

Cultivating 361

Chapter 361: Ancient Saint Tianjian_2

Ning Qi smiled in response to the expectant gazes:

"The True Martial legacy is in hand."

Upon hearing this.

The crowd erupted into a unified cheer.

Taoist Longshan also laughed heartily, stroking his beard. This was his wish and obsession, finally fulfilled by his disciple.

Ning Qi waved his hand.

Scrolls of martial arts classics poured out like a stream, instantly filling up the open space of Bright Martial Pavilion.

"This is only a portion. We need to expand the Scripture Pavilion again, preferably sorting by levels," Ning Qi suggested.

These are the foundation of the True Martial Sect.

With these martial arts classics, the path for True Martial disciples becomes much broader and their ceiling higher.

Luo Wentian nodded repeatedly.

Ning Qi continued:

"This is the Secret Technique 'Nine and Three Are One' of the 'Nine Great Celestial Beings versus Martial Saints.' You all should contemplate it thoroughly."

Everyone was touched, their gaze filled with reminiscence.

Once upon a time, this rumor was the goal of several brothers, and now, it is truly laid out before them.

From True Martial Nine Stances to the Three Elements Secret Record, it is a continuous heritage that ultimately uses the Nine and Three Are One technique to blend the power of nine Celestial Beings' Perfection into one, greatly enhancing it. This secret technique is demanding, requiring long-term harmony and mutual understanding.

Ning Qi had assessed that it could indeed barely match a Martial Saint, not just empty words.

In the future, he might further refine it to raise the ceiling or lower the requirements.

Ning Qi took out several more scrolls:

"This is the Martial Saint Technique. Master and Senior Brother Eight can familiarize themselves beforehand."

The crowd was stunned once again.

Martial Saint Technique!

To think Ning Qi obtained it as well.

Ning Qi simply chuckled lightly.

The secret techniques of the Ancient Saints to weaken Life Poison he did not take out for now, waiting until the two reach Celestial Being Perfection would not be too late. They cannot access them now, but by then, he should have also deduced the method to filter out Life Poison.

He handed over the numerous scrolls to Luo Wentian to handle.

With nothing left to do, Ning Qi felt relieved. The True Martial legacy gained this time included many scrolls and texts beneficial to him, which he can peruse leisurely in the future.

He chatted with the brothers about the sights from this test, eliciting waves of exclamations, then took his leave.

Strolling into the Seeking Tao Institute.

A familiar feeling surged in his heart.

Running around outside still isn't as comfortable as being in his own little nook.

He glanced at the lush Enlightenment Tea Tree, smiled slightly, and added three Celestial Being Blood Pills, which came from Luofu Sword Venerate and two others, treating them as waste utilization to accelerate the growth of the tea tree.

Ning Qi sat cross-legged under the tea tree, focused and gathered his energy, adjusting his state.

After one incense stick burned down, he slowly opened his eyes.

Now, he had an important matter to attend to.

Great Sun Compass.

A glimmer of anticipation flickered in his eyes.

Snatching this Great Sun Compass from Red Sun Martial Saint served firstly as a release of anger and secondly out of curiosity for the secret treasures of the Ancient Saints, which seem somewhat similar to Yu King Pearl, yet not quite the same.

The True Profound Seal of Taoist Baishan, the Glazed Buddha Tree of Buddha Baoshu, and the Great Sun Compass of Red Sun Martial Saint each have their features and can provide spirit to allow them to exhibit Martial Saint Realm strength in this era where spiritual awakening has yet to occur.

"According to the Martial Saint legacy acquired this time, the combat power displayed by current Ancient Saints is at most at the level of First Realm Martial Saint, but it seems at least three might exceed it: Heaven-Slaying Martial Saint, Great Yan Martial Saint, and Profound Turtle Senior."

Ning Qi's eyes glimmered slightly.

He was no longer in complete ignorance of the Martial Saint Realm.

Martial Saints have five realms, and the gap between each realm is considerable.

"Martial Saints refine Five Elements Qi to gradually achieve Five Elements Perfection, yet the order in which Five Elements Qi is cultivated isn't fixed; some might align more with Water Qi, storing their magical power in their kidneys in the First Realm."

"Red Sun Martial Saint, named for Red Sun, his zenith is unknown, but he likely cultivates Fire Qi in the First Realm."

"Thinking back now, these secret treasures might have elemental inclinations. If my sensing is right, Yu King Pearl is of Water affinity, and the Great Sun Compass is Fire affinity. If I could harness the Great Sun Compass, when spiritual awakening occurs, with sufficient foundation, I might break through two realms at once!"

Ning Qi's mind swirled with numerous thoughts.

He was already laying plans for spiritual awakening.

Compared to those Ancient Saints, his foundation might be thinner, so naturally, he needed to put in some effort. During this time, alongside Blade Demon, he not only researched methods to filter Life Poison but also pondered how to surge forward upon reaching Martial Saint.

Now, with the direction clarified after gaining the True Martial Hall Martial Saint legacy.

But everything hinges on whether his speculation about the Great Sun Compass is correct.

Ning Qi sensed the Yu King Pearl.

He unleashed its suppressive force, and the Great Sun Compass within suddenly charged out like an unbridled horse, attempting to break free, but Ning Qi was prepared. Vast Power of Heaven and Earth converged, forming invisible chains, further accommodating the suppression magic of the Small True Martial Seal.

The Great Sun Compass trembled endlessly, its range of motion shrinking tighter.

Ning Qi smiled slightly, with spiritual power twined at his fingertips, he gently grasped the Great Sun Compass.

He looked at the slightly caved-in space within the Yu King Pearl with a bit of reflection.

"Back when I suppressed this compass into Yu King Pearl in Black Sand Sea, it already felt strained, indeed, this is completely different from ordinary objects. If I weren't prepared, it might have just escaped."

"Now, let's see what marvelous qualities you have!"

Ning Qi's interest intensified.

He used spiritual power to suppress the Great Sun Compass, then cautiously proceeded with his exploration.

Chapter 362: Ancient Saint Tianjian_3

The compass was a deep crimson color, faintly shimmering with a trace of golden hue, resembling a great sun. It was engraved with various exotic beasts – the Golden Crow, the Fire Lion, the Fire Crow, and some patterns that were somewhat vague, some even seemingly more powerful than the Golden Crow.

Ning Qi was slightly startled.

