

Worth 891

Chapter 891: The Reason for Attacking!

Wang Baole narrowed his eyes. In view of his current state, this wasn't an ideal time for him to get into a fight with a Planet realm. His trump card, the Planet realm palm, had been destroyed, and his Emperor Armor had been emptied of spirit energy. He retreated hastily as the Heavenly Spirit Sect's right-hand elder charged at him, leaving an afterimage of himself as he flew back.

Wang Baole's eyes flashed as he retreated, and the right-hand elder gave chase. He raised his right hand and formed a hand seal. Countless inscriptions appeared on the ground within a radius of three hundred feet. They exploded and transformed into countless blades that rushed at the right-hand elder.

These blades rained upon the right-hand elder like a fierce storm, charging at him with the ferocity of a hurricane. They might not be able to inflict serious injury on the right-hand elder, but they were still obstacles in his path that slowed him down!

The skies thundered loudly, and a stormy look darkened the right-hand elder's face. His hands came together and formed a series of hand seals. Beams of light in the colors of the rainbow erupted from his body. Each eruption sent the skies rumbling, turning all blades that approached him into instant dust.

During this time, Wang Baole had made full use of the opportunity afforded him and unleashed his full speed, retreating fifty thousand feet away from his enemy. An icy glint flashed in his eyes as his right hand formed another hand seal and pointed at the ground.

The lands within fifty thousand feet of him began to quake violently, and beams of light rose to the skies, transforming the area into a sea of light. Once again, the right-hand elder was slowed down by the array formation.

These array formations... had been set up by Wang Baole in the past two weeks while he had been meditating. He might have appeared to have done nothing at all during that period, but being who he was, Wang Baole wouldn't have placed all his bets on Xie Haiyang's token. He had prepared extensively for the upcoming encounter with the right-hand elder.

In fact, if the right-hand elder hadn't destroyed everything within ten thousand feet of him when he had first arrived and unleashed his divine power, Wang Baole's array formation would have been able to unleash greater power. That didn't matter though, as he had enough time to set up a foolproof trap!

Many of the array formations had come from Zhao Yameng. Coupled with Wang Baole's cultivation, the power of these array formations was unleashed to their fullest.

As Wang Baole retreated, he formed a series of hand seals and pointed towards the sky. The heavens were transformed instantly. Dark clouds gathered, and bolts of lightning descended upon the earth as if drawn by the pillars of light on the ground. The land seemed to have transformed into an ocean of lightning.

Wang Baole didn't examine the results of his summoning, nor did he pause in his retreat, falling back a hundred feet into the distance. Then, he formed another hand seal and pointed towards the ground, activating another round of array formations and sending his Divine Will into the Peace Token concurrently. He had examined the token previously. Even though he hadn't managed to figure out its

detailed inner workings, he had been able to conclude that the jade token could also be used for voice transmissions.

“Xie Haiyang, what kind of Peace Token is this? It’s useless. I’m being hunted by my enemy right now. He said that he doesn’t recognize the token!” There was a look of composure on Wang Baole’s face even though he sounded flustered and angry. The right-hand elder of the Heavenly Spirit Sect was howling in the distance, rainbow-colored lights glowing around him as he charged out of the sea of lightning, the beam of light, and the hurricane of blades and rushed at Wang Baole. With a series of hand seals, mountains suddenly rose from the earth like steps to heaven, placing obstacle after obstacle between Wang Baole and the right-hand elder and stopping the right-hand elder in his path once again.

“Long Nanzi!” A murderous glow lit the right-hand elder’s eyes. The pressure on him had spiked after Wang Baole had whipped out his Peace Token. He howled as his desire to kill Long Nanzi intensified. The sun suddenly flared up, and a beam of light descended from the sky and charged at Wang Baole.

Alarm flashed across Wang Baole’s face. He retreated hastily and narrowly dodged the attack. The right-hand elder slammed his palms on his forehead, and a furious howl that seemed to have come from the depths of the abyss pierced the heavens. An enormous crimson wolf suddenly materialized behind the right-hand elder. It then melded with the right-hand elder and charged at Wang Baole.

The right-hand elder’s form looked like a beam of red light from afar, charging wildly and menacingly.

Mountain walls and peaks protruding from the earth barely stopped his advance. Hard stone shattered and crumbled into dust. Wang Baole continued to retreat at top speed, forming hand seals and blowing up array formations that he had set up, but it was useless. The right-hand elder caught up with him in the next moment and opened his jaws, prepared to devour Wang Baole whole.

“Die!”

“Xie Haiyang!” Alarm flashed across Wang Baole’s face as he howled at the Peace Token. Perhaps the howling had worked, or perhaps some feature inherent in the Peace Token had been activated, but a white light erupted from the Peace Token just as the right-hand elder was about to swallow Wang Baole whole. The light surged outwards, enveloping Wang Baole and transforming into an enormous sphere of light!

The right-hand elder’s crimson lupine jaws snapped shut at the exact moment the glowing sphere was formed. A loud snap resounded in the air, which was followed by a scream of agony in the next moment.

The one shattered to bits wasn’t Wang Baole but... the crimson wolf that the right-hand elder had transformed into. His jaw had shattered. It was as if he had bitten into hard rock—resilient and impenetrable. His fangs cracked, and his lower jaw split open. His lupine form blurred away and reformed into his human form. There was a look of stunned disbelief on his face as he retreated hastily.

The right-hand elder stopped only after he had retreated a thousand feet from Wang Baole. His face had grown pale, and there was blood flowing from his lips. A fire appeared to be burning in his eyes as he stared unblinkingly at the glowing sphere of light and Wang Baole, who was inside.

The right-hand elder made a charge again, heading for the glowing sphere as he unleashed his trump card. Rainbow-colored lights lit the skies and sent a thunderous boom rumbling in the air. The glowing

sphere suffered no damage. The right-hand elder, on the other hand, shuddered from the repeated backlash of his attacks and spat out another mouthful of blood. In the end, he decided to risk everything he had. He activated the power of the sun once more. A beam of light descended, but the attack was useless against the sphere of light.

The right-hand elder was on the verge of madness. His eyes were turning red rapidly.

Inside the glowing sphere, Wang Baole appeared to release a sigh of relief. He stared through the walls of the sphere and at the right-hand elder. Then, he picked up the Peace Token as the right-hand elder watched and growled at it.

“Xie Haiyang!”

This time, Xie Haiyang’s voice emerged from the token and echoed inside Wang Baole’s head.

“Brother Baole, I’ll look into this immediately and give you an answer. Humph... disregarding the Peace Token of the Xie family is akin to challenging our authority!” Xie Haiyang’s words took on a murderous tone as he spoke. An imperceptible flicker appeared in Wang Baole’s eyes as he listened to Xie Haiyang. He ended the voice transmission, then looked up and beyond the glowing sphere. The right-hand elder had a stormy look on his face. Wang Baole smirked mirthlessly at him.

The right-hand elder was raging with madness. He didn’t know why this was happening to him. Why was it so difficult to kill a mere Spirit Immortal realm cultivator? He might have explained his earlier failure with the excuse that they had been in the Divine Eye civilization, but he was on his own turf now. Yet, obstacles continued to appear. The appearance of the legendary Peace Token had also unsettled him very much. This sense of unease had grown after he had seen Wang Baole sending what had appeared to be a voice transmission through the jade token while standing inside the glowing sphere.

Anxiety and frustration spiked inside him. He had reached his limits. The right-hand elder roared, then shot Wang Baole a vicious glower and, without any warning, turned around and raced into the skies. He was headed for the man-made Eternal Star.

He had made up his mind. He was going to return to the man-made Eternal Star and make use of the power of the Eternal Star to contact the Eternal Star realm patriarch of his civilization. Doing so might expose the Heavenly Spirit Sect’s failure and draw attention to his incompetence, but he was crumbling under the stress that he was feeling. He didn’t care any longer. The sense of impending doom he was sensing left a bad feeling in his guts.

I’m quitting this game and returning to the Violet Gold civilization. Let whoever wants to kill Long Nanzi do it himself! The right-hand elder fumed as he moved swiftly, soon vanishing from Wang Baole’s sight.

Inside the glowing sphere, Wang Baole looked up and stared at the right-hand elder as the latter departed. His eyes narrowed slowly.

It seems like Xie Haiyang is trying to sabotage someone, except it’s not me that he’s sabotaging but the right-hand elder*... If he had yielded to the Peace Token’s authority, my predicament would have been resolved. The fact that it was so easily resolved would indirectly prove how powerful Xie Haiyang is. Is he trying to show off?* A thoughtful look appeared on Wang Baole’s face.

Similarly, if the right-hand elder didn't yield to the token's authority, Xie Haiyang would also have a reason to step in. He'll still be able to show off! These thoughts flashed across Wang Baole's head swiftly. He raised his right hand and waved. A cloud of mist flew out from a Dharmic Battleship inside his storage bag and appeared outside, gathering and materializing into... another Wang Baole!

Chapter 892: Xie Haiyang Strikes!

There's no harm being cautious! The newly materialized form was Wang Baole's true essence body. He hadn't trusted Xie Haiyang completely. That had been why he had summoned a second avatar while keeping his true essence body safe in his storage bag.

He had his true form stowed away in his storage bag instead of having himself hidden far away. If his enemy had searched the area for him, he would discover his decoy first and not his true form, which had been hidden away safe and inside his storage bag.

It was akin to placing two spheres of light over one another. The first glowing sphere would hide the second sphere's existence. In fact, Wang Baole had gone to the lengths of injecting half of his essence into his decoy so that it would appear more realistic. Naturally, it was also considerably powerful.

Of course, the setup hadn't been entirely flawless. One would be able to sense that something was wrong upon closer scrutiny.

In order to prevent the right-hand elder from seeing through his deception, he had whipped out the Peace Token immediately in an attempt to draw his attention. He had run away to lure the right-hand elder into pursuing him, then activated his array formation in order to distract the right-hand elder from focusing on the authenticity of his form. That had been how he had managed to keep his true form hidden throughout the encounter.

In his original plan, if his decoy were to die in battle, he predicted that the right-hand elder would examine the contents of his storage bags. Wang Baole would have seized that opportunity and staged a sneak attack on the right-hand elder.

The difference in their cultivation levels meant that he wouldn't be able to kill the right-hand elder with that sneak attack. Regardless, he would still have been able to injure him with the unexpected attack and win himself the chance to escape. He would gain more time!

That had been Wang Baole's original plan. It wouldn't have mattered even if Xie Haiyang's Peace Token hadn't worked. He would still have been able to create a situation where he had the upper hand.

