

## Chapter 7226

Afterwards, Charlie arrived at the gate of a Taoist temple.

The temple's archway was magnificent, entirely carved from white marble, with three large gilded characters in the center: Sanqing Temple.

The Sanqing Temple, as its name suggests, is a Taoist temple dedicated to the Three Pure Ones, the highest deities in Taoism and the founding patriarchs of the sect.

These cultivators, even on their journey to Antarctica, didn't forget to build the Sanqing Temple, suggesting they were inheriting the Taoist mantle.

However, this also puzzled Charlie.

The Four Directions Treasure Banner and the Great Wild Goose Pagoda were jointly built by the monk Xuanzang and Taoist cultivators,

While he himself received the Great Sun Tathagata's hand seal under the aurora.

It seemed that Buddhism and Taoism had a deep connection in this matter.

However, he still couldn't figure out exactly what similarities existed between Buddhism and Taoism in their cultivation of immortality.

Charlie arrived at the Sanqing Hall, where three lifelike sculptures stood: Yuqing Yuanshi Tianzun, Taiqing Daode Tianzun, and Shangqing Lingbao Tianzun.

He had visited many Taoist temples and monasteries, but he had never seen any sculpture with such perfect realism.

The facial features, limbs, and expressions looked more lifelike than real people, and even in their majesty, they exuded a touch of approachability, as if the three celestial beings were standing before him, smiling and scrutinizing him.

Although Charlie had not yet figured out the relationship between Buddhism and Taoism in cultivation, he personally leaned towards believing that he had received the Taoist lineage, so he regarded the Three Pure Ones of Taoism as his patriarchs.

Therefore, before leaving the Three Pure Ones Hall, he knelt reverently before the statues of the three celestial beings and kowtowed three times.

However, just as he got up to leave the Three Pure Ones Hall, a circle flashing with golden light and inscribed with numerous talismans suddenly appeared beneath his feet.

The circle shimmered beneath his feet, and the golden light illuminated his body, making it appear golden as well.

The golden light grew stronger and stronger, and the golden radiance reflected by his body became increasingly intense and dazzling.

In the blink of an eye, Charlie could no longer see his own body clearly; when he looked down, all he could see was a dazzling golden light.

The next moment, Charlie suddenly felt as if his body had been completely drained, as if he had merged with the dazzling light.

Then, something incredibly strange happened. He suddenly realized that the golden light around him was dissipating, and he was no longer in the Sanqing Hall, but in a mysterious space he had never been in before. This space was square, about ten zhang on each side, with a total area of about one hundred square meters.

The room, from the floor to the beams to the ceiling, was entirely made of wood. Looking out through the wooden windows, he could see smooth, parallel stone walls.

Charlie was astonished.

He went to the window and looked out, only to find himself inexplicably inside the square pagoda.

Even more bizarrely, looking down, he seemed to be at a very high position; looking up, he didn't seem to be on the top floor; and looking inward, this floor was a completely enclosed, independent structure with no stairs connecting the upper and lower levels.

Just as Charlie was wondering why he had suddenly come here, the wooden floorboards in the room suddenly changed.

A complete compass pattern, shimmering with golden light, appeared on the nearly 100-square-meter flat floor.

Unlike feng shui compasses, this compass pattern had a halo exactly the same as the one he had seen in the Sanqing Hall, located in the very center of the center and in each of the eight directions: Kan, Gen, Zhen, Xun, Li, Kun, Dui, and Qian.

As Charlie pondered the purpose of these nine halos, nine incantations suddenly appeared in his mind.

Miraculously, he instinctively knew that these nine incantations corresponded to these nine halos, and that each halo required the silent recitation of the corresponding incantation to activate.

He knew that these nine mantras must be some kind of revelation given to him by this place.

To confirm his guess, he stepped to the very center of the compass.

Standing in the center of the compass's halo, Charlie silently recited the corresponding mantras.