It was evident that the Red Sun Martial Saint's cultivation had not yet returned to its peak, and some of this secret treasure's powers had yet to be unleashed.

Within it, a scorching power was gathering.

Compared to the Yu King Pearl, this secret treasure's destructive capabilities were even stronger.

He ventured deeper, then paused slightly:

"An imprint?"

Ning Qi laughed.

This was no obstacle for him.

His Divine Intent poured forth, carefully and cautiously exploring the structure within under the guidance of spiritual power. As streams of spiritual light flickered in his mind, he began to deconstruct the power in the center.

...

Meanwhile.

At the Red Sun Sect.

Ever since the return of the Red Sun Martial Saint, the entire sect had been under a repressive atmosphere. Everyone was aware that the Martial Saint had suffered humiliation outside and was extremely angry. Martial Artists walked carefully, even subconsciously lightening their breathing, lest they provoke the Thunderous Fury.

But after a while.

The terrifying great sun's radiance still shone over the entire domain, with the sound of suppressed angry roars echoing across the sky, causing everyone to tremble in fear:

"Asshole Tianjian, you've gone too far!!"

Red Sun Martial Saint's eyes were wide open, blood oozing from the corners of his mouth.

Just now.

He sensed the spiritual power imprint he had left in the Great Sun Compass being dispelled by a certain force!

This meant he had temporarily lost all control over the Great Sun Compass.

Previously, he had been sneering, thinking Ning Qi was overestimating his abilities, daring to covet an Ancient Saint's lifebound secret treasure. But unexpectedly, within moments, he was slapped in the face. Amidst his anger, he was filled with disbelief.

"How is this possible? This imprint is not something just anyone can remove!"

"Could it be the Heaven-Slaying Martial Saint, or did that old turtle make a move?"

The Red Sun Martial Saint's expression fluctuated between gloom and uncertainty.

He was somewhat agitated.

Without the Great Sun Compass, while he wouldn't be doomed eternally, it was still a heavy loss that would affect the recovery of his strength during the spiritual awakening.

"Damn it, this kid's background is unfathomable, and that old turtle is backing him up. For now, the only plan is to endure."

The Red Sun Martial Saint gritted his teeth.

"Wait a bit longer, wait until Zi Yue returns. Then, during the spiritual awakening, we'll launch an attack together to exact revenge! By that time, the Heaven-Slaying Martial Saint will be in the middle of his own metamorphosis, unable to attend to other matters, which will be the best opportunity!"

He took several deep breaths, suppressing his restless emotions.

He finally decided.

To keep a low profile for the time being.

...

At the Seeking Tao Institute.

Ning Qi's eyes held a look of joy.

He toyed with the Great Sun Compass, now reduced to the size of a palm. After removing the imprint, the Great Sun Compass became incomparably docile, allowing Ning Qi to knead it at will. As he carefully sensed it, it indeed contained abundant fire-attribute power.

Should he use it, the power it would unleash would surpass that of the Red Sun Martial Saint.

"This Red Sun Martial Saint is indeed something of a waste, having lived so many years in vain. No wonder his character is so poor." Ning Qi was somewhat disdainful.

But it's also beneficial, making it cheap for him.

He already had the idea.

At that time, he could use this Great Sun Compass as his stepping stone for advancement.

"It's a pity, opportunities like this are too rare. Firstly, other Ancient Saints are not so simple, and then there's the Heaven-Slaying Martial Saint. If not for the face of Profound Turtle Senior this time, I fear even the Great Sun Compass couldn't have been safeguarded." Ning Qi was somewhat unsatisfied.

He toyed with it for a while longer.

Finally putting the compass away.

This way, his tactics would be even more diverse, and his endurance greatly enhanced.

Both now and in the future.

Were great benefits.

Having resolved this matter, Ning Qi took a long breath.

Next, he would concentrate fully on creating the method to filter out the Life Poison. This time, having obtained the technique developed by Ancient Saints to remove Life Poison, the problem of pinpointing Life Poison had been smoothly resolved. Using this Secret Technique as a foundation, Ning Qi was confident he could create it before the spiritual awakening.

However.

He had a premonition that this Secret Technique would probably be exceedingly difficult, and besides him, others might not necessarily grasp it.

"The Poison of Rule involves higher-dimensional power. Filtering it out within the scope of my current abilities may require quite a few prerequisites."

He planned to head to the back mountain first.

With a step forward.

Ning Qi's figure had already disappeared from the spot.

The Blade Demon arrived, his eyes carrying an expectant look:

"Taoist Friend Tianjian, how were the gains from this journey?"

Ning Qi smiled:

"Not letting you down, gained the Martial Saint legacy. My friend, you may take a look first."

The Blade Demon was overjoyed.

Ning Qi waved his hand, and the already prepared Martial Saint Technique books and a document on the diminishing Life Poison technique appeared before the Blade Demon. He sat down cross-legged without the slightest hesitation, eagerly engrossed in studying them.

As the sun set and the moon rose, he did not stop.

From time to time, he gasped in amazement and appeared to have sudden realizations.

After a long time, he finally took a break.

"Thank you, Taoist Friend Tianjian!" The Blade Demon bowed deeply, utterly impressed.

If it were someone else, obtaining the Martial Saint's legacy, they would probably hide it rather than share it with others. Yet Ning Qi spared no effort in sharing, making him immensely grateful.

Apart from this.

He marveled at Ning Qi's extraordinary wisdom.

Simply because the Martial Saint Technique he was now studying matched exactly with the path Ning Qi had previously deduced. But the former was the wisdom of generations of sages, and Ning Qi managed to deduce it all on his own.

Formally, the Blade Demon knew he was just an irrelevant onlooker cheering from the sidelines, with or without him, Ning Qi could deduce it all similarly. His contribution was so negligible it could be ignored.

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His greatest use lies in experimenting with the anomalous objects of heaven and earth.

"With this Secret Technique, when the day of Spiritual Awakening arrives, you, my friend, can use it to step into the Martial Saint Realm," Ning Qi said with a smile.

The Blade Demon's eyes lit up, but then he shook his head, saying:

"But the matter is not yet finished, your ambition is not limited to this."

Ning Qi stated solemnly:

"To be honest, that's true, but the more advanced Secret Techniques that follow might not benefit you, and you need not risk your life to experiment with them."

Simply put, even if a method to eliminate the Life Poison is created, the Blade Demon wouldn't be able to learn it, and Ning Qi didn't want to take advantage of him.