But all those preparations were useless now.

Wang Baole lifted his right hand after appearing outside his storage bag. His decoy transformed into mist and merged with his essence body. The accessories that he had stored away in his storage bag flew out of storage and appeared on his person.

"Xie Haiyang, since you plan to showcase the extent of your abilities, I'll wait for your good news then!" Wang Baole muttered to himself, sat down, and waited silently.

He didn't have to wait for long... Just as he sat down, the right-hand elder, who had raced away into the cosmos, had returned to the man-made Eternal Star. Before he could contact his civilization's patriarch

through the man-made Eternal Star, waves of teleportation made their appearance without any warning and without his prior command.

Shock flashed across the right-hand elder's face. He retreated swiftly, caution and wariness bright in his eyes. Caution transformed into shock in the next moment. He watched waves of teleportation ripple in the abyss before him, and a man slowly stepped out of the teleportation portal.

The man had short hair and appeared to be quite young. He was of average height, and his hair had clearly been styled with excessive hair wax. It gleamed brightly under the light and seemed to look like a source of light that drew everyone's eyes towards it uncontrollably.

The young man looked around after he stepped out of the portal before his eyes finally landed on the right-hand elder, who had a look of wariness and unconcealed shock on his face.

"Greetings!"

"Who are you?" The right-hand elder's breathing quickened. He could sense that the other man was at the Qi Refinement realm. He wasn't even at the Foundation Establishment realm. However, that didn't stop him from feeling fearful. Nothing made sense. A Qi Refinement realm cultivator shouldn't have the ability to teleport.

He believed that he knew the answer to the young man's appearance, but he didn't want to believe it. He dared not.

Xie Haiyang appeared not to have noticed the fear in the right-hand elder's eyes. He smiled faintly and then started speaking in a warm tone, sounding as if he were simply a businessman trying to sell his wares.

"Xie Haiyang, at your humble service. Fellow Daoist, would you like to consider becoming a valued customer of the Xie family? You simply have to pay a fee to become one. It doesn't matter what trouble you meet in the future. The Xie family will be at your service as long as you're able to pay for it."

"A valued customer?" The right-hand elder's face paled upon hearing the young man's family name. The fear in his eyes intensified, and he took a few steps back. It appeared to be a subconscious reaction, but in reality, he was secretly forming hand seals with the right hand hidden behind his back, as well as attempting to send commands to the man-made Eternal Star.

"That's right. It only costs ten million Red Crystals," Xie Haiyang smiled and said.

"Could I have more time to get the money ready..." The right-hand elder grimaced as he asked hesitantly.

"Does that mean that you can't afford the fees right now? That'll make things a lot easier. Honestly speaking, I'm really bothered by the rules set up by my family. It's clear that you're dealing with a troublemaker, but you still have to go through the trouble of justifying your actions." Xie Haiyang's face had been warm and smiling up to this point. But now, after having spoken, his eyes started flashing dangerously. The look in his eyes was like daggers—gleaming and sharp.

“You can’t afford the fees of becoming a valued customer of the Xie family, and yet, when you saw the Peace Token of the Xie family, you still continued to attack the holder of the token instead of retreating a hundred light-years away from him.”

Those words were like a blast of lightning, and color fled from the right-hand elder’s face instantly. He stepped back once again, his right hand speeding through its hand seals as terror rose inside his heart. He tried to explain himself.

“I...”

“You have two hours to make arrangements for your funeral. After the two hours are up, kill yourself. Remember to have someone send your head to the Xie family,” Xie Haiyang said coolly as he ignored the right-hand elder’s attempts to explain himself. Xie Haiyang’s voice was firm and assertive. His words seemed final. He then turned towards the abyss and appeared ready to leave.

His words were like a million lightning bolts crashing upon the right-hand elder. The right-hand elder’s mind buzzed with shock and numbness as he shuddered violently. His eyes reddened instantly. The resentment that he had felt during his encounter with Wang Baole and the feeling of being forced into a corner had driven him to the edge of madness. He was on the verge of a complete breakdown.

Violence and madness colored his eyes. He had re-established contact with the man-made Eternal Star and had confirmed that the young man had come alone. His low level of cultivation wasn’t some attempt at deception. It was real. This discovery emboldened the right-hand elder. Besides, he knew... that he was left with no other choice than death now that the Xie family had come knocking at his door. If that were indeed the case... he might as well try his luck and fight for his life!

Becoming a wanted man on the run was preferable to being driven to his death!

A murderous glint appeared in the right-hand elder’s eyes at that thought, and he roared.

“You’ve pushed me too far!” He raised his right hand as he spoke and pointed. The man-made Eternal Star began to quake violently. An immense power filled the air, then rushed towards Xie Haiyang. The strength of the attack seemed capable of destroying every living creature in its path immediately, turning both their body and spirit to instant dust.

Xie Haiyang appeared unfazed at the sight of the approaching attack. He didn’t even turn around. He simply coughed softly. An illusory hand stretched out from his back instantly and pointed lightly at the savage-looking right-hand elder.

The right-hand elder’s eyes widened, and he shuddered. Before the violence and madness in his eyes could fade away, before his mind had caught up and realized what had happened, his body... started to shatter. Within the blink of an eye, it caved in and turned into a cloud of dust. His Divine Soul didn’t escape unscathed, turning to dust alongside his physical body!

He hadn’t been killed by an external force. Instead, the planet inside his body had shattered. The result was a backlash. Because of that, the power of his own planet tried to consume him. There was no way he could have avoided or retaliated against such a backlash!

With his death, the initial command he had issued lost its effect. The seal over the Earth Spirit civilization weakened and then vanished instantly.

Throughout it all, Xie Haiyang didn't turn his head and look back. He continued walking towards the abyss, speaking mildly as the teleportation portal was activated.

"You must have been tired of living. You just gave up the final precious two hours of your life."

As the right-hand elder passed away and the seal over the Earth Spirit civilization vanished, Wang Baole, who had been seated inside his sphere of light, opened his eyes wide. He could sense the change over the Earth Spirit civilization. His eyes flashed. He rose to his feet and, with a wave of his hand, dispelled the light from the Peace Token. He gazed into the cosmos with intense light in his eyes.

"The seal has disappeared..." Wang Baole muttered to himself. Xie Haiyang's warm voice rang out from the Peace Token in his hand at that moment.

"Brother Baole, your problem has been solved. Didn't I promise you that I'd break the seal within two weeks? How about that? I haven't disappointed you at all, have I?"

"How about the right-hand elder?" Wang Baole narrowed his eyes and asked after a moment of silence. Xie Haiyang seemed to have been waiting for that question all along. He laughed and then replied in a completely casual, nonchalant manner.

"He killed himself."

Chapter 893: A Gift From the Earth Spirit Civilization!

Killed and being killed. The difference between the two utterances lay in a single word, yet what they meant was drastically different. In fact, they lay on the extreme ends of the same spectrum!

The casual way Xie Haiyang had announced the news of a Planet realm cultivator having killed himself was a testament of his power and resources. Anyone who had heard him speak like that would have shuddered.

Previously, Wang Baole had his guesses about the Xie family and had some understanding of how terrifying the family clan was. He had even guessed that the traps Xie Haiyang had set up for him had been done deliberately so that the latter could offer his help. But those thoughts didn't stop him from being shocked by Xie Haiyang's declaration. He was quiet for a long while.

Even though he hadn't seen what Xie Haiyang had said happened with his own eyes, the casual way Xie Haiyang had spoken and the disappearance of the seal over the Earth Spirit civilization clearly proved that Xie Haiyang wasn't lying or bragging. The Heavenly Spirit Sect's right-hand elder... had indeed fallen!

He had fallen in the Earth Spirit civilization, in a civilization that was within the Violet Gold civilization's protectorate. The backlash from his death was going to be considerable, but Xie Haiyang clearly wasn't concerned about that at all.

The Xie family... Wang Baole narrowed his eyes. He didn't raise the subject of the right-hand elder again. Instead, he began discussing his teleportation and departure from the Earth Spirit civilization with Xie Haiyang.

Teleporting Wang Baole from the Earth Spirit civilization directly to the Divine Eye civilization was beyond Xie Haiyang's capabilities. Even though the Xie family was extremely powerful and vast, it couldn't extend its influence into every small region across the vast Never-Ending Dao Domain. As a result, it was difficult for them to perform precise teleportations. However, that didn't mean that they didn't have a way around that.

The market that the Xie family owned and which Wang Baole had visited in the past served as a place of transit. Wang Baole would be teleported to the market. From the market, he could then make his way to the Divine Eye civilization. Based on Wang Baole's pace, it wouldn't take long for him to reach his destination.

"It's decided then. Brother Baole, I'll wait for you at the market. You can leave whenever you wish. Just send your Divine Will into the Peace Token. I've activated the relevant accesses for you. But like I said before, I'm only waiving the fees this time... You'll have to pay at least a token sum the next time." Xie Haiyang coughed before ending the conversation.

Xie Haiyang had returned to the market and was now sitting in his pavilion. In his hand was his voice transmission jade slip. He appeared to be smiling while his eyes flashed with satisfaction. He was extremely pleased with how he had handled this matter. He had resolved the tensions between himself and Wang Baole and helped the latter with his predicament. He had also exhibited his influence and power in a definite way.

"Baole, fewer than ten people in the entire Never-Ending Dao Domain get to enjoy such treatment from me," Xie Haiyang murmured to himself. He knew that his regard for Wang Baole stemmed not only from his admiration for the man but also from Wang Baole's relationship with the Flame Patriarch.

In addition... Xie Haiyang's guts told him that the Flame Patriarch wasn't the only ally Wang Baole had. There was another mysterious person or entity helping Wang Baole. This person or entity was even more powerful and mysterious than the Flame Patriarch.

That was why his investments in Wang Baole were extremely worthwhile!

Wang Baole might not know Xie Haiyang's exact thoughts, but he had a good idea of what the latter was thinking. The look of contemplation appeared in his eyes after he set the Peace Token aside. A moment later, his eyes flashed.

It doesn't matter. This is still good news! Xie Haiyang's showcase of his influence and the death of the right-hand elder were both things that Wang Baole welcomed heartily. After some thought, he set his heart at ease, and a sliver of satisfaction surfaced in his mind.

This is because I'm just too good. Wang Baole sighed. He was about to send his Divine Will into the Peace Token when he paused and thought for a bit. His eyes narrowed, and he didn't initiate the teleportation immediately. Instead, in a single bound, he left the planet and raced towards the cosmos. He was heading for the region beyond the Earth Spirit civilization, now accessible to him after the seal was deactivated.

