy about it and came to realize that after the time limit of one month had passed, teleportation would definitely occur.

That made Wang Baole heave a sigh of relief, despite still feeling that everything seemed a little bizarre. However, since there was no way to change things, Wang Baole decided to continue his scavenging.

Perhaps I'm thinking too much. Since the teleportation would definitely happen, then I should collect more materials before that happens. After all, all this exists in reality. If I could bring all the items back, then I would really have struck gold! With that thought, Wang Baole was filled with excitement once again, and he continued charging ahead.

Several days passed in that manner. Wang Baole had scavenged every single place that he could find. Even though there would definitely be more that he could pick up in regions that were further out, he didn't have time, and he was also worried about the teleportation issue. Therefore, he decided to end the sweep and even purposefully returned to the location where he had first landed to await the teleportation.

Without waiting for too long, and while Wang Baole was still feeling somewhat nervous, a loud boom suddenly sounded between the heavens and earth from the sky. It formed a huge vortex, and as the vortex rotated noisily, Wang Baole immediately raised his head. Instantly, an extremely strong suction force began spreading outwards from the skies, enveloping his body.

Amidst the loud boom and Wang Baole's nervousness, he flew into the air and towards the vortex. Immediately, he vanished within the vortex. Gradually, even the vortex disappeared. The skies returned to normalcy. The ground was still pitch-black as if no one had come before. Only those ghost spirits that survived, and those who resided in villages that hadn't been scavenged, slowly began to realize that Patriarch Black Wind had vanished.

At the same time, a bloody and ruthless legend began to spread. In the legend, a monster that ate the spirits not only ate Patriarch Black Wind but even ate most of its companions. The ghost spirits were frightened for a long time after hearing the legend.

The strange beast in the future legend of the Black Spirit Dwarf Planet heaved a sigh of relief when he realized that everything before his eyes had returned to normal. He had reappeared in front of the great hall of the fifth palace.

After that, Wang Baole hurriedly lowered his head to look at his storage bracelet. After noticing that it was filled with sculptures, a look of delight appeared on his face. His body trembled, and after a moment, he began to laugh hysterically.

I really managed to bring them back! Wang Baole's excitement and exhilaration were indescribable. Those feelings were even stronger than him eating a chicken leg with a soy egg.

In his exhilaration, Wang Baole checked his storage bracelet in detail again to confirm what he had seen. He felt energised and grew even more excited to enter the trial in the next palace. However, due to the peculiar circumstances of the trials, Wang Baole tried very hard before he was able to suppress his agitation. He didn't rashly take on the trial in the fifth palace. Instead, he turned to look behind him.

Wang Baole didn't see Zhao Yameng or Kong Dao, and that made him turn from happy to worried. Thankfully, without waiting too long, he saw Zhao Yameng outside the great hall of the fourth palace, just as she was transported back.

When Wang Baole turned to look, he saw that Zhao Yameng seemed beaten as she vomited a mouthful of blood and sat down with her face pale. It could be seen very clearly that there were many scratches on her body. Clearly, the fourth palace was very challenging for her, and from where she had emerged, it could be guessed that Zhao Yameng had failed in the trial.

Wang Baole remained silent and didn't speak. However, he understood that in the trial of the fourth palace, Zhao Yameng's opponent was also a Nascent Soul realm cultivator, which increased her chance of failure.

It's alright as long as she's safe. Wang Baole took a look at Zhao Yameng from a distance before turning to look towards the first palace. Then, he sat down with his legs crossed, meditating while cultivating so that he would return to his best state.

Two days passed. Zhao Yameng regained her consciousness, and Kong Dao also emerged from the first palace. The three of them were far from each other. After looking at one another, Kong Dao decided to enter the second palace, while Zhao Yameng laughed bitterly as she looked at Wang Baole. She decided to give up on the trial and end it then.

However, she didn't leave immediately. Apparently, she wanted to wait and see how Wang Baole and Kong Dao would perform.