The Blade Demon decisively waved his hand, speaking resolutely:

"Taoist Friend Tianjian, you underestimate me! During these days, how could I not see the power of this Secret Technique? Even now, I am already amazed. Once it truly takes shape, it will definitely be beyond my grasp. But precisely because of this, being able to participate is the fortune of my lifetime!"

His black pupils gleamed with light, indicating determination to complete such a grand feat.

Ning Qi remained silent.

Then he bowed to the Blade Demon.

This bow showed respect for the Blade Demon's boldness.

Ning Qi said sternly:

"When the Secret Technique is achieved, I will strive to derive a simplified version."

The Blade Demon merely nodded with a smile.

He didn't mind whether he could learn it or not; what mattered to him was his participation in the process.

Moreover.

With the Martial Saint Technique Ning Qi brought back, he already had a path to ascend to the Martial Saint, which was an enormous help. Emotionally and logically, he should repay Ning Qi.

Ning Qi wasn't overly modest.

"In that case, let's begin."

With this Secret Technique, he already knew how to pinpoint the Life Poison; the next step was continuously attempting methods to filter it out.

Strands of Spiritual Qi were skillfully synthesized by Ning Qi and then absorbed into the Blade Demon's body.

The difference was.

This time, Ning Qi could already clearly capture the existence of the Life Poison. Compared to before, this was a qualitative breakthrough.

His eyes shone brightly as his thoughts raced quickly, pondering various solutions.

"If the Three Flowers are insufficient, then use various paths to assist. Perhaps, eliminating it with myriad ways is a feasible approach..."

At the True Martial Mountain's back hills.

No one was aware that an earth-shattering Secret Technique was brewing.

...

Time passed slowly.

The upheaval at the True Martial Hall continued to spread, as the True Martial Sect once again became the center of attention in the world.

More and more Ancient Saints appeared; they too became interested in the True Martial Sect. As they delved into the history of its rise, they were surprised to find that this Ancient Saint Tianjian seemed peculiar. Coupled with the fact that Ning Qi had been able to enter the True Martial Hall before, they couldn't help but associate him with that ancient Profound Turtle.

Some Ancient Saints believed that it was the Profound Turtle of the True Martial Hall strategically laying plans in advance.

After all, the Ancient Saints were absolutely incapable of entering the legacy of the True Martial Hall.

In no time.

The attitude of the Ancient Saints toward the True Martial Sect was somewhat ambiguous, and several invitation letters were sent to the True Martial Mountain, all of which Ning Qi politely declined under the pretext of seclusion.

But only Taoist Baishan knew, Ning Qi was purely a monster!

Upon learning that Ning Qi had beaten up the Red Sun Martial Saint and snatched the Great Sun Compass, he was somewhat stunned. Although the Red Sun Martial Saint was not among the strongest, compared to the Buddha Baoshu he was about the same. But now he was suppressed by Ning Qi, and it was even said that if the Heaven-Slaying Martial Saint hadn't intervened, Red Sun Martial Saint would have been forced to burn most of his Spirit Blood.

"This guy, he's become even stronger compared to the time at the True Profound Mountain, it's simply outrageous!" he thought to himself, clicking his tongue.

Ning Qi seemed to have no limit.

Such an existence seemed somewhat unreasonable.

"Could it be... Ning Qi might become that variable? There was once a proposal to cultivate newcomers as an alternative plan, but it was rejected. Looking at it now, could we have taken the wrong path?"

Taoist Baishan sighed.

The old guys buried the Spirit, and then it erupted in the present world, naturally not just to endure the merciless years.

"Perhaps, I should visit the True Martial Mountain."

His gaze gradually firmed up.

Chapter 364: Tenfold Heaven and Earth

The world of Great Yan had already become exceedingly lively.

With the awakening of numerous Ancient Saints, the power structure of the entire world was reshuffled. Top sects that once held numerous resources fell from their high positions, and any faction lacking an Ancient Saint was no longer significant.

According to those with a keen interest.

Nearly twenty Ancient Saints have already appeared.

Including those who remained low-key and did not appear, the number is even more, and additional Ancient Saints continue to awaken.

Martial Artists marveled and gasped; a grand era has come.

However.

Though these Martial Saints seem numerous, when spread out over tens of thousands of years, it is not much at all. The vast majority have already been submerged in the long river of history; the reason they seem numerous now is merely because they have appeared all at once in the present world.

The True Martial Sect has also been keeping an eye on the movements of the Ancient Saints.

After considering the attitudes regarding invitation letters sent by several Ancient Saints, Luo Wentian had Taoist Longshan politely decline them in writing, to avoid displeasing the other party.

On this day.

Taoist Baishan quietly paid a visit.

Within the Seeking Tao Institute.

Ning Qi opened his eyes, somewhat irritably gazing at the sneaky old Taoist in the distance:

"True Monarch, since you're here, why not come in?"

The old Taoist's action of picking tea leaves paused momentarily, then he chuckled and, pretending nonchalance, picked a pinch of tea tips and stuffed them into his Taoist robe.

"Hehe, I knew I couldn't hide from you, kid."

With a leap, he landed on the recliner next to Ning Qi, comfortably lying down with squinting eyes.

Ning Qi waved his hand, and the White Ape respectfully entered the room, shortly bringing out a pot of Enlightenment Tea. Before Ning Qi could speak, Taoist Baishan had already snatched it:

"Good tea! Little White Ape knows how to treat guests, that's really great!"

The White Ape couldn't help but roll its eyes.

Ning Qi laughed and said:

"Try my Enlightenment Tea. If you like it, take some back."

Taoist Baishan downed it in one go, giving a thumbs up:

"Magnificent!"

Though exaggerated, surprise flashed in his eyes. This Enlightenment Tea was far superior to what he had tasted before, causing him to turn and scrutinize the Enlightenment Tea tree with even more astonishment.

Ning Qi shook his head with a laugh; with all the help Taoist Baishan had given him, a bit of Enlightenment Tea he was still willing to be generous with.

"Didn't you say you had matters to handle? How do you have time to come wandering around here?"

Taoist Baishan shook his head with satisfaction:

"I completed my tasks of course, though there were minor troubles, they were handled smoothly. I heard you made quite a name for yourself in the Black Sand Sea, so I came to have a look."