He rushed towards the cosmos like a shooting star and approached the civilization's border rapidly. The Earth Spirit civilization wasn't very big. The planet that Wang Baole had been located on was

coincidentally near the borders too. With his current level of cultivation, it didn't take him much effort to reach the edge of the civilization. Once there, he was ready to dash out of the civilization.

It was then that... every living creature in the Earth Spirit civilization—those located at different spots in the civilization, male and female, old and young, including plant life and animals, all tens of thousands of them—suddenly... shuddered uncontrollably.

Xiuyan, the young woman whom Wang Baole had encountered, was one of them. It didn't matter what they had been doing a moment ago, at that very moment, a lost look appeared in their eyes as they shuddered. Something slumbering inside them appeared to have awoken.

He was right. Something had awoken!

If there were an Eternal Star realm cultivator in the region who had just extended his Divine Will across the area, he would immediately sense small flames flaring up inside numerous life forms in the Earth Spirit civilization. Threads, invisible to the naked eye, had emerged from these life forms and were rising rapidly into the skies. They surged from all corners of the planet and gathered at a particular spot in the cosmos!

They materialized as the indistinct, blurry silhouette of an old man!

The old man took one step and then vanished. In the next moment... he reappeared at the edge of the Earth Spirit civilization, right in front of Wang Baole! Wang Baole, who had been ready to depart, froze in his tracks.

To prevent any misunderstanding from taking place, the old man cupped his fists and extended a deep bow towards Wang Baole immediately after he appeared. Wang Baole had an unfathomable look in his eyes. He didn't seem surprised by the old man's sudden appearance.

"Greetings, fellow Daoist from the outer domain!"

Wang Baole's eyes flashed as he extended his senses outwards and examined the old man's aura. Then, one of his eyebrows rose slightly. He could tell that the man before him was merely a wisp of Divine Soul. His true and complete form had once been at the Planet realm or higher.

But he was now severely weakened. In fact, it was a miracle that he had managed to preserve a wisp of his Divine Soul. It should have been impossible for him to materialize and appear before Wang Baole, but he had done it. This old man clearly had some tricks up his sleeve or had been blessed with some cultivation-related golden ticket that Wang Baole was unaware of.

During his earlier examination of the old man's aura, Wang Baole had also sensed a fire inside him that he had previously sensed inside the female cultivator he had come across in the inn. Even though he couldn't tell for sure who this old man was, Wang Baole was quite certain that he was the former patriarch of the Earth Spirit civilization.

"What do you want from me?" Wang Baole asked coolly.

He had guessed right. The old man was the former patriarch of the Earth Spirit civilization. His Divine Soul had been scattered to the cosmos when he had died. Through certain special means, he had melded with the bloodline of his people. Doing so, he had evaded the notice of the Violet Gold

civilization as he alternated between deep slumber and wakefulness. Through the tens of thousands of life forms he had hidden himself within, he had continued to keep track of what was going on in the world without exposing himself. He had been waiting all this while for an opportunity to resurrect himself and reverse the fate of his civilization!

He had sensed Wang Baole's arrival and the activation of a seal over the Earth Spirit civilization. He hadn't interfered with the events that had unfolded but had observed them quietly. He had watched the fight between Wang Baole and the right-hand elder, sensed the bizarre death of the right-hand elder and the release of the seal, and had been shocked by all that he had seen and sensed.

His instincts told him that this might be the chance of a lifetime!

That was why he risked gathering his separate flames and appeared before Wang Baole. Upon hearing Wang Baole's question, the old man knew that the cultivator must have realized who he was. In fact, there was a great likelihood that Wang Baole had been waiting for him. He bowed once more, deeply, and had an earnest look on his face.

"I dare not ask for anything. I only hope that the esteemed fellow Daoist can help me reverse the fate of the Earth Spirit civilization should a day come in the future when you are able... But it doesn't matter if you aren't able. Since fate has brought you here, let us seize this opportunity and not waste it." Upon saying that, the old man raised his right hand. The lights that had formed his present body gathered around his right hand and materialized as a sphere of blinding light.

With a flip of his sleeve, the sphere of light left his hand and floated towards Wang Baole. He was clearly visibly harmed by this. His form became blurrier, and it looked as if he were unable to sustain it for much longer. His Divine Will also appeared considerably weakened.

"This is a Planet Catalyst, a part of the Earth Spirit civilization's original essence. It can help a perfected Spirit Immortal realm cultivator increase their chance of melding with a planet!" The old man fell silent after that. He bowed again, and then his physical form dissipated gradually and returned to the abyss. The tens of thousands of confused living creatures of the Earth Spirit civilization shuddered once again. Some of those lives shriveled instantly and turned to dust, while those that had survived experienced severe weakness.

Throughout it all, Wang Baole had only spoken once. He watched as the old man's form disappeared, then looked down at the sphere of light before him. He had no idea what a Planet Catalyst was, but a scan from his Divine Will showed him how incredible it was. The old man's sincerity and eloquence left Wang Baole sighing.

This old man isn't a simple character. Because of the way he handled this matter and treated me, it wouldn't be right for me to take advantage of him. I would feel bad if I did that. Wang Baole knew that the old man had realized that something was going on and had decided to take a risk. He had placed his bets on Wang Baole openly and allowed Wang Baole to make the next move. Wang Baole fell into contemplative silence as he turned and studied the Earth Spirit civilization. He didn't express his agreement or disagreement to help. He merely activated the teleportation with his Peace Token as he stepped away and left the civilization.

In the next moment... the light of the teleportation spell enveloped him, and he vanished!

Chapter 894: Right Before One's Eyes!

This was Wang Baole's first time experiencing long-distance teleportation that spanned countless light-years. He felt as if his body was being ripped apart, and his Divine Soul felt as though it was being torn into shreds. He almost collapsed onto the ground when he reappeared.

He struggled to keep himself upright as he did a quick sweep of his surroundings. He found himself standing in a huge teleportation array formation that possibly spanned a hundred thousand feet.

Countless inscriptions were engraved into the ground. These inscriptions were fading away gradually, but he could imagine the pillar of light that had erupted from them and risen into the sky during his teleportation.

Eight towering stone steles stood outside the array formation. There were inscriptions on the stone steles too. They were also fading away. Right in front of Wang Baole, between two stone steles, stood a dozen or so people.

The person standing right in front was Xie Haiyang. He was smiling widely at him.

Wang Baole sighed a breath of relief when he saw Xie Haiyang. He sent his Divine Will out and did a scan of the area. He was finally set at ease when he realized that he had returned to the Xie family's market.

Regardless, the pain felt by his Divine Soul and the strange nauseating feeling he was experiencing had left him panting. He didn't have time to deal with his discomfort, though. With his face still pale, Wang Baole quickly inspected himself. His heart was set at ease after ascertaining that his essence hadn't been lost during the teleportation. That was when he made his way towards Xie Haiyang.

His breathing evened out gradually as he approached Xie Haiyang. In fact, he appeared to have recovered entirely from the teleportation before reaching a thousand feet of Xie Haiyang. The bright glimmer in his eyes had returned as well.

Xie Haiyang was slightly startled by that sight. He knew very well the dangers of Holy Domain-level teleportations. It was common for cultivators at cultivation levels lower than the Planet realm to die during such teleportations. Only cultivators who had reached the Planet realm could be guaranteed a certain level of safety when performing Holy Domain-level teleportations.

He had instructed his subordinates to be especially careful when teleporting Wang Baole. They were to ensure that the teleportation was as smooth and gentle a trip as possible. Even though he had tried to make the trip as safe as it could be, he couldn't prevent the exhaustion and weakness that followed the teleportation. It should have taken one day to recover, but Wang Baole had recovered in no time at all. That had shocked Xie Haiyang, but the smile on his face grew more brilliant as he spoke loudly.

"Brother Baole, you're truly extraordinary. This is the first time I've seen someone who's not at least at the Eternal Star realm recover so quickly from long-distance teleportation."

He wasn't aware that the form that Wang Baole was in wasn't his true form. It was his essence body. The adverse effects that affected the physical form didn't affect Wang Baole.

Wang Baole wasn't going to share this information with Xie Haiyang. He took a single bound forward, crossing a thousand feet, and appeared before Xie Haiyang. There was a smile on his face.

"Did you forget about the Flame Patriarch's mission? We were teleported away in a similar fashion. I got used to it." Wang Baole smiled, using the guise of an explanation to drop the Flame Patriarch's name into the conversation.

This was a precautionary measure on his part. It was also a reminder to Xie Haiyang. He wanted the latter to know that he had a powerful cultivator ready to come to his assistance anytime he wanted. Xie Haiyang should think twice about setting him up.

Xie Haiyang appeared unfazed by his comment even though he was grimacing secretly. Despite the many favors that he had done for Wang Baole, the latter remained wary of him. He knew that the Flame Patriarch held Wang Baole in high regard, but there really wasn't a need for Wang Baole to mention the Flame Patriarch every time they met.

1

The smile on Xie Haiyang's face widened in contrast to his thoughts. Wang Baole's actions were proof of his mindfulness and intelligence. It showed that he knew how to make use of his connections to his advantage. If he were to look at it from a positive angle, that meant that Wang Baole had a greater chance of surviving his journey of cultivation smoothly and developing into a powerful cultivator. What Xie Haiyang had invested in Wang Baole was in safe hands.

His smile didn't waver as they made the trip back to the market. He chatted happily with Wang Baole, making casual conversation along the way. He had intended to reminisce about the past and use the opportunity to strengthen their friendship, but his voice transmission jade slip vibrated after he entered the market. The look on Xie Haiyang's face shifted after he went through the contents of the transmission. In spite of his level-headed composure, he couldn't conceal the shock and panic in his eyes. Wang Baole, who had been watching him closely, was intrigued.

"Brother Haiyang, did something happen?" Wang Baole asked curiously.

"It's nothing... Brother Baole, I'm afraid I can't keep you company for much longer. Something came up. I have to return to my family clan immediately and attend to the matter." Xie Haiyang was clearly anxious. He hadn't lied, he really did need to return home because of what had happened unexpectedly. He could do nothing but cup his fists at Wang Baole and take his leave.

He couldn't tell Wang Baole the exact details of what had happened. He could only provide the vaguest of information.

"Two powerful people... have gotten into a fight..." He took his leave upon saying that and left in a hurry. Wang Baole had never seen such a look on Xie Haiyang's face. He watched as the other man left, a look of contemplation in his eyes.

"He's being vague... Two powerful cultivators in a fight? How powerful can they be?" Wang Baole muttered to himself before turning away. He began strolling around the market. Since he was there, he planned to replenish the materials that he had exhausted. There was going to be a fierce battle awaiting him when he returned to the Divine Eye civilization.