Immediately, the halo emitted an even brighter and more intense light and began to slowly rotate.

Just like before, when the light became so strong that he couldn't see his own outline, Charlie once again felt as if he had been instantly emptied.

The next second, when he opened his eyes again, he was no longer in the underground city in Antarctica, but in a cave he had never been in before.

The cave was clearly carved out of the rock by human hands, its smoothness mirror-like, just like the underground city.

The entire cave was empty except for the shimmering halo beneath his feet.

Charlie was utterly shocked. He never expected that the halo's function was teleportation.

Clearly, the nine halos corresponded to nine different locations,

But he didn't know which place the central halo teleported to.

Moreover, there were nine auras when he arrived, but only one here.

He guessed that the nine auras on the compass inside the Four Directions Pagoda corresponded to nine different locations,

And these nine locations were not interconnected; they could only lead to the Four Directions Pagoda.

In other words, the Four Directions Pagoda was a hub, radiating outwards to connect to nine individual points.

It allowed one to instantly teleport to any of these nine points, but to travel from one point to another, one had to first teleport to the Four Directions Pagoda.

Charlie was incredibly excited.

If he could figure out where each of these nine points led, wouldn't he have instant access to all nine locations and the underground city?

The underground city was extremely rich in spiritual energy.

If there were a teleportation point within China, replenishing his spiritual energy would be much easier!

Thinking of this, he couldn't wait to find out where he was right now!

Charlie strode through the cavern and the long tunnel, the cave entrance coming into view.

The light outside was intense, indicating it was daytime, and the temperature was warm, confirming he was no longer in Antarctica.

Approaching the entrance, Charlie suddenly recalled the embarrassing scene of his first teleportation by the ring, and immediately looked down at himself.

However, this time was different. Previously, Jermo's self-destruction had shattered all his clothes, leaving him completely naked when he teleported to Maria's side.

But this time, perhaps because he hadn't experienced any danger, his clothes and belongings had been teleported with him.

The only awkward thing was that after his bloody battle with Brovnen, his clothes were torn to shreds by the Wan Jian Gui Zong sword, and coupled with the blood he had lost, he looked quite gruesome.

Charlie thought to himself, "I'd better stay away from people looking like this, lest I scare them."

When he reached the cave entrance, he found himself surrounded by lush, verdant mountains in the prime of springtime.

He deduced that he was definitely in the Northern Hemisphere, and judging from the temperature, it wasn't the tropics or the Arctic, but rather the North Temperate Zone, which covers most of China.

Based on this, Charlie concluded that he was most likely in China, but he didn't know exactly where.

He stepped out of the cave and immediately took out the satellite phone he used in Antarctica, opened the app to check his current satellite location, and to his surprise, he was now in a place called Heming Mountain in western Sichuan.

He muttered to himself, "Heming Mountain... this place sounds familiar."

The next moment, he suddenly realized that Heming Mountain seemed to be the birthplace of Taoism!

Thinking of this, Charlie couldn't help but exclaim, "It seems that the cultivators in that underground city have inherited the mantle of Taoism."

"The center of the compass corresponds to the birthplace of Taoism. Could it be that they first cultivated here?"

Just as he was marveling, a mental cultivation incantation appeared in his mind again, and he subconsciously knew that this mental cultivation

incantation was the incantation to open this cave and the teleportation array in the cave.

Realizing that the cave required an incantation to open, he immediately turned back to look at the entrance he had come out of.

To his surprise, the entrance had completely disappeared, or rather, there was no trace of it visible from the outside.

Yet, Charlie knew the entrance was there, and only the incantation could open it.

He reasoned that each teleportation array's exit was protected by a protective formation to isolate it from outsiders and enemies.

Charlie checked the satellite navigation and found that Crane Cry Mountain was less than 1,500 kilometers in a straight line from Aurous Hill, quite close to his base.

If none of the other eight teleportation points were closer to Aurous Hill, he would try to buy land on Crane Cry Mountain and build a new base.