"Although old kid Red Sun is not the top-notch, he's no weakling either, yet you defeated him so badly and even snatched the Great Sun Compass, didn't you Ning kid? Seems you didn't go all out on True Profound Mountain!"

He winked.

Ning Qi sipped his tea.

He only realized at the last moment when the Profound Turtle revealed its true form that the 'old turtle' mentioned was not a metaphor but actually the source of the True Martial lineage, making him speechless at their riddles.

"I just made some progress, that's all." he said lightly.

Taoist Baishan was momentarily choked.

"Hey, you kid are getting cocky, but later don't say you need my help. I'm here to assist you; don't assume the Great Sun Compass is easily taken, it might just knock your teeth out accidentally!" he retorted grumpily.

Then suddenly, he was stunned.

Unbeknownst to him, a crimson compass appeared in Ning Qi's palm, casually being played with. Ning Qi glanced at him askew:

"Is this what you're talking about?"

Taoist Baishan rubbed his eyes, then jumped up:

"You've removed the imprint from the Great Sun Compass?"

Ning Qi did not reply, merely pointed a finger. A small Fire Lion instantly leaped out, performing a dance before Taoist Baishan, leaving him stunned momentarily before regaining his senses:

"Awesome!"

A simple word expressed his current feelings.

Whether Ning Qi had someone else do it or did it himself, it was extremely difficult. The former showed his strong connections, while the latter was even more astonishing.

But immediately, Taoist Baishan showed a gloating smile:

"That old Red Sun just ran into you, such a freak, suffered great losses, he must be seething with rage at home."

"However, this makes you two mortal enemies, this is a hatred that blocks one's path."

As he said this, his smile gradually faded, seriously reminding.

Ning Qi said mildly:

"It doesn't matter, when the opportunity is right, I will slay him."

The grudge of insulting a master does not pass easily; now it's just some interest collection.

Baishan's heart tightened.

He did not dissuade but merely said:

"You need to be careful of one person, Martial Saint Ziyue!"

"Martial Saint Ziyue?"

"That's right, this person's strength is on par with mine, she is the pledged sister of Martial Saint Red Sun, their relationship is very close. If she learns that Martial Saint Red Sun was seriously injured by you, she will surely come to trouble you, be prepared."

Ning Qi slightly nodded.

This indeed was important information.

However, he was unafraid.

"For now, there's no need to worry excessively, you probably know what happened a few days ago, Heaven-Slaying Martial Saint was furious; even the Ancient Saints are behaving themselves now. Even if Martial Saint Ziyue returns, she won't come just yet."

As he spoke, Taoist Baishan laughed.

Ning Qi also chuckled.

With the return of the Ancient Saints, naturally, they weren't behaving; some even had old grudges. Four Ancient Saints fought fiercely, and Heaven-Slaying Martial Saint arrived, ultimately deciding to make an example by suppressing four Ancient Saints and ordering them not to leave.

Only afterward did the Ancient Saints settle down.

"But Heaven-Slaying Martial Saint cannot watch over everything at all times, when the Spiritual Awakening day comes, he will need to close up, disputes might arise then."

Chapter 365: Tenfold Heaven and Earth_2

Ning Qi appeared thoughtful.

Taoist Baishan said:

"I will help you."

Ning Qi felt grateful in his heart and smiled:

"Great, I'll treat you to the finest Enlightenment Tea by then."

Next year.

The Enlightenment Tea Tree will surely rise to a new level.

Taoist Baishan immediately beamed with joy.

"We'll see, we'll see."

Then he added:

"Your Enlightenment Tea Tree is indeed remarkable. My Heavenly Crane Tree may not match yours when Spiritual Awakening occurs. Pay close attention to it; you might find fortune."

Ning Qi was taken aback.

"Please instruct me."

He originally thought that the day of Spiritual Awakening would be the fusion of Spirit and the Power of Heaven and Earth, with the essence of Spiritual Qi restoring to the world afterward, but now it seemed more complex.

Taoist Baishan chuckled:

"I came today precisely for this."

"Since you have visited the True Martial Hall, you must know what is there, right?"

"Life Poison," Ning Qi replied.

Previously unaware of Life Poison, Taoist Baishan couldn't speak of it for fear of backlash, but now there was no such concern.

Taoist Baishan sighed softly:

"Indeed, it is Life Poison. To solve this Life Poison, countless prodigies and geniuses have exhausted their efforts. Ultimately, a plan was devised, but I can't tell you the specifics for now. I can tell you, however, it relates to Spiritual Awakening. Spirit wasn't suddenly lost but was intentionally hidden, set to revive explosively at the calculated time."

"Because of the Covenant of the Saints?" Ning Qi asked, recalling what Buddha Baoshu had mentioned at the True Profound Mountain.

"Yes."

"Then tell me about the Spiritual Awakening."

Taoist Baishan organized his thoughts and said:

"This world was not originally as it is now. In the past, it was ten times larger than now."

The first sentence made Ning Qi's pupils quake.

"As Spirit hid, the earth veins withered, the world changed dramatically, and Spiritual Treasures nearly vanished."

"Naturally, after Spiritual Awakening, the earth veins will expand again, the world will grow tenfold, even surpassing the past. Moreover, the explosion of Spirit will cause some potentially rich entities to mutate, evolving into Spiritual Treasures, such as my Heavenly Crane Tree, or your Enlightenment Tea Tree. Both are highly likely."

"Additionally, it brings a world-altering scene, accompanied by various anomalies, whose specifics I can't fully predict. There might even be a mass awakening of beasts."

Ning Qi's mind was tumultuous; it was the first time he heard such a detailed account of Spiritual Awakening:

"You mean Heavenly Beasts?"

"Exactly, what we call Heavenly Beasts can also be termed Spirit Beasts. They are naturally able to control Spiritual Qi. The powerful ones could rival Martial Saints, while the weaker ones still surpass Celestial Beings. Yet, such celestial favored races nearly faced extinction due to Life Poison!"

His voice carried a touch of regret.

Ning Qi fully understood the connections, finally knowing why the Silver Giant Ape was as it was.

"Spirit Beasts naturally absorb Spiritual Qi. When Life Poison appeared, they were hit first. But strong figures among them devolved their bloodlines to hide, unable to absorb Spiritual Qi naturally, severing the path to ascension, but at least preserving some sparks."

Saying this, Taoist Baishan turned his gaze to the White Ape.

Ning Qi felt a jolt in his heart:

"You mean?"