While Wang Baole was strolling around the market, Xie Haiyang, who had left in a hurry, had gathered his most reliable subordinates in the quickest time possible and headed for the teleportation array formation. The portal had already been activated when he arrived. He stood in the center of the array formation and watched as the glow of the teleportation array formation shone around him. There was a stormy look on his face, and a fierce light flashed in his eyes.

The Sundered Moon Emperor ambushed Chen Qing by using eight Primal Cauldrons to set up an array formation. With the help of his Divine Kings, he drew on the energy of thousands of Eternal Stars to fuel the array formation and hold Chen Qing captive... He had intended to refine Chen Qing, but he didn't expect his enemy... to summon the Heavenly Dao from the previous era to blow the array formation up. The array formation was reversed. Now, both the Sundered Moon Emperor and his subordinates are trapped inside!

Communication has broken down. No one can receive any transmissions from within. No one can enter the array formation either. But some of us have already begun to lose memories of some of the seven Divine Kings in our Divine Souls... That is the work of the Dark Sect's heaven-defying divine power. It can remove all traces of one's existence, including any memories of that person in other people's minds!

The Heavenly Dao of the past era... the Dark Sect! Xie Haiyang shuddered at the thought of the Dark Sect. He had never seen the true Dark Sect, but he had spent a lot of time since he had been a child amongst his family clan's private libraries. He had read numerous records on the Dark Sect. Too much. He knew that it was an extremely powerful sect that even the Never-Ending Clan had been intimidated and wary of in the past.

If the clans under the Never-Ending Clan hadn't gathered in unison to stand against the Dark Sect, if the Xie family clan's patriarch hadn't lent a helping hand, and if the Dark Sect hadn't been in decline, the Never-Ending Dao Domain might still be carrying its former name... the Dark Domain!

Rumors say that Chen Qing's the one who betrayed the Dark Sect then. If that's the case, why was he able to gather the destroyed fragments of the Dark Sect's Heavenly Dao and summon it... Why did he risk creating a commotion in the entire Dao Domain by creating a seal over the battleground and unleashing a divine power that could erase all traces of one's existence... If the patriarch is right, Chen Qing is doing this to hide a bigger secret.

This has nothing to do with me at all. The Xie family clan is huge, and I'm just a mere junior. They wouldn't call on me even if the sky were to fall down. Unfortunately, my useless father's involved in this mess... There was a dark look on Xie Haiyang's face. He was privately wracked with anxiety. He had been told that his father was the one who had crafted the eight Primal Cauldrons that the Sundered Moon Emperor had used to trap Chen Qing.

Even though that had merely been a business transaction, Xie Haiyang knew the character of the legendary Chen Qing. This was a man who was vicious and trigger happy. He had never batted an eyelid when he inflicted collateral damage. The Xie family clan wasn't going to go all out just to protect Xie Haiyang's father. After all, their opponent was Chen Qing, the man who could go toe to toe with the Xie family's most esteemed patriarch.

That was why he couldn't simply sit still after knowing what had happened. Even if he wasn't going to be of much help, he still had to return home and discuss how they were going to get out of this mess with his father.

Even though I have no idea how this fight will end, it's clear that Chen Qing's gotten the upper hand now. The other Divine Emperors of the Never-Ending Clan are sitting on the fence instead of siding with anyone. There's a great chance that he'll kill his opponents and then walk away without any repercussions. I have to find someone whom Chen Qing is familiar with as soon as possible, do everything I can to explain the situation, make preparations ahead of time, and try to appease Chen Qing as soon as he leaves the sealed battleground so that he'll let my father off the hook... Xie Haiyang was worried that his hair was going to start falling out in clumps at any moment. He and Chen Qing were in completely different leagues. How was he to get to know someone whom Chen Qing was friends with? Besides, he still had to come up with a fancy speech that would sway Chen Qing.

Xie Haiyang, who had left in a state of anxiety and worry, had no idea... that a certain someone who was currently strolling around in the market that he controlled was, in fact... one of the people who could influence Chen Qing's mind. In fact, a single word from this person, a plea made coquettishly... would rid Xie Haiyang's father of his troubles instantly.

Chapter 895: Spirit Boat!

Xie Haiyang might be the proud owner of many secrets, but even he had no idea that he had just allowed the chance to get the best help he could slip him by. If he had shared everything with Wang Baole when the latter had asked and had said plainly that he would pay anything for Wang Baole's help... there was a great chance that Wang Baole might be tempted by the deal. After all, he wasn't afraid of letting Xie Haiyang know his relationship with his senior brother. Xie Haiyang was the one in need now and the one who was intimidated by his senior brother.

There was a great chance that Wang Baole would have extended a helping hand at the appropriate moment.

Besides, Wang Baole's help wasn't going to cost him a lot. Because... Wang Baole wouldn't be able to quote too high a price based on his past experiences with Red Crystals. The highest he would go would likely only be a few million Red Crystals.

Of course... this was before Wang Baole entered the market!

Even though he had visited the market in the past, he hadn't known about Red Crystals then and thus hadn't paid much attention to how much things cost in Red Crystals. After returning from the Flame Patriarch's mission, he had used Red Crystals to purchase a fair bit of materials, but he hadn't been at the Spirit Immortal realm then, so he hadn't been able to gain access to certain areas in shops that were reserved for special customers. The items in those reserved areas would cost an arm and a leg to ordinary cultivators, though the truly powerful cultivators wouldn't bat an eye at their price tags.

But this time... things were different.

Now that he was at the late-stage Spirit Immortal realm, he no longer cared for the materials that he had bought earlier. In fact, he was of the view that he was a rich man now. When entering a shop that looked reputable and had a sizable range of goods, he believed that the release of his cultivation would send the shop owner running to greet him deferentially. He would then be personally escorted into the section of the shop an ordinary cultivator wasn't permitted to enter.

Wang Baole appeared composed as he stood in the reserved section of the shop. But in reality, he had suffered multiple shocks since he had stepped into the section...

Nine Heavenly Thunder Spirits... a hundred and fifty thousand Red Crystals!

Heavenly Stream Vapor... two hundred and seventy thousand Red Crystals!

North-South Spirit Boat... for three hundred and ninety thousand Red Crystals. What the hell?

Wang Baole reeled in shock. He wouldn't have known if he hadn't looked at those price tags. He no longer felt rich. In fact, he felt extremely poor.

Fortunately, he had great control over himself. The expression on his face remained composed. In fact, he would show the occasional dissatisfaction, as if he weren't concerned with the price of the products but their quality. He kept the appearance up as he went in and out of the reserved sections of a few shops. At the end of his visits, he stood on the street, his face glum as he sighed.

I'm so poor... Wang Baole patted his storage bag. The feeling of poverty made him feel especially sorrowful. He had his eye on a flying boat, but its price had been a seven-digit figure. He had shuddered at the sight of the price tag.

The Planet realm storage ring that he had peeked into popped up in his head unexpectedly. He remembered the mysterious bottle that he had seen and the words "a rich person" that he had read on the piece of paper in the bottle. Realization dawned upon Wang Baole then.

Does the bottle have the power to make a person rich? Wang Baole thought in surprise. His breathing quickened. He had half a mind to take another look into the storage ring, but this really wasn't the place for that. In addition, his location was exposed every time he opened the storage ring. There was no way to get around that unless he removed the seal on the storage ring completely so that the dangers that came from unlocking the storage ring were eliminated once and for all.

But his current level of cultivation was clearly still lacking. That was beyond his current abilities.

Wang Baole left the market sulking and steeped in regret. His suspicions about Xie Haiyang's departure began to grow.

Was he worried that I might ask him for a loan? Is that why he found some random excuse to run off? Wang Baole snorted before burying those suspicions in his heart. He got himself a considerable quantity of Spirit Stones with the Red Crystals in his pocket before leaving the market and racing off towards the Divine Eye civilization.

He didn't make use of his Dharmic Battleship for the journey back. The Dharmic Battleship's speed couldn't match his own. That was why he had gotten himself Spirit Stones—so that he could replenish

his energy during the trip back. His Emperor Armor also needed to feed on Spirit Stones to regain its power.

He could have resorted to Red Crystals instead, but the crystals were too powerful. He would have to use his own spirit energy to moderate the crystals' power for his Emperor Armor to absorb the latter more easily. Time passed steadily as Wang Baole sped across the cosmos.

Two weeks went by as Wang Baole traveled at a constant speed without slowing down. He went past civilizations that had previously drawn his attention and continued on his way without stopping. It was clear that his mind was on the war in the Divine Eye civilization. He had no idea how it was going.

I was set up by the Heavenly Spirit Sect and the royalty of the Divine Eye civilization... Even though the patriarch of the Divine Sovereign Justice Sect doesn't seem to be involved in the setup, I should still be on my guard when it comes to dealing with him! An icy light flashed across Wang Baole's eyes amidst his contemplation. The repeated setups had upset him tremendously. It had also heightened his sense of caution to unprecedented levels.

I'm not going to make the same mistake twice! Wang Baole narrowed his eyes. He knew that the cause of his falling into his enemy's trap had been his greed. He had been fixated on plundering the Divine Eye civilization and on not letting that opportunity fall into another person's hands.

He had a change in mindset. It would be best if he managed to get his hands on the Divine Eye civilization's resources, but it wouldn't be a big deal if he didn't!

That's why I have to sneak back in. I have to retreat from the public eye and start operating in the shadows... so that I can see through the secrets of the Divine Eye civilization... Now that Wang Baole thought about it, he realized that he seemed to always be missing something when it came to the Divine Eye civilization. He had a feeling... that this something had to do with the Divine Sovereign Justice Sect's patriarch.

Wang Baole wasn't sure of the specifics, though. He continued speeding ahead as he contemplated the matter, flying past the borders of a small civilization.

He was deep in thought and flying past the civilization... when the expression on his face shifted suddenly. It wasn't because he had been struck with a sudden idea... it was because of the unexpected intense vibration from his storage bag, a vibration that sent tremors right into his soul!

The vibration had happened out of the blue. It hadn't come from his voice transmission jade slip. Instead, it had come... from the storage ring that had been wrapped under layers of seals and was resting inside his storage bag!

The storage ring that had belonged to the Never-Ending Clan Planet realm cultivator!

What's going on? Is it the Never-Ending Clan Planet realm cultivator? Has he come after me? Alarm blared inside Wang Baole's head. He summoned his Divine Will and took a look at the mysterious storage ring. As it vibrated, the layers of seals that he had wrapped around the ring fell apart and disintegrated like fragile sheets of paper. They could no longer hold the storage ring in. An intense light began to emit from the storage ring.