That way, he could go directly to the underground city in Antarctica when he needed to cultivate, where the spiritual energy was extremely abundant, allowing him to cultivate a hundred times faster.

Charlie was overjoyed.

He had originally thought that the underground city was located in Antarctica, making a trip there extremely difficult.

Even by plane, there was no direct route, and private jets couldn't cover such a long distance in one go.

But now things are different. With this teleportation array, he can not only travel directly from China to Antarctica,

But also use it as a transit point to reach eight other unknown locations!

With this thought in mind, Charlie had no time to familiarize himself with the environment of Crane Cry Mountain.

He immediately recited the incantation in his mind, and the cave instantly appeared on the stone wall.

Without any hesitation, he entered the cave and returned to the square cave chamber.

The light circle on the ground was still slowly rotating. He stood in the light circle and recited the incantation, his whole body enveloped in light once again.

The next moment, he was back in the square pagoda of the underground city in Antarctica, still standing on the light circle in the center of the compass.

Charlie pondered to himself that the central position of this compass corresponded to Crane Cry Mountain, the origin of Taoism.

The eight directions—Kan, Gen, Zhen, Xun, Li, Kun, Dui, and Qian—corresponded to due north, northeast, due east, southeast, due south, southwest, due west, and northwest on the compass, which is to divide 360 degrees into 45-degree intervals.

Logically, these directions should be based on Heming Mountain in western Sichuan.

Therefore, if you choose the Kan position, the corresponding location will be north of Heming Mountain, and if you choose the Zhen position, it will be east of Heming Mountain.

However, it is still unknown how far north or east of Heming Mountain it actually is.

Charlie figured Aurous Hill was located to the east of Heming Mountain, so he might as well test just how far east of Heming Mountain this Zhen position was.

Without hesitation, he stepped onto the Zhen position and silently recited the incantation for its location.

The next moment, golden light flashed.

When he opened his eyes again, he was still in a man-made stone chamber.

He stepped out of the cave and found that it was still daytime outside, still the vibrant springtime of the deep mountains.

However, the terrain here seemed different from Heming Mountain; the peaks weren't in the style of western Sichuan, but rather resembled volcanoes.

Charlie took out his satellite phone and, after activating the GPS, was surprised to discover that he was actually in a place called Mount Ontake, west of Tokyo, Japan.

Mount Ontake is one of Japan's famous sacred mountains and also one of its most famous religious sites; the famous Shintoism is said to have originated here.

Charlie wondered why those cultivators would build one of their teleportation arrays in Japan. Could this have been part of their area of activity back then?

He had initially assumed that the teleportation points of these nine teleportation arrays were all located in China, but to his surprise, the Zhen position in the due east had already reached Japan.

He immediately returned to the Four Directions Pagoda and tried again using the Gen position representing the northeast.

This time, he was teleported to Yakutia in the Russian Far East.

Turning back to try the Kan position representing due north, he was directly teleported to northern Greenland within the Arctic Circle.

The Xun position representing southeast teleported him to the Great Dividing Range in southeastern Australia. The

Li's position, representing due south, teleported him to the Semeru Mountains in Indonesia.

The Kun position representing southwest teleported him to Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania.

The Dui position representing due west teleported him to the Sierra Nevada Mountains in California, USA.

The Qian position representing northwest teleported him to the Alps on the border of France and Italy.

In just half an hour, Charlie traversed almost every continent in the world.

What he found incredible was that these cultivators, before the end of the Dharma era, had already traversed the entire world, and even in their seclusion in Antarctica, they hadn't severed ties with the world.

Instead, they easily traveled between Antarctica and other parts of the world using teleportation arrays hidden in various mountain ranges.

Moreover, the fact that they had gone to such lengths to build these teleportation arrays meant that they didn't just occasionally visit these places, but frequently traveled between them.

What were their needs in that era that required them to travel so frequently between so many places?