"Indeed, the Little White Ape possesses pure Spirit Beast bloodline. In hidden Spirit times, it's insignificant, but when Spirit explodes, his Spirit Beast bloodline might be fully activated, and without proper response, he might directly perish under Life Poison!"

The White Ape was bewildered.

The specifics of their conversation were unheard by him, but their gaze made him uneasy.

Seeing Ning Qi's grave expression, Taoist Baishan waved a hand:

"Of course, there's no need to be overly worried. By then, quickly stepping into the Martial Saint Realm to shield him from Spiritual Awakening's influence will do. The reason I brought it up is to prevent any oversight that might cause regret."

Ning Qi exhaled lightly and asked:

"If Spirit is shielded, will Tiansheng be unable to activate the Spirit Beast bloodline?"

"Naturally, in a sense, this is both a danger and an opportunity. If he can endure on his own, the benefits are immense. If it's shielded, there's neither danger nor opportunity. The best is to find a method for him to safely awaken the Spirit Beast bloodline."

Ning Qi gradually relaxed.

This, for him, might not be impossible.

He remembered Zhuang Chen:

"What about the Innate Sword Bone among humans?"

Taoist Baishan glanced sideways:

"Naturally, it's like the Little White Ape. Truly, your True Martial Sect is a place of outstanding individuals, wouldn't be surprising if treasures are born!"

Ning Qi ignored Taoist Baishan's teasing, pondering how to create opportunities for Yuan Tiancheng and Zhuang Chen during Spiritual Awakening; shielding Spirit was simple, but Ning Qi didn't want them to miss the opportunity just like that.

"Thank you," Ning Qi said softly.

Taoist Baishan cheerfully waved his hand.

This time he visited the True Martial Mountain to discuss Spiritual Awakening with Ning Qi, to prepare him in advance.

Now that the purpose was achieved, he prepared to leave.

"Prepare well next, the Spiritual Awakening day is near. Those old ones might start seclusion, and the world may quiet down for a while. You, kid, make good use of your time, don't wander around!"

With a reminder, Taoist Baishan casually left.

Of course, before leaving, he didn't forget to pluck a few tea leaves, even though he already had the tea box from Ning Qi.

Ning Qi shook his head with a smile but felt grateful in his heart.

"Time to hurry, create the method to eliminate Life Poison."

He felt a slight sense of urgency.

According to the expected time for Spiritual Awakening, there were still several months, but no one could say for sure if it would erupt earlier.

If it truly happened prematurely, Ning Qi would have to rely on the Ancient Saints' method to weaken Life Poison to step into the Martial Saint Realm, which he didn't desire. After all, Life Poison was something dauntingly terrifying, something Ning Qi didn't want in his body.

Fortunately.

The deductions were proceeding orderly, even more smoothly than before.

Thanks to the method of weakening Life Poison, Blade Demon faced less influence and could conduct experiments more frequently.

"Now the direction is clear. By merging the Three Flowers with the Ten Thousand Path Intent Realm, it might be possible to leverage higher-dimensional power to expel Life Poison; possibly, only I can achieve this worldwide."

Ning Qi sighed softly.

This was not boasting.

But it required multiple Martial Path Intents, like Sword Intent, Blade Intent, Fire Intent, Wind Intent, etc. to reach the Transformation Realm, which for the average person was impossible.

For a genius like Blade Demon, achieving Blade Intent to the Transformation Realm was exhausting, let alone integrating other paths. Others, reaching two or three Martial Path Intents to Transformation Realm would already dominate an era as a prodigy.

Comprehending the Ten Thousand Path Intent Realm was something only Ning Qi could do.

Next was how to integrate them.

Time passed.

Success was very close.

But it was destined, for now, that only Ning Qi could learn such a Secret Technique unless his future realm rose higher, allowing deeper understanding of Life Poison and deducing more universal Dharma Methods.

...

Meanwhile, as Ning Qi diligently worked on the Dharma Method.

At the Red Sun Sect.

A purple-clad figure, cold as an ice mountain, stepped in, with unparalleled beauty, making others dare not approach. Before the Martial Artists of the Red Sun Sect could speak, a one-armed figure rushed out, face filled with joy:

"Little sister Zi Yue, you've finally awakened!"

Seeing the Red Sun Martial Saint's excited demeanor, Martial Saint Ziyue's expression turned solemn.

In one swift move, she landed beside the Red Sun Martial Saint, but her expression was serious as she looked at his arm stump, asking sternly:

"What happened?"

She had just arrived following the Red Sun Martial Saint's aura, only to find her sworn brother with a missing left arm, an unexpected sight.

Red Sun Martial Saint let out a deep sigh:

"The elder brother was useless."

His expression was somewhat downcast.

""

Chapter 366: What the Ancient Saint Couldn't Achieve, I, Ning Qi, Have Achieved

A moment later.

Everyone in the Red Sun Sect was horrified, prostrate on the ground, as a terrifying and unparalleled pressure enveloped the void. The bone-chilling cold seemed to freeze their very souls.

A cold voice, suppressing boundless fury, rang out:

"Asshole Tianjian, courting death!"

Everyone's minds went blank.

The Red Sun Martial Saint hurriedly held back the about-to-explode Martial Saint Ziyue, whispering:

"Ziyue sister, don't be hasty."

Martial Saint Ziyue's eyes were filled with sorrow:

"Brother, this matter absolutely cannot be left like this. That asshole Tianjian severed your arm and even stole the Great Sun Compass; it's a grudge obstructing our path. No matter his bizarre origins, I must fight him!"

The Red Sun Martial Saint's eyes also showed a trace of hatred. He took a deep breath and said:

"This hatred cannot be forgotten, but now the Heaven-Slaying Martial Saint has just subdued four Martial Saints, clearly stating there must be no internal conflict. We can't provoke him at such a crucial moment, or we'll fail to kill Asshole Tianjian and also offend the Heaven-Slaying Martial Saint."

Martial Saint Ziyue's expression was indignant:

"How can the Heaven-Slaying Martial Saint be so biased? Clearly, it was that Asshole Tianjian who was at fault. If we act like this just to avoid internal strife, it will only lead to outward harmony but inward discord."

The Red Sun Martial Saint said:

"Saying more now is meaningless. We need only to quietly wait for an opportunity—an opportunity when the Heaven-Slaying Martial Saint is out of reach. With swift vengeance, we can slay Asshole Tianjian. By then, even if the Heaven-Slaying Martial Saint gets angry, there's nothing he can do, and in the end, it'll all blow over."