That wasn't the end of it. What shocked Wang Baole and drained his face of color was the sight of the storage ring... opening itself up!

A paper head popped out of the opened storage ring, its eyes glowing with an eerie light. They seemed to lock gazes with Wang Baole's Divine Will and somehow formed an instant connection with his soul.

Before Wang Baole could react, shrill, terrifying laughter erupted in his mind in waves.

It was a laughter that held sway over one's soul easily. Wang Baole shuddered uncontrollably as his Divine Soul suddenly grew unstable. It felt as if his Divine Soul was going to be torn to pieces.

Fortunately, the excruciating sensation didn't last long. The laughter faded away after a few seconds.

The few seconds had felt like an eternity to Wang Baole, and his clothes were drenched in sweat. He felt as if he had just climbed out of hell and escaped death. His face drained of all color, he turned abruptly towards the tiny civilization. But no matter how hard he inspected the civilization, he couldn't find anything wrong with it.

The paper human cutout... why did it suddenly do that? Wang Baole reeled back from shock and alarm. He was certain that if the creature had continued laughing like that a few seconds longer, his Divine Soul would have caved in from the laughter.

Having survived the unexpected incident, Wang Baole began to deliberate over whether to discard the storage ring and eliminate the potential dangers that it might bring him. Just as he was hesitating over the matter... his eyes suddenly widened.

He saw a boat!

It was a black boat that wasn't exactly very big, but it was big enough to hold a hundred passengers. It came gliding through the cosmos like a spirit boat, approaching him slowly.

The boat looked rundown, the scars of time's passing visible on its surface. It was as if it had been around for a very, very long time. From a long way away, one could clearly sense a strong aura of something that was extremely ancient.

There were more than thirty people seated on the boat, some of them men, and some of them women. Every one of them looked very young. They exuded an air of cold arrogance even when their eyes were shut. The glow of their attire was proof of their extraordinary status!

They weren't the cause of Wang Baole's shock. The cause of his widened eyes and the horror rising inside him... was standing at the front of the boat... holding a paper oar and rowing the boat. It was a paper human cutout!

Chapter 896: Get on Board!

The paper human cutout wasn't the same paper human cutout that was inside his storage ring. However, the aura that it was exuding was identical. It was exactly as creepy as the one inside his storage ring. It was then that Wang Baole realized why the paper human cutout inside his storage ring had stirred. Upon that realization, doubt and incomprehension rose inside him as he stared at the approaching boat.

What does this boat... represent?

Wang Baole wasn't sure what the boat was supposed to represent, but he knew... that it must have something to do with the mysterious paper human cutout in his storage ring. In fact, there must be some intimate relationship between the paper human cutout in his storage ring and the one on the boat!

Could it be a cultivator from some civilization? The idea popped into Wang Baole's head. The Never-Ending Dao Domain was vast and filled with countless civilizations. It wouldn't be a surprise to find strange and bizarre species existing in the domain.

Regardless, Wang Baole wasn't interested in getting involved at all. Look at his thin arms and legs, his fragile bones. He had lost quite a bit of weight too. He couldn't take much more hardship. He instinctively prepared to avoid the strange and creepy looking spirit boat.

The young men and women on the boat are clearly folks you don't want to mess with. Curiosity killed the cat. I don't care why they're on the boat and where they're going. It has nothing to do with me. Wang Baole blinked and retreated immediately.

He could tell that the passengers weren't typical cultivators. They exuded a cold arrogance and were seated far apart from one another, looking as if they belonged to separate factions. There was no way that they hadn't sensed Wang Baole's presence outside the boat. However, despite that, their eyes remained shut. If not for the aura that they were exuding, one would've thought they were corpses.

They didn't pay any attention to Wang Baole and seemed completely uninterested in him. It was as if these people and Wang Baole were of two separate worlds. An elephant cared not for the ant that was making its way past the larger animal. That feeling made Wang Baole feel extremely uncomfortable.

But he knew nothing about the situation now, and the boat looked really suspicious. Wang Baole didn't want to get into any further trouble. He snorted secretly and retreated more quickly, trying to put more distance between himself and the boat.

But... sometimes, things just didn't go one's way. Wang Baole did his best to retreat as quickly as possible. Regardless, the spirit boat drifting in the distance continued to approach him more steadily, narrowing the distance between them instead of widening it. The boat's form would grow blurry every time the paper human cutout moved its oar, and with each glide of the oar, the boat would move closer to him.

It was a truly creepy sight to behold. It made the hair on Wang Baole's skin stand. He instinctively unleashed his Dark Art, but that didn't seem to be of much use. It didn't slow the boat down a single bit. The boat's form continued to turn blurry repeatedly, and it moved closer to him each time that happened.

What the hell is this thing? Wang Baole's scalp was prickling with numbness. He clenched his jaw and prepared to escape into the distance.

But before he could do anything, the spirit boat's form blurred once more. In the next moment... when it became distinct again, it had leaped across the cosmos and appeared right before Wang Baole's eyes!

The sight sent cold sweat pouring down Wang Baole's forehead. The spirit boat's aura of antiquity that rushed towards Wang Baole as the spirit boat approached didn't help. His eyes widened in shock, and alarm colored his face... The paper human cutout, which was standing at the boat's helm and had been rowing the boat, suddenly froze. Then, instead of sliding its oar across the cosmos, it looked up and stared at Wang Baole with a blank, cold stare that had been drawn onto its face!

The paper human cutout's stare held Wang Baole frozen to the spot. It was as if he were bound by an incredible power. His cultivation began to tremble, and his Divine Soul grew restless and unstable. He could feel his hair stand as waves of cold terror spread through his body. An impending sense of danger began to sound loudly like alarm bells in his head.

Without hesitation, Wang Baole unleashed his full cultivation, going to the extent of activating his barely-recovered Emperor Armor to give a boost to his speed as he made a swift and hasty retreat.

But... it was of no use!

The boat appeared to be still and frozen in place. In reality, Wang Baole had unleashed his full speed in his retreat. Nevertheless... no matter how quickly he retreated, the distance between him and the boat remained unchanged. The boat remained right in front of him. In fact, it felt as if the both of them hadn't moved at all!

Wang Baole shuddered and shifted away again. But in the next moment, as soon as he reappeared in his new location... he saw the boat in front of him yet again. The distance between them hadn't changed. Even the stare that the paper human cutout had leveled at him remained unchanged!

Wang Baole's face turned pale instantly. He was about to say something when the paper human cutout lifted its left hand and gestured at Wang Baole. It appeared to be inviting him on board.

It was then that some of the youths seated on the boat finally opened their eyes and stared at Wang Baole with surprise. While not all of them had reacted to the invitation extended to Wang Baole, half of the passengers aboard the boat had opened their eyes and studied Wang Baole with clear, unconcealed surprise.

Besides their shared surprise, these passengers also displayed other emotions. Some appeared distant and disinterested, while others narrowed their eyes. Some appeared confused and doubtful, while others displayed open hostility. Some had twitched their lips upwards in scorn.

They didn't pay any attention to me and only sat quietly on the boat. But after the paper human cutout waved at me, they started paying attention to me. They also seemed surprised by the paper human cutout's gesture... Does that mean that they didn't think that I was worthy of boarding the boat at first? The gears in Wang Baole's head spun furiously. He eyed the passengers on the boat and then studied the paper human cutout who was still gesturing at him. He cupped his fists and bowed at the paper human cutout.

"I thank the esteemed senior for your regard, but your humble junior has urgent matters to attend to. I won't be boarding the boat. I wish you a smooth journey..." Wang Baole said as he hastily moved away again.

Perhaps his excuse had worked, or perhaps it was because of some other reasons unknown to him, but the boat didn't appear before Wang Baole again after he shifted away and reappeared in the distant cosmos. It appeared to have vanished entirely without a trace.

Wang Baole released a sigh of relief. But he was soon assailed by mixed emotions. He couldn't help but wonder if he had just let a golden opportunity slip by...

That might have been a boat steering towards some golden opportunity... How else would you explain the extraordinary cultivators sitting on board the boat? They looked shocked when I was invited to board the boat. The more Wang Baole thought about it, the more regret he felt. But after some thought, he concluded that there was still something really strange about the boat.

The strangeness he had felt was closely related to the paper human cutout in his storage ring and the paper human cutout rowing the boat. It had something to do with the spirit boat itself too. Wang Baole felt that the boat could have been a golden opportunity, but it could also have been... a trip to death.

It didn't matter. Wang Baole had grown warier of the storage ring that he had gotten. He sealed it again quickly. Even though the seals that he had placed on the ring had been broken and had led to his location being exposed, he believed that things hadn't gotten to the point where he had to discard the ring. Regardless, he decided not to touch the ring again until he had reached the Planet realm.

With that thought in mind, Wang Baole tried to calm himself down before racing towards the Divine Eye civilization again.

Wang Baole's guesses had been right. His location had been exposed when the paper human cutout had broken through his seals. In a distant cosmic region, a huge golden beetle that had been traveling swiftly through space had shuddered when the seals had been broken. It had swerved instantly and started heading for Wang Baole's location at high speed.

Seated inside the golden beetle was the Never-Ending Clan Planet realm cultivator, Shan Lingzi. He had suffered a plunge in his cultivation and was at the Spirit Immortal realm now. Next to him was Dan Zhouzi, who appeared to have offered him help but whose mind was, in fact, filled with greedy thoughts. He was exuding strong waves of early-stage Planet realm spirit energy.

"Fellow Daoist Dan Zhouzi, I just sensed the location of my storage ring. The foolhardy scoundrel must have tried to unlock the storage ring. He abandoned the attempt very quickly, and I stopped being able to sense his location, but we should be moving in the right direction." Malice appeared in Shan Lingzi's eyes as he informed his partner of the location that he had just gotten.

"We're not far." Next to him, Dan Zhouzi smiled lightly. He didn't hide the greed in his eyes, steering the golden beetle as it charged through space. The region that Shan Lingzi had provided him was too large, though. It would be a feat to pin down the exact location of their target. If they were to continue their search in this manner, it would take them a very long time to find anything after they had reached the region that Shan Lingzi had sensed. But... luck seemed to be on their side. After racing through the cosmos for several days... Shan Lingzi's eyes suddenly widened with delight. He had once again... sensed the presence of his storage ring!

Chapter 897: Xie Family, Xie Dalu!

“This little bastard must be crazy, he actually tried to activate my storage ring again after such a short while. Fellow Daoist Dan Zhouzi, can we quicken the pace?”