After looking at Zhao Yameng with a comforting look in his eyes, Wang Baole took a deep breath and ended his period of rest. He gauged his current status, and also had the intention to ask Zhao Yameng for a storage bag. However, as he was one palace away, and the entire place was so bizarre, he couldn't backtrack unless he chose to give up. Therefore, Wang Baole regrettably gave up on the thought as he rose and charged towards the great hall of the fifth palace without hesitation.

The instant Wang Baole entered, Little Missy's voice reverberated in his mind.

"Take out your intrinsic scabbard!"

Without hesitation, Wang Baole raised his right hand and pressed it hard on his body. When he lifted his hand again, his intrinsic scabbard was glowing as it was taken out.

As the scabbard was taken out by Wang Baole, the fifth palace suddenly shook before returning to a state of silence. Wang Baole blinked as he looked at the emptiness surrounding him. He tried to call for Little Missy but to no avail. After waiting for the time of ten breaths, the cold and emotionless voice slowly arrived by his ears.

"The trial to become a personal disciple in the fifth palace will begin after the time of a hundred breaths.

"Trial taker, please prepare. You will be sent to the only main star of the Vast Expanse Galactic system, the Vast Expanse Dao Planet. You are to retrieve the civilization stone tablet and return in order to complete the mission!

"The Vast Expanse Dao Planet has already become barren, but the Never-Ending Clan is still present, with the guardians having cultivations at the Planet realm. This trial is extremely challenging, and the trial-taker is to be vigilant!

"If the trial-taker doesn't voice his rejection within the time of a hundred breaths, it will be taken that he accepts and is willing to take on the trial! Please note that this is not an illusion but reality. If the trial-taker dies, he will be deemed to have fallen. If he gives up during the trial, he will still have to persevere for ten days!"

As the voice reverberated, Wang Baole suddenly widened his eyes, and his breathing also grew urgent. The mission in the fifth palace seemed to him like a trial that had a high chance of death!

It involved returning to the galactic system that the Vast Expanse Dao Palace was once at. In the barren land where the Never-Ending Clan remained, Wang Baole was to retrieve the required item. That, to Wang Baole, was extremely challenging, and that was needless to say with the presence of guardians at the Planet realm cultivation.

With that thought, Wang Baole immediately grew anxious. Just as he was about to reject the mission, Little Missy's calm voice reverberated in his head.

"Relax. This time, let me use your intrinsic scabbard to influence the mission. Only then will you receive the refinement material to upgrade your intrinsic scabbard to the seventh grade!

"In other words, only when you're there can you use the remnant energy of the Vast Expanse Dao Palace to complete the refinement of your intrinsic scabbard. Otherwise, even if you have all the materials, your chance of success is less than ten percent due to the difference in the laws of the star system!"

Wang Baole was shocked and remained silent for a while. As the time of a hundred breaths was about to end, he gritted his teeth, and a look of determination appeared in his eyes.

"I'm going!"

Chapter 600: It's All the Same Tactics!

The glory enjoyed by the original Vast Expanse Star System, which was the Vast Expanse Dao Planet of yesteryear, became a tale of the past with the arrival of the Never-Ending Clan many years ago. The bustling star had also turned into an area of barren land.

Looking from a distance, the skies were no longer clear and were instead gray and cloudy. If one had the ability to examine the skies in detail, he would realize that within the gray-colored fog lay countless tiny gray-colored beetles. Those beetles were so small that they couldn't be seen with the naked eye. They were now scattered in the skies of the Vast Expanse Dao Planet and covered a vast and seemingly unlimited area.

Any form of life that tried to enter or leave the area without a special identity token would be faced with those beetles wriggling into their bodies. Even if their cultivation had reached the Planet realm, it wouldn't be of any help to their survival as they would be devoured thoroughly to the state where no trace would be left behind.