Martial Saint Ziyue's eyes gleamed:

"You mean?"

"That's right, on the day of the Spiritual Awakening!" His eyes held a bloodthirsty aura, "The blood rain of the Martial Saints will just allow us siblings to ascend further!"

Then.

He somewhat apologetically said:

"It's just that lately, Ziyue sister, you'll have to keep a low profile to avoid alerting that Asshole Tianjian. When we strike together, we'll catch him off guard and help you ascend further, and future opportunities aren't out of reach for us siblings!"

Martial Saint Ziyue nodded and said:

"As long as I can avenge you, brother, what matter is it for me to hide temporarily?"

The siblings exchanged a knowing smile.

Then.

A prohibition was issued throughout the Red Sun Sect: Today's events must not be disclosed, or the penalty will be bodily obliteration!

No one knew.

Martial Saint Ziyue had already returned and hidden in the Red Sun Sect.

...

Seeking Tao Institute.

A gentle breeze passed, rustling the leaves of the Enlightenment Tea trees, casting verdant shade over the small courtyard, a peculiar fragrance intoxicating the senses.

Ning Qi was sitting with his eyes closed, seeking enlightenment.

In his mind, countless Spiritual Lights were sparking and erupting. The results from all his experiments with the Blade Demon during this period were blooming, as beams of Spiritual Light interwove, subsequently being refined by Ning Qi; the sense of achievement wasn't something outsiders could appreciate.

Unknowingly.

A wisp of Spiritual Qi appeared at his fingertips.

He opened his eyes, filled with determination, as Three Flowers gathered above his head, and this wisp of Spiritual Qi shot upward.

This was Ning Qi's first attempt at refining Spiritual Qi on his own.

The Spiritual Qi floated above his head; he didn't rush to absorb it into his body.

Buzz!

An unparalleled Sword Intent soared into the sky, hovering beside him, faintly revealing an Invisible Sword. Once this Sword Intent appeared, the previously stable Spiritual Qi started to ripple with an invisible pulling force, albeit weak.

But it didn't end there.

Following the Sword Intent, a formidable Blade Intent also rose, aligning with the Sword Intent.

The pull on the Spiritual Qi intensified.

Ning Qi's eyes sparkled with golden light as his entire aura erupted.

In an instant.

Like bamboo shoots after the rain, numerous Martial Path Intent Realms rose one after another.

There was a spear with piercing intent, a fist imposing over all lands, a fire that consumed everything, a domineering and unmatched thunder...

Numerous visions floated around Ning Qi, so magnificent yet unseen by anyone.

The Ten Thousand Path Intent Realm was a sight unimaginable to the world.

Ning Qi's body trembled slightly.

This was not the limit of his enlightenment but was already approaching the limit of his Divine Intent.

"Yet... it is enough!"

His gaze was incredibly bright. At this moment, the wisp of Spiritual Qi he controlled had reached its absolute limit, trembling constantly, as if about to collapse in the next moment. Ning Qi could sense that a terrifying energy was about to be released, pinpointing the location of the Life Poison.

"For me, fuse!"

He roared in his heart.

The next moment.

The streams of Intent flowed together, pouring into the Three Flowers.

Buzz!

With every Intent melding in, the Three Flowers vibrated, undergoing some miraculous transformation.

With the last Intent blending in.

The Three Flowers fully blossomed.

Ning Qi felt his spirit reach an incredibly unique realm, vaguely sensing a wondrous power flowing from the High Heaven, from every inch of space around him.

Within the Three Flowers, a flame without form began to burn quietly.

Ning Qi made a decisive move.

The long-waiting, constantly trembling Spiritual Qi was thrown in.

Boom!

The Invisible Flame instantly surged, devouring the Spiritual Qi. In Ning Qi's perception, the Life Poison, like tarsal maggots, vanished completely under the flame's incineration, and the Spiritual Qi emanated an incredibly agile aura.

Ning Qi was overjoyed. With a thought, the purified Spiritual Qi immediately burrowed into his body, following mystic trajectories to fuse with one of his Five Organs as Spiritual Power, utterly devoid of the terrible aberrations the Blade Demon had experienced before.

Thus.

The feat was achieved.

Ning Qi's lips curled into a smile, an indescribable sense of accomplishment welling within.

What the Ancient Saints could not accomplish, he, Ning Qi, did.

"Using the Ten Thousand Path Intent Realm to merge Three Flowers to form the Nirvana Flame, connecting higher-dimensional forces to eradicate the Life Poison, henceforth... the Ten Thousand Paths Nirvana Technique."

Chapter 367: What the Ancient Saint Couldn't Achieve, I, Ning Qi, Have Achieved_2

"With this Ten Thousand Paths Nirvana Technique, from now on I can completely remove the Life Poison from the Spiritual Qi I absorb, not having to endure the suffering of Life Poison like others. It's a pity that only I know this method."

The Ten Thousand Path Intent Realm is beyond human capabilities, but Ning Qi's extraordinary comprehension allows him to achieve it by using one method to push a multitude, making it possible.

"However, right now, I cannot yet advance to Martial Saint."

It's quite simple.

Because the Spirit isn't dense enough.

Ning Qi had experimented several times with extracting and merging the Spirit from the Martial Saint Secret Treasure. The amount used for experimentation was fine, but using it to advance to Martial Saint

was impossible. Moreover, he harbored the ambition to break through multiple realms with the momentum of the Spiritual Awakening. Prematurely merging some Spiritual Power not only offered no help but might become a hindrance later on.

Ning Qi pondered.

The wisp of Spiritual Qi that wanted to merge into his body was immediately expelled.

Under Ning Qi's watchful gaze, once again Life Poison surged in between heaven and earth, polluting the Spiritual Qi that had been purified.

"Indeed, if the source is not resolved, the Spiritual Qi will continue to be polluted. My current Ten Thousand Paths Nirvana Technique can only provide for my purification of Spiritual Qi."

"However, there's no need to rush. One must eat one bite at a time, and later deduce a universal method to remove Life Poison completely before addressing its source all at once."

Ning Qi's breath gradually stabilized, as he stood with his hands behind his back, gazing into the distance.

"Breaking through to Martial Saint is already an effortless matter for me; deducing a Martial Saint level Myriad Phenomena Scripture is also quite straightforward. The most crucial aspect now is to accumulate foundation, to strive for breaking through multiple realms in one sweep during the Spiritual Awakening."