“No problem!” Dan Zhouzi laughed, and his expression was filled with anticipation. He controlled the golden beetle with all his might and caused its speed to multiply instantly as it headed straight for the coordinate Shan Lingzi sensed the second time!

The reason Shan Lingzi could sense the storage ring’s aura the second time couldn’t be blamed on Wang Baole... He already had the urge to throw away the storage ring previously and would definitely not check it again.

According to his original plans, he wanted to check the storage ring again after he reached the Planet realm. But what made him feel like crying was that the storage ring activated on its own yet again!

The paper human cutout’s strange laughter still echoed in his mind, his soul still buzzed, and his cultivation trembled. All that happened very suddenly. Even though Wang Baole experienced it before, when he experienced it again, he still almost fell as he flew.

Wang Baole’s expression changed immensely, but without having time to let out a helpless scream, he saw in the distant cosmos... that familiar ethereal spirit boat. As the paper human cutout on it rowed, it kept becoming blurry while nearing.

Just like before, the ethereal spirit boat, which dispersed an ancient aura, stopped in front of Wang Baole. The paper human cutout on it stopped rowing, raised its left hand, and beckoned Wang Baole over.

The thirty or so people on the boat all opened their eyes. Their pupils all shrunk as they stared at Wang Baole, and the surprise in their expressions was obviously more intense than before.

In fact, Wang Baole even discovered an extra person among those teenage males and females.

The extra person was a skinny lad. Judging from his appearance, he seemed to be 18 or 19 years old. At that moment, he obviously noticed the actions of the people around him. So as he looked towards Wang Baole, it was with a sense of curiosity.

Wang Baole sighed and waved towards everyone on the boat, greeting them. He felt that since it was his second time meeting everyone, fate must have brought them together.

“I trust that you’ve all been well? Haha...” As he spoke, Wang Baole noticed that the surprised expressions of those teenage males and females also contained some impatience. This made him feel very unhappy.

He thought, *What are you all impatient about? I’m the one that’s impatient! I don’t want to board the boat, but the boat just has to appear for the second time.* Thinking to that point, Wang Baole was too lazy to continue greeting everyone. He looked helplessly at the paper human cutout at the front of the ship, who kept waving as though he didn’t know fatigue.

After pondering, Wang Baole still cupped his fists and bowed deeply.

“Senior, I still have unsettled business. Umm... I won’t distract you from picking up others.” As he spoke, Wang Baole retreated rapidly and disappeared.

This time, Wang Baole was sure that his words had some effect. That was because when his body appeared in another area, the ethereal spirit boat that kept appearing and following him the first time didn’t chase him and appear before him when he reappeared this time.

Combining this with what he saw the first time the boat appeared, the answer was extremely obvious.

It was just that the answer made Wang Baole sigh again. That was because he confirmed another thing. That was... the paper human cutout on the sampan must have had Spirit Intelligence. Hence, it could understand his words.

The fact that it has Spirit Intelligence means that the paper human cutout in my storage ring also has Spirit Intelligence. Wang Baole furrowed his eyebrows. Now, he already analyzed that the appearance of the ethereal spirit boat was related to the paper human cutout in his storage ring. The spirit boat would appear when the paper human cutout laughed.

To him, he might think it was a laugh, but it might be what the paper human cutouts used to communicate with one another.

So be it. There doesn’t seem to be any danger for now. But this boat... I’m not going to board it no matter what! Wang Baole humphed in his heart. He hated being forced to do things. With a flicker, he unleashed his speed again and continued heading towards the Divine Eye civilization.

But in his heart, he already prepared himself for when the paper human cutout in his storage ring laughed again and made the ethereal spirit boat reappear.

I’ll just see it as the paper human cutout in my storage ring chatting with the paper human cutout on the ethereal spirit boat... I can’t stop them from chatting after all. Wang Baole consoled himself. Within the next ten days, every two to three days... the laughter of the paper human cutout would ring out in his head as the ethereal spirit boat descended again, the paper human cutout on it waved again, and Wang Baole rejected him again...

When the ethereal spirit boat appeared for the sixth time... although Wang Baole was already used to it and had an extremely calm expression, the more than thirty teenage males and females on the sampan all felt very negative emotions.

If anyone else kept seeing the same person who simply refused to board the sampan during that period of time, they would also worry about whether it would affect their own journey. So, after seeing Wang Baole for the sixth time, their original impatience finally turned into anger, and someone snapped.

“Are you boarding or not!”

“If you’re not boarding, then scram!”

Hearing those people actually say such things, even if he knew they had extraordinary backgrounds, Wang Baole still got angry. He thought, *I refuse to board. Only an idiot would board the sampan.* Thinking to that point, he stared at the person talking on the sampan.

“Why, you wanna beat me up? Come, come down. Let’s have a fight to see who’s the daddy!”

“You!” Those who spoke with anger stood up violently. When they all looked towards Wang Baole, a cold glint spread in their eyes, but they were helpless. That was because they discovered that they were unable to disembark after boarding the sampan!

“If you’re so great, why don’t you come down? I’m telling all of you, if you don’t come down, you’re all my grandkids. Come, Grandpa will be waiting for you right here!” He rolled his eyes. Wang Baole noticed something amiss, so his words became more arrogant.

Faced with his arrogant provocation, the paper human cutout at the front of the boat didn’t change its actions at all and was still waving. And those who were staring angrily at Wang Baole all calmed down. Among them, a horse-faced teenager narrowed his eyes and suddenly spoke.

“Lad, do you dare say your name!”

“Why should I listen to you? Horse-faced grandson, tell daddy your name!” Wang Baole picked his ear. He was already feeling very frustrated and suspicious because of the multiple appearances of the ethereal spirit boat. At this moment, he seemed to be quarreling with the horse-faced teenager, but in reality, he was extremely calm. He wanted to make use of the quarrel to learn where those people came from and indirectly learn where the spirit boat came from.

The phrase horse-faced grandson caused a killing intent to flash between the teenager’s eyes as he spoke calmly.

“Cloud Chill Sect, Li Linzi!”

“Green Sea Dao, Wang Yishan!”

“Country of Northern Ze, Du Fei!”

“Te Ke Clan, Ye Luo!”

Not only Li Linzi replied to Wang Baole. Those who quarreled with him also spoke coldly. Although they told him their backgrounds, Wang Baole didn’t recognize any of them. But from their expressions and the gazes of the others in the surroundings, Wang Baole noticed that those sects and clans seemed to be very powerful.

Chosen ones from every clan? Instantly, that guess appeared in Wang Baole’s mind. That was especially so considering that the cultivations of those people all had one similarity. Although Wang Baole noticed this previously, he didn’t pay much attention to it. At this moment, he suddenly realized that there was something really amiss about that... because all of them were perfected stage Spirit Immortals!

“Your turn!” Not waiting for him to continue thinking, the horse-faced Li Linzi spoke softly.

Wang Baole stared and secretly thought, *I’m not scared of you. You’re just cocky because of your background, which I also have.*

“Xie family, Xie Dalu!” Wang Baole spoke calmly and thought, *Who doesn’t know how to bluff? I’m Xie Haiyang’s brother.* He thought that way in his heart but displayed a look of arrogance. And after he spoke, the people on the sampan, especially those few who spoke previously, all had their expressions change immensely, and their pupils shrunk. But a sense of suspicion appeared in their expressions as well. Hence, Wang Baole saw that they doubted his identity.

That was normal. If they fully believed him, that would mean something was wrong.

But no matter what, maybe out of caution, after Wang Baole declared that he was Xie Dalu, everyone on the sampan went silent.

Wang Baole also noticed the extraordinariness of the ethereal spirit boat. But the more he felt that, the more cautious he was. Therefore, after cupping his fists towards the paper human cutout on the sampan and rejecting again, he prepared to leave as per normal with a flicker of his body.

But... something unexpected occurred!

Chapter 898: I Have Strength of Character!

Wang Baole just flicked his body and had only taken a few steps when the paper human cutout on the sampan suddenly raised its left hand. A dim halo suddenly spread, and the moment it appeared... Wang Baole's body instantly paused. Afterward, his expression changed immensely, because he discovered that his body... couldn't be controlled!

He seemed to be completely controlled by a strange power. It actually controlled him to turn around and walk step by step expressionlessly... towards the sampan!

What's going on! Wang Baole was horrified in his heart and wanted to resist and struggle, but it was of no use. He could only watch as he walked step by step towards the ethereal spirit boat like a puppet!

This scene was extremely weird!

In the cosmos, an ethereal spirit-like sampan dispersed a sense of ancientness. At its front, a devilish paper human cutout waved expressionlessly. At the back of the boat, near the cabin, the more than thirty teenage males and females couldn't hide the weirdness in their expressions as they all looked towards Wang Baole, who was walking step by step like a puppet towards the sampan.

But in reality, the fact that Wang Baole rejected many times previously and had fear in his eyes despite the fact that he was walking step by step towards the sampan immediately allowed them to guess the answer.

"Someone's forcefully controlling Xie Dalu's body?"

"Could it be that the ferryman will forcefully control you after you refuse to board the Fallen Star Boat a certain number of times?"

"I've never heard of that before..."

Everyone felt weird as they watched Wang Baole get closer and closer to the sampan. The fear in his eyes also grew more and more intense. Wang Baole almost cried as he wailed and trembled.

What is this, I don't want to board the ship. This is way too overbearing!

Wang Baole rejected the idea of boarding the sampan. Even when the sampan appeared again and again, he rejected it. But this time... things changed to a point beyond what he could control. He lost

control of his body and could only watch as the strange power controlled his body to leap after nearing the sampan and landed him... on the sampan.

However, different from the cabin where everyone else was, Wang Baole's body was controlled to land at the front of the sampan. And at that moment, huge waves of shock had already crashed in his heart.

It's bad enough that you forced me to board. Why is my position different from everyone else's! Wang Baole felt bitter in his heart. But until now, he still couldn't control his body. When he stood at the front of the sampan, he couldn't even turn his head. He could only use his peripheral vision to see that the expressions of the teenage males and females in the cabin became even weirder.

Obviously, it was the same as what he thought. Those people were also curious about why Wang Baole wasn't at the cabin after he boarded, being at the front of the sampan instead...

But after that, after the paper human cutout at the front of the sampan did an action, although the answer was revealed, Wang Baole's soul trembled violently and was filled with resentment and indignance that exploded forth in his heart. As for the rest... their eyes almost dropped out. There were even three or so who were unable to stay calm as they stood up from their cross-legged positions. Their faces were filled with disbelief, and it was obvious that violent storms were crashing onto their souls.