After all, this was formed by the remnant auras from one of the Divine Kings of the Never-Ending Clan. Despite the collapse of the Vast Expanse Dao Palace and the departure of that Divine King, his aura still remained like a form of resistive existence.

At the same time, the greenery and water bodies on land had turned bald and stagnant. Both the forests and the ponds had become wastelands. Countless mutated ferocious beasts scattered by the Never-Ending Clan ravaged the area, and a gigantic jackhammer-shaped Dharmic Artifact, which also seemed like a Divine Armament, was giving out an aura that seemed capable of destroying the heavens and earth. The aura was so strong that it appeared to be piercing into the mountain entrance of the Vast Expanse Dao Palace!

It broke the huge mountain apart directly. Resting amongst the countless mountainous rocks and the ruins, the giant jackhammer-shaped Dharmic Artifact shone with a continuous evil glow.

There were nine such Dharmic Artifacts on this planet!

They were all pierced into the ground, centered around this main star, sucking out the essence from the Vast Expanse Star System.

As the Vast Expanse Star System was once an array formation, it made the entire galactic system seem like a large net. The main star was the center of it and was acting like a pumping heart. Therefore, the suction process centered around the main star that was taking place would affect the entire galactic system.

Surrounding the giant jackhammer-shaped Dharmic Artifact were numerous cultivators of the Never-Ending Clan. Many of them were patrolling the area, and their task was to destroy the remaining evil existences of the Vast Expanse Dao Palace.

At the same time, in the skies, antique-looking combat vehicles could be seen zooming past occasionally. Elites of the Never-Ending Clan were standing on the vehicles and looking at the land with a chilly gaze.

It could be said that desolation, indifference, and cruelty had become the theme of this world. Even though there were still people from the Dao Palace who were trying to resist this way of life, their efforts were insignificant. They could only watch as the star, and the galactic system, slowly withered and died, eventually becoming a specimen kept by that Divine King of the Never-Ending Clan.

The only wish of those resistors left on the Vast Expanse main planet was to use their remaining life to fight and resist despite having no power to change anything...

Right now, on the dull Vast Expanse main planet, teleportation waves suddenly appeared at a ruined area a distance away from the entrance to the Vast Expanse Dao Palace's mountain. Those waves formed and disappeared extremely quickly, such that Wang Baole appeared without anyone from the Never-Ending Clan noticing.

The moment Wang Baole appeared, even before he could get used to the environment, Little Missy's nervous and hurried voice was heard in his mind.

"Prone down quickly!"

Wang Baole was taken aback and instinctively laid down quickly. At the same time, Little Missy's figure also swiftly appeared. Sealing her hands and pointing, both Little Missy and Wang Baole were instantly shrouded in a fog, blending in with the surroundings.

Immediately after that, a combat vehicle arrived at high speed in the sky and stopped in mid-air. There was an Never-Ending Clan cultivator on the combat vehicle. The cultivator was young and had six arms and three heads. He was clad in gray-colored armor that was damaged in many areas, but there was still a look of indifference in his eyes.

He was clearly an Never-Ending Clan cultivator with extremely rich combat experience. Right now, his six eyes were looking at the land. He then inspected the area in detail for a long time and even extended the inspection to the surrounding nothingness before leaving.

Wang Baole didn't dare to move a single bit until that cultivator had left. In reality, even though Little Missy had covered him with the fog, his field of vision wasn't obstructed, and he could see everything in the sky clearly. Without a doubt, he could also see that an aura stronger than that of Feng Qiuran was emanating from that Never-Ending Clan cultivator. It was an aura on the level of... the Soul Conduit realm!

After fifteen minutes, Little Missy was about to move when a flash appeared across Wang Baole's eyes, and he quickly spoke in his mind.

"Don't move, let's wait for another half an hour!"