"The Yu King Pearl and Great Sun Compass need to be fully utilized, these two Martial Saint Secret Treasures must become part of my foundation, and additionally, I need to see if there are other ways to strengthen my foundation."

"There's also Tiansheng and Shi. They might awaken during the Spiritual Awakening, and they need the Secret Technique as protection."

With clarity on what needs to be done next, Ning Qi felt much more relieved.

As for now.

He had one more thing to do.

That is to share the fruits of this victory with the Blade Demon.

The Blade Demon had made significant contributions, enduring multiple Life Poison corruptions, and the physical pain was already severe, not to mention the reduction of lifespan. Most importantly, the ultimately completed Ten Thousand Paths Nirvana Technique he could not yet learn.

Though the Blade Demon himself didn't mind, Ning Qi felt somewhat uncomfortable.

That night.

Ning Qi and the Blade Demon drank three hundred cups under the moon.

The Blade Demon marveled at Ning Qi's astonishing wisdom and was delighted that his own suffering hadn't been in vain.

...

Time slowly passed.

The Ancient Saints of the world gradually returned, each occupying a region.

Though there weren't many Ancient Saints, they gradually carved out two to three parts of their territories within the realm of Great Yan. This was a significant shock to the Great Yan Dynasty. However, since the Great Yan Martial Saint remained silent, the ones below could only adapt to the current changes.

After all.

Even the Great Yan Martial Saint could not disregard all Martial Saints.

To him.

Sustaining most of the territory was already a good thing.

Nonetheless, many martial sects and paths turned towards the Ancient Saints. Any sensible person realized something significant was about to happen; staying under the Great Yan Dynasty might yield nothing, but by siding with the Ancient Saints, one might receive firsthand information and partake in the benefits.

The world was in turmoil, with undercurrents surging.

In just over half a year, forces like the Demon Sect that once led the trend had vanished without a trace, leaving countless people amazed by the rapid changes.

And in a region overlooked by many.

The outskirts of the Hundred Thousand Mountains.

A place shrouded in dense miasma.

Unique stilted houses stood there, with drum tower altars scattered amongst them adorned with decorations like ox horns and animal hides hanging in front of the buildings.

This was the true core of the Southern Border Alliance, unknown to outsiders. Those terrifying miasmas, if not properly resolved, warranted caution even to Celestial Human Realm experts. This was the survival capital that the Southern Border relied on, once occupied by the largest tribe, and after forming the alliance, it was donated as the Ancestral Land of the Southern Border.

But lately.

The atmosphere of the Southern Border Ancestral Land turned somewhat stagnant.

All because.

The Southern Border Saintess, Lan Yiyi, after a period of disappearance, was found to have a major issue!

When preparing to sacrifice her to the Gu God, it was discovered that Lan Yiyi had lost half her lifespan.

At the ancestral altar.

Powerful auras gathered around, all looking with hatred at the figure bound to the Dragon Trapping Frame at the center of the altar.

An elder of the Hong Clan, Hong Yan, shouted angrily:

"Lan Yiyi, you wench! Quickly tell us, where is the other half of your lifespan? If you delay the Gu God's important matter, you'll be the eternal sinner of our Southern Border!"

The Lan Yiyi on the Dragon Trapping Frame opened her eyes, glanced at him disdainfully:

"If you have the guts, kill me."

Hong Yan was furious.

Over these days, the alliance had used every means, but Lan Yiyi remained silent, until today when she was brought to the altar.

"Do you really think I do not dare to kill you?"

"If you dared, you would not have kept me alive until now over these months. I guess, if you kill me, then perhaps your great Gu God won't be able to fully merge with the Blood Emperor Gu, right?" Lan Yiyi said nonchalantly, making everyone's breath increasingly rapid.

Chapter 368: What the Ancient Saint Couldn't Achieve, I, Ning Qi, Have Achieved_3

She had seized everyone's fatal weakness.

Back then, saving Qin Yun on True Martial Mountain was partly due to an inexplicable feeling in her heart, and partly for self-preservation.

If not for using the Shared Destiny Gu to give up half of her lifespan.

She would probably already be dead by now.

However, she knew that even so, this was merely a delay tactic.

Red Flame took a deep breath and suddenly sneered:

"Very well, you're not afraid of death, but how about this?"

He clapped his hands.

One by one, people exuding an extreme stench filed in. Some were lifeless, some drooled, others had deformed and crippled bodies, all barely clothed, yet at this moment, they all intensely stared at Lan Yiyi, their eyes reddening, starting to pant heavily.

"Guess, will they serve you well, esteemed Saintess?" Red Flame snarled, gritting his teeth, because some days ago, during a dispute, his son was killed by Lan Yiyi.

Lan Yiyi felt a chill welling up from the bottom of her heart, but her expression remained unchanged:

"To desecrate me is to desecrate your Gu God."

Red Flame sneered viciously:

"The Gu God has already spoken, he only wants your Life Essence, as for whether your body is torn and broken, he doesn't care."

Lan Yiyi's gaze trembled, then she slowly closed her eyes, unwilling to speak further.

"I'll give you ten more breaths of time, these 'fine people' can't wait any longer!" Red Flame barked coldly, the area filled with the sound of heavy panting.

"Ten!"

"Nine!"

...

Each voice was accompanied by a heavy drumbeat, as if pounding on Lan Yiyi's heart.

Those surrounding could hardly bear it.

Originally, Lan Yiyi was deeply respected within the alliance, and many couldn't bear to see her brought down to such a state, her dignity trampled, but there was no other way. If the Gu God, upon merging with the Blood Emperor Gu and awakening, found Lan Yiyi's Life Essence incomplete, the consequences would be even more severe.

They didn't have much time left, so they could only resort to coercion.

"Saintess, speak up, sacrificing to the Gu God is not a bad thing, many people covet such an opportunity but can't get it."

Someone advised gently.

But Lan Yiyi remained silent.

"Four!"

"Three!"

Red Flame's right hand was raised high, about to strike down.

The rising and falling breaths around resembled mad wolves and rabid dogs, making it hard to imagine what fate awaited Lan Yiyi once these people were unleashed.

"Two!"

Red Flame sneered viciously.

Then a loud explosion was heard within the Ancestral Land.

"Boom!"

"Kill! For the Saintess!"