"What's going on! Capturing coolies?"

"Why... why... why is this happening!"

"Is the envoy tired?"

But one couldn't blame the teenage boys and girls for not being able to control the shock in their hearts. Truly, although they were chosen ones from various factions and were very knowledgeable, the scene that appeared in front of their eyes was too unimaginable and extremely different from the information they obtained from their family clans and sects previously!

Before they were there, their sense of respect for the sampan was extremely intense. To them, the ethereal spirit boat was the envoy of a mysterious land and was the only way to enter that legendary place. So, after boarding the sampan, they all behaved themselves and dared not do anything too crazy.

At most, they quarreled with Wang Baole a bit previously. But they never tried to forcefully disembark from the sampan. But now... with their eyes, they actually watched as the paper human cutout—who kept rowing a paper oar, had an extremely stern expression, whose body dispersed waves of cold, and whose cultivation was fathomless—passed the paper oar in its hands... to Wang Baole!

Not only did their souls buzz, but Wang Baole was also puzzled. He thought of some reasons as to why the paper human cutouts controlled him to board the sampan, but never did he think that this was the reason...

He's making me row the boat? While Wang Baole felt puzzled, he also felt that this was a little inconceivable. He also felt that he had to have an air of arrogance. As the future president of the Federation and the emperor of the Divine Eye civilization, he was okay with rowing the sampan, but he couldn't let the teenage males and females on the sampan become coolies!

I may be unable to control my body, but I have a backbone. Deep in my heart, I refuse! Wang Baole humphed in his heart and waved his sleeves. He prepared to take the paper oar helplessly as his body was being controlled. But... as he flicked his sleeves, Wang Baole's heart suddenly beat faster. He tried lowering his head to look at his hands. After moving them around, he turned his head to look at the surroundings. In the end, he confirmed that... he actually regained control of his body at an unknown time.

This made him feel slightly awkward. After a moment, he raised his head to look at the paper human cutout, who continued the action of handing him the paper oar. Instantly, Wang Baole felt a sense of struggle in his heart.

That's going overboard. You could have just controlled my body to take the paper oar... As Wang Baole struggled, he originally decided to reject the paper oar. But not waiting for him to do that, a cold glint flashed between the paper human cutout's eyes as it dispersed a horrifying aura from its body.

The aura was so powerful that it was like a sharp blade about to be unsheathed that could slash the heavens and earth in two. It made Wang Baole's hair stand on end instantly as he felt chills all over his body. Even the essence that formed his avatar seemed to freeze as it sent him strong signals. It seemed to be telling him that a precarious situation was about to descend on him.

This made Wang Baole's forehead secrete cold sweat. Without a doubt, the paper human cutout made him feel extremely uncomfortable. It was as though he was facing a heaven-shaking evil aura. At this moment, he was almost identical to the paper human cutout in his storage ring. He had a gut feeling that if he didn't receive the paper oar, the paper human cutout might attack.

At that moment, not only did he feel that sense of fear intensely, the teenage boys and girls in the cabin felt that way too. After feeling the chill from the paper human cutout, they all remained silent as they stared at Wang Baole to see how he would handle the situation. As for those who quarreled with him previously, they felt a sense of schadenfreude as their faces lit up with anticipation.

Wang Baole had no time to bother with the gazes of those people. After feeling the killing intent from the paper human cutout in front of him, he took a deep breath, and a warm smile appeared on his face very naturally as he received the paper oar very solicitously.

"Why didn't you say so earlier, Senior? I love rowing boats. Thank you for giving me this opportunity, Senior. Senior, if you had let me come up to row the boat sooner, I definitely wouldn't have rejected. I love rowing boats. It has been my passion since I was young."

As he spoke, Wang Baole flashed his most sincere smile. At the same time, he stood at the front of the sampan while holding the paper oar, rowing with a lot of strength towards the side. He maintained the smile on his face and even looked back towards the paper human cutout.

"Have a rest first, Senior. Are my actions standard?" One couldn't see a sense of uncooperativeness on Wang Baole's face. But in reality, Wang Baole was sighing in his heart. Luckily, he was very good at consoling himself...

This is called knowing the present situation and being down-to-earth. It's just rowing a boat. He was so kind and gracious and only wanted me to lend a hand because he was tired. Helping people brings me joy!

As the chill on the paper human cutout's body rapidly dissipated, the teenage boys and girls on the sampan all had weird expressions, and most of them felt a sense of disdain. Meanwhile, Wang Baole exerted himself to the utmost as he pushed the paper oar in his hands towards the cosmos outside the ship. He then pushed towards the back strongly and rowed once.

Just as Wang Baole rowed with the paper oar once, the smile on his face suddenly froze, and he stared and let out a soft gasp. Turning his head, he immediately looked towards the cosmos outside his paper oar.

There... was nothing there, but Wang Baole felt that the paper oar in his hands seemed to meet with a powerful obstructive force when he rowed. He needed to use all his strength just to row, and as he rowed, a wave of gentle force actually gathered there from the cosmos!

Chapter 899: Senior, I Can Still Row for a While!

That power seemed to originally exist within the cosmos. It was just that others couldn't guide it. The paper oar was like a medium that could gather that power. After gathering, the power actually traveled along the paper oar and headed straight for Wang Baole's hands.

Not waiting for Wang Baole to react, the gentle power gushed into his body and became a warm current that spread around his entire body. While it caused Wang Baole's body to tremble, it also made cracks sound from within his body. His breathing also quickened as an indescribable wave of comfort spread in his soul.

It was as though he had consumed a nourishing pill. While the sense of comfort spread, Wang Baole also clearly felt that his cultivation... actually... increased a little from its previous stabilized state!

That gave Wang Baole a big shock!

Because of the opportunity that he gained in the imperial cemetery, Wang Baole's Spirit Immortal foundation could be said to be as solid as bedrock, greatly exceeding that of ordinary Spirit Immortals. Although it was a good thing, it also meant that the difficulty level when trying to improve his cultivation from the late-stage Spirit Immortal realm would be ten or even a hundred times harder than it was for others!

But now, he actually had such gains just by rowing with the paper oar once. This made Wang Baole's eyes shine after initially feeling shocked, and he felt extreme joy.

I never knew rowing boats could have such a wonderful effect! Wang Baole immediately got excited as an intense light shone from his eyes. Although he didn't know the specific theory behind this opportunity, he could understand that there was a possibility of there being energy in the cosmos that was extremely beneficial to a cultivator. Maybe only when one reached the Planet realm would they be able to absorb it from the cosmos and use it for their cultivation.

According to the Earth's explanation, it was probably something like cosmic rays that were invisible to the naked eye. As for the paper oar... it was obviously even more extraordinary. It actually allowed a Spirit Immortal like him to absorb the energy from the cosmos.

I misunderstood the paper human cutout! Wang Baole immediately turned his head. When he looked towards the paper human cutout, respect and gratitude appeared in his eyes. After he turned back, he put even more effort into rowing with the paper oar.

I love rowing boats!

I love exercising!

Helping others brings me joy!

He had to give it his all every time he rowed, having to unleash almost all of his cultivation and his avatar's physical strength to truly complete one row. The fatigue he felt couldn't be put into words, but Wang Baole felt more motivated the more he rowed.

Wang Baole was so happy to row that he didn't feel tired at all. Determination appeared in his eyes as he kept rowing, and the benefits he gained were obvious. Wave after wave of the gentle power from the cosmos traveled along the paper oar and kept gushing into his body. It caused the cracks coming from his body to become more obvious and more intense. Meanwhile, his cultivation kept increasing.

Although it didn't increase by much, the continuous increase was like an accumulating snowball. As it accumulated, the cultivation aura on Wang Baole's body was finally completely moved and shot up!

This brought Wang Baole even more joy. In fact, he felt extremely excited in his heart. Truly, he understood his own cultivation too well and was very clear that at his current state, the sheer difficulty of breaking through the late-stage Spirit Immortal realm to the perfected Spirit Immortal realm was unimaginable for ordinary Spirit Immortals.

The opportunities that could allow late-stage Spirit Immortals to achieve a breakthrough were almost like tickles to him. If one saw their cultivation as a tangible object, raising it to a certain height would represent different cultivation levels. Then, the tangible object ordinary Spirit Immortals would turn into would only be around five kilograms, meaning one didn't need much strength to raise it.

But for Wang Baole, if his cultivation was seen as a tangible object, it would weigh hundreds of kilograms. Hence... more strength would be required to raise it to the same height, and the difficulty was naturally astonishing.

But now, as he rowed the boat, although he was tired, the explosion of his cultivation was real. And to Wang Baole, such an opportunity was way too hard to come by.

Similarly, because of his cultivation's explosion and increase, Wang Baole could no longer hide the scenes of what was happening to his body. This caused the expressions of the thirty or so teenage chosen ones in the cabin to change immensely. Previously, they already vaguely sensed something amiss. Such obvious signs of change in cultivation level immediately shocked them. Even if they all saw themselves as chosen ones of the current generation and their ability to stay calm was extraordinary, they still exclaimed.

"Immortal Qi?"

"There's something amiss about that paper oar!"

“There’s only one explanation for the increase in Xie Dalu’s cultivation. That is, the Immortal Qi in the cosmos is being guided here and turned into gentle immortal energy that Spirit Immortals can absorb!”

A commotion was started, and many chosen ones stood up. When they looked towards the paper oar in Wang Baole’s hands, flames of desire appeared in their eyes. Some could control it, some tried to hide it, and some just let the flames of desire blaze.

As chosen ones of their respective family clans and sects, they were much more knowledgeable than Wang Baole. Hence, they were clear that after cultivators reached the Planet realm, although Spirit Qi was still a prerequisite for cultivation, it was... not the only one!

Within the Never-Ending Dao Domain, there was another form of power of an even higher level— Immortal Qi!

Immortal Qi was essentially the formless power that existed in the cosmos. This power was formed periodically by the countless suns in the Never-Ending Star Domain. If one gathered and concentrated it in high amounts, it would form Red Crystals!

It was just that both Red Crystals and the Immortal Qi floating in the cosmos could only be absorbed after one reached the Planet realm. It was way too difficult for Spirit Immortals to absorb it. After all, Spirit Immortals didn’t have planets in their bodies and would find it difficult to temper the energy. Moreover, the energy was violent, and even if Spirit Immortals absorbed it by force, they wouldn’t be able to gain much from it.

Of course, there were still methods to absorb it, but stable methods which also allowed cultivators to temper and bear it were very few in number. That was unless an Eternal Star realm cultivator was willing to be a medium and use their body to modify it. But that had huge consequences and couldn’t really yield much tempered Immortal Qi.