Hearing those words, Little Missy kept silent again. Moments passed like that, and when almost half an hour had passed, the combat vehicle in the sky that had previously left suddenly returned. After inspecting the surroundings and the land, the Never-Ending Clan cultivator raised one of his hands and sealed it. Instantly, an illusory map appeared in front of him.

The map was a projection of the area. Only after juxtaposing it and confirming that there was nothing different from previously did the Never-Ending Clan cultivator turn and take his leave for real.

It could be imagined that had Wang Baole started to move previously and risked making a mistake that could create differences in the area that they had transformed to hide in, they would have been detected. If they were detected, the consequences would be severe...

Therefore, after waiting for a while more, Wang Baole finally heaved a sigh of relief and indicated to Little Missy that she could retract the cover that they were hiding under. At the same time, without Wang Baole even needing to say anything, Little Missy sealed her hands and put spells in place that ensured that there were no changes in the area that they were hiding in. After that, Wang Baole began to laugh bitterly.

"Little Missy, this place is too dangerous..."

"Don't worry, I'll help you with this task, and no mishaps will happen. Now, I want to use some of the remaining essence laws of the Vast Expanse Dao Palace on this planet and envelop you with them. This can allow your appearance to change and transform you to look like someone from the Never-Ending Clan. Due to the rules here, anyone below the level of Planet realm won't be able to tell that there is anything unusual!" Little Missy spoke quickly. That was also one of the reasons why she was confident of successfully helping Wang Baole complete the task.

If they were on another planet, Little Missy wouldn't be able to accomplish that in her current state. However, due to her status, that wasn't the case on the Vast Expanse Dao Palace main planet.

Furthermore, even though the area had turned into ruins, Little Missy still felt a sense of familiarity with it.

Now, as Little Missy spoke, she sealed both her hands without waiting for Wang Baole to say anything. She pressed her hands hard on the ground. It didn't cause the ground to shake, but instead, slivers of light began to shine from underground. The source of light wasn't brilliant, and as such, only a little bit of starlight could be extracted. After a while, only a fist-sized cluster was formed.

The moment Wang Baole looked towards the light cluster, he was gripped with surprise. He seemed to have seen countless cultivators, countless spells, and even numerous threads that connected everyone and every spell. Put more accurately, different spells were formed through arrangement by different threads.

As for the items on the deeper level, Wang Baole couldn't see them. That glance was his limit and had caused his mind to buzz noisily. At the same time, Little Missy quickly pressed that cluster of light against Wang Baole's glabella.

Immediately, Wang Baole's body shook violently. His body became bloated instantly, and under the many transformations that happened in the time of a few breaths, he seemed to have grown taller. Two heads appeared on both sides of his neck, and four more arms grew from his torso.

That made Wang Baole feel incredulous. Little Missy disappeared as she returned to the mask, reminding Wang Baole in his mind.

"That is all I can do. React quickly, and don't give yourself away. The Never-Ending Clan seldom converse amongst themselves. I can understand their language, and I will translate for you. Now, follow my guidance and move.

"Relax, I know that there is a secret path not far away from here. It leads to the bottom of the ruins of the Dao Palace's mountain entrance. The item indicated in your task is there. At the same time, the place where you can refine your scabbard is also there!"

Seems like she's the one that wants the stone... Wang Baole mumbled in his mind while laughing bitterly. If he couldn't realize that right now, he wouldn't be a Secondary Rank Two Noble of the Federation. It appeared that Little Missy had used some method to alter the task, such that the stone wasn't a requirement of the trial of the fifth palace but something that Little Missy wanted instead.

That was why he could come and have the opportunity to refine his scabbard. However, since things had already turned out the way they did, Wang Baole took a deep breath and rolled his eyes. He felt that if he didn't make use of this opportunity to curry Little Missy's favor, he would let himself down. As such, he spoke with emotion to Little Missy in his mind.

"Little Missy, Baole is not silly... However, I am willing to do anything for you, even if I have to scale a treacherous mountain, go into a sea of fire, or even break my bones..."