For those chosen ones on the sampan, most of them reaped the benefits of the contributions of their seniors, so they knew all the more how valuable tempered and bearable Immortal Qi was. Therefore, as they looked towards Wang Baole, they couldn’t help but be green with envy.

In reality... they were just like Wang Baole. Although they were Spirit Immortals, they far exceeded ordinary Spirit Immortals and were very clear how difficult it was for them to increase their cultivations. As their eyes shone, it was as though they discovered the New World, and they were also considering how they could also gain the right to row the boat.

In fact, the impatient ones had already tried cupping their fists towards the paper human cutout.

“Senior, I feel that I can also help you row the boat...”

It was just that the paper human cutout’s attitude towards them was completely different from his attitude towards Wang Baole. It would be fine if it just acted like it didn’t hear them, but the paper human cutout turned its head, and an ethereal glint flashed between its eyes. The chilly aura spread from its body and engulfed the entire sampan.

It didn’t need to use other methods to reply to them. Just the suppression from its cultivation and the coldness in its eyes was enough to express its attitude. This made it such that although those chosen

ones felt indignant, they couldn't do anything about it. They could only watch as Wang Baole's cultivation kept increasing as he kept rowing.

"Why do you treat us differently from Xie Dalu!"

"Wait a minute... could it be that this Xie Dalu has some strange items on him?" There were naturally intelligent people among the chosen ones, and very quickly, although they were all shocked and envious, strange glints appeared in their eyes after they pondered.

As for Wang Baole, he had no time to bother with those chosen ones. He didn't care whether they guessed it or not. Right now, all he cared about was the increase in his cultivation.

As he sensed that his cultivation was getting closer and closer to the perfected Spirit Immortal realm, the excitement Wang Baole felt in his heart was indescribable. Also, he had already discovered that as he rowed and as the gentle power gushed into his body, all of the injuries he sustained when fighting the right-hand elder on the Eye of the Eternal Star were rapidly healing.

Not only that, but even his Emperor Armor seemed to be affected. The spirit energy within it was mostly replenished. This made Wang Baole extremely excited as he unleashed his Emperor Armor. After it spread over his entire body in an instant, he rowed the paper oar with all his might again.

Just like that, time slowly passed. As everyone stared at him, and as Wang Baole rowed, the ethereal spirit boat kept moving forward in the cosmos. But after Wang Baole rowed around a hundred times, his body trembled.

Chapter 900: Chased Down...

The power of his Emperor Armor was completely recovered, and his injuries had completely disappeared. As for his cultivation... it finally exploded forth at that moment. As his body trembled, sounds similar to cracks that one would hear when a mirror shattered sounded in his mind. Following that, an immense force that far exceeded the one from before rose from within his body. After spreading around his whole body in an instant, the aura it formed far exceeded the one he had exuded previously.

His cultivation broke through instantly, and from the late-stage Spirit Immortal realm, it reached... the perfected stage Spirit Immortal realm!

This made it so that Wang Baole burst out in laughter uncontrollably, his eyes shining brighter. He was about to continue rowing to see whether he could stabilize his cultivation a bit more when the paper human cutout beside him slowly raised its right hand.

As its right hand was raised, its meaning was implied. It wanted Wang Baole to return the paper oar.

Wang Baole hesitated, and after blinking, he spoke cautiously.

"Um... do you want to rest a little more, Senior? I can still go on!" As he spoke, he quickly rowed one more time.

“See, Senior? My rowing skills aren’t bad, right?” Wang Baole discovered that there was an ethereal glint in the paper human cutout’s eyes, and he shuddered a little. However, he couldn’t bear to give up this opportunity, so he gritted his teeth and displayed a sincere smile as he rowed again.

After he rowed this time, Wang Baole suddenly felt that his body was a little cold. The chilly feeling came from the paper human cutout. Of course, the gazes of the thirty or so chosen ones in the cabin were unfriendly as well. They contained jealousy, whether hidden or obvious, and the chosen ones seemed to really want Wang Baole to scam.

Such thoughts were very normal. It was the kind of mentality where if one couldn’t get something, they didn’t want others to get it either.

But to Wang Baole, they were a group of imbeciles. He didn’t care about them. Under the chill, Wang Baole was in a huge dilemma, but he was normally brave and vicious to himself, so he forced a smile and made himself maintain the sincerity he showed. In fact, he also seemed to be sucking up to the paper human cutout as he looked at him.

“Aiya, see, Senior, I didn’t row properly just now. Please correct my technique, Senior, and help me see where I need to improve.” As he spoke, Wang Baole gritted his teeth. He was already growling in his heart, and he secretly thought that brave people always fought to the death. So, he quickly rowed again. But just as he was about to try again... the ethereal glint in the paper human cutout’s eyes exploded forth, and he waved his raised right hand. Instantly, a powerful wave of force spread in front of Wang Baole like a storm and swept Wang Baole’s body out of the ethereal spirit boat...

Wang Baole wanted to struggle and even considered shouting. However, it all happened so fast that his body had already flown out before he could speak...

As for the paper oar, it flew into the paper human cutout’s hands. After he grabbed it, he no longer looked at Wang Baole. Instead, he stood there like when Wang Baole saw him for the first time, rowed with the paper oar, and slowly left.

Seeing that, Wang Baole instantly became anxious. He was very reluctant to leave the opportunity that rowing brought him previously. So, with a flicker of his body, he quickly gave chase and kept shouting.

“Senior, wait. I was wrong. Please give me a chance.”

“Senior, I want to board the boat.” Wang Baole unleashed his maximum speed and used all his might to shout, but the paper human cutout on the ethereal spirit boat ignored him, and the ethereal spirit boat got further and further away as he rowed with the paper oar. Wang Baole could only vaguely see that the chosen ones on the boat seemed to all turn their heads to look at him at that moment, a sense of delight in their expressions.

Those gazes made Wang Baole feel very unhappy in his heart. He felt that those people were too petty. When they couldn’t get an opportunity, they didn’t want to see others getting it either. As the ethereal spirit boat moved forward, it got blurrier and blurrier. Wang Baole sped and chased for a moment, but he sighed helplessly in the end as he gazed resentfully in the direction the ethereal spirit boat disappeared in.

I only rowed a few more times. It's not like I could have broken the paper oar... When I refused to board the boat previously, you came multiple times just to get me to board. In the end, you even forcefully kidnapped me onto the ship... But now, you just kick me away like that? The more Wang Baole thought about that, the unhappier he became. But there was nothing he could do about it, so he sighed.

So be it. I'm a magnanimous man and won't be petty over this anymore. Wang Baole patted his stomach and felt his current perfected stage Spirit Immortal realm cultivation. He quickly became happy again, though he still felt a little dissatisfied.

He wasn't dissatisfied with how his opportunity had no continuation. Instead, he was dissatisfied with... his stomach.

I'm too skinny, it just doesn't feel the same. Wang Baole lowered his head and pinched his solid abs hard. He controlled his essence to transmogrify a thick layer of fat on his stomach, causing it to have that hand feel again. That was when he felt comfortable.

But that boat... I previously heard those petty fellas refer to it as... the Fallen Star Boat? Fallen Star Envoy? Wang Baole narrowed his eyes. Those people all spoke the language of the Never-Ending Clan. Wang Baole wasn't surprised by that, as he was in the Never-Ending Dao Domain. Hence, the Never-Ending Clan's language was the entire Dao Domain's lingua franca.

Looking at it this way, could the boat and paper human cutout be connected to the Graveyard of Stars? The boat was picking up those who had the places and bringing them to the Graveyard of Stars? A glimmer flashed between Wang Baole's eyes. The information he knew was incomplete, making it hard for him to find an accurate answer. However, using those clues, Wang Baole felt that it was highly possible that his guesses were the truth.

If my guesses are correct... does that mean that the paper human cutout in my storage ring used to be a Fallen Star Envoy and came from... the Graveyard of Stars? Wang Baole lowered his head to look at his storage bag, and his eyes narrowed after he swept over it with his Divine Will.

I previously forgot to seal it again! Wang Baole's expression changed, and he immediately sealed the storage ring. Afterward, he raised his head to look towards his surroundings cautiously.

Obviously, because he was forced onto the ship and gained the opportunity afterward, he didn't have time to seal the ring and neglected the storage ring's seal. Although he resealed the storage ring now, Wang Baole was clear that the storage ring was passively activated many times on his journey, and his position might have already been exposed. He might be facing the hidden threat of being locked onto and chased.

Of course, it was unlikely that he was exposed, because it was highly possible that there was a barrier on the ethereal spirit boat.

But there was still some risk in the end. Although those were just his guesses and he didn't have evidence, Wang Baole's cautiousness was already deeply ingrained in his bones after being tricked by the Violet Gold civilization. So, he quickly pondered and gave up on returning to the Divine Eye civilization immediately.

No matter whether he had people chasing him or not, Wang Baole had to think of the worst-case scenario, which was that his pursuers chased him, entered the Divine Eye civilization, and cooperated with the Violet Gold civilization. That way, it would be extremely tough for him to turn things around.

“It’s always better to be cautious!” Mumbling, Wang Baole flicked his body and used two days to find a meteorite the size of a small planet in the nearby cosmos. After he landed, he dug an internal cave and sat cross-legged in it, then started setting up array formations on the entire meteorite. After he set up array formations all around him, he narrowed his eyes.

No matter what, I’ll wait three months here first. I can afford to hide out for three months before returning to the Divine Eye civilization!

Wang Baole’s caution this time wasn’t wrong, as his judgment was very accurate. In reality, the golden beetle which Shan Lingzi and Dan Zhouzi were on had already locked onto him when his storage ring activated passively multiple times previously. They had also descended onto that patch of cosmos. However, after Wang Baole boarded the boat, they lost the signal and could only expand their search radius.

When Wang Baole was chased down from the sampan, although he quickly sealed the storage ring again, the moment he left the sampan, Shan Lingzi sensed the marking on his ring intensely once again.

He instantly got excited and immediately told Dan Zhouzi the coordinates. So, the giant golden beetle was speeding towards the latest position of Wang Baole at an extremely fast speed.

Using only five days, the golden beetle appeared where Wang Baole was chased off of the sampan previously. There, the golden beetle buzzed and paused as an intense light appeared in the eyes of Shan Lingzi inside it.

“Five days ago, that brat appeared here. It’s a shame that my storage ring lost its signal again. I don’t know which direction he went this time!”

Hearing his words, a hint of arrogance appeared in Dan Zhouzi’s eyes as he sneered.

“Where else could a mere Soul Conduit escape?”