Accompanied by shouts of "kill," everyone gazed in shock, seeing powerful figures emerging from all sides, Red Flame looked at Lan Yiyi in shock, only to see Lan Yiyi slowly opening her eyes:

"Did you really think that all these years I've been sitting idly by?"

Her aura suddenly erupted.

The Dragon Trapping Frame shattered.

The power once granted by the Gu God had given her strength far surpassing her peers, but now, this strength had become the shackles from which she needed to break free.

Red Flame was just about to make a move.

On both sides also came the fluctuation of the Power of Heaven and Earth, making him dodge hastily, these elders judging Lan Yiyi also had traitors among them!

Red Flame raged:

"Kill! Kill these traitors for me!"

A great battle was on the verge of breaking out, and the entire Ancestral Land of the Southern Border had already become an Asura Field.

The Power of Heaven and Earth continued to explode, turning watchtowers into dust.

With the protection of a few confidants, Lan Yiyi broke through the siege outward, glancing around, her heart was extremely urgent.

Choosing today to act meant she was certain the Gu God had entered a deep slumber, this was her only chance.

Although she had many arrangements, painstakingly building over the years a force of her own, the slight advantage now was more due to catching them off guard. Once the elders responded, they would definitely not be opponents.

"I must escape immediately!"

Lan Yiyi had no intention of lingering in battle, under the cover of many confidants and the Lan Clan, she fled swiftly out of the Ancestral Land.

In the past, she could not escape because there was a mark inside her, making her unable to hide even at the ends of the earth, but now the mark had been removed, she only needed to survive today's disaster, and from then on the sky would be the limit.

Chapter 369: One-Sided Massacre

True Martial Mountain.

Seeking Tao Institute.

Ning Qi was meditating on the Secret Technique with closed eyes.

In his mind, spiritual light surged like a waterfall, and inspirations continuously arose. This was a miraculous scene unimaginable to outsiders. After creating the Ten Thousand Paths Nirvana Technique, simplifying it was undoubtedly much easier. Ning Qi intended to tailor a Secret Technique to weaken the Life Poison for Taoist Longshan, Qin Yun, and Blade Demon based on their individual situations.

In this way, the weakening effect could be maximized.

Throughout the entire True Martial Sect, only these three had the hope of reaching the Martial Saint Realm on the day of Spiritual Awakening.

Blade Demon relied on his own accumulation, while Taoist Longshan and Qin Yun had the Heaven-Reaching Pill. By then, they might reach the Celestial Being Perfection Realm and have the chance to gain fortune.

The simulation was very smooth.

But suddenly, Ning Qi opened his eyes, his gaze focused.

He sensed a change in a trace of aura he had left behind.

"Is it Miss Lan?"

A thought flickered in his heart, and he stood up.

Back then, Lan Yiyi had come to the True Martial Mountain and sacrificed half her life with the Shared Destiny Gu to save Qin Yun. Ning Qi, grateful for her gesture, deliberately left a trace of aura on her, and now, that aura had exploded, indicating that Lan Yiyi might be in danger.

Since Qin Yun's revival, he hadn't paid much attention to the affairs between the two, leaving the choice to Qin Yun to handle their somewhat complex relationship.

But now, with Lan Yiyi in danger, he couldn't just sit idly by.

As he was about to instruct the White Ape, a distant elderly figure was already rushing over at high speed.

Worry and urgency lingered in Qin Yun's pupils as he stepped into the Seeking Tao Institute:

"Jiu! Jiu! Save Yiyi!"

He clutched his heart as the Shared Destiny Gu trembled incessantly, clearly showing that Lan Yiyi was already facing a life-threatening crisis.

Ever since awakening.

Qin Yun had been struggling with whether to seek out Lan Yiyi.

It was evident that she didn't want him to know she was the one who saved him. If he suddenly approached her, it would only add to the awkwardness between them. Moreover, he had a rough understanding of Lan Yiyi's situation. Initially, he planned to refine the Heaven-Reaching Pill himself, attain Celestial Being Perfection, and then fetch Lan Yiyi from the Southern Border.

But he didn't expect the crisis to come so quickly.

At this moment.

His heart was filled with panic. Previously, he thought he only felt gratitude toward Lan Yiyi, but now he realized it was more than gratitude. At the thought of Lan Yiyi meeting a tragic end, his heart clenched tight.

Therefore, he immediately came to find Ning Qi.

In this crucial time, he couldn't think too much.

Currently, among those around him, only Ning Qi had the ability to help.

Ning Qi reassured him:

"I understand, let's go together."

Before Qin Yun could react, Ning Qi spoke a few words to the White Ape through telepathy and soared into the sky with Qin Yun.

With strands of Spiritual Power suspended around them, drawn from the Yu King Pearl, Ning Qi's speed reached its peak, and in the blink of an eye, they were beyond the territory of the True Martial Mountain.

Qin Yun was somewhat stunned:

"Jiu, how did you know Yiyi was in danger?"

Ning Qi replied:

"Before you awoke from your long sleep, I promised her a favor and left a trace of aura on her. When that aura burst forth, I realized it. If you know more details, tell me, so I have a better understanding."

Qin Yun took a deep breath and said:

"It might be the Gu God of the Southern Border!"

"Yiyi didn't explain clearly to me. I could only deduce from some traces that Yiyi, as the Saintess of the Southern Border, was actually chosen as a sacrifice from a young age. It's highly possible that the Gu God of the Southern Border implanted a Power Seed in her when she was young, which would eventually be offered to the Gu God through the practice of a particular Secret Technique."

"I'm not sure of the exact purpose, but I suspect it involves the Blood Emperor Gu!"

He spoke quickly, sharing what he knew, fearing any omissions.

Ning Qi was taken aback.

He had assumed that Lan Yiyi's connection to the Southern Border was intimate, but he hadn't expected such a hidden layer.

"The Gu God of the Southern Border?"

He pondered.

Previously, the Southern Border and the Demon Sect exerted great pressure on him. This continued until he annihilated the Demon Sect. Thereafter, the Southern Border seemed to quiet down. Later, as Ancient Saints began to awaken, Ning Qi learned many secrets and focused his efforts on preparing for Spiritual Awakening, thus lacking the energy to manage matters related to the Southern Border.

By this time, the Southern Border had become relatively insignificant.

"So, it seems the Blood Emperor Gu has been successfully nurtured? The people of the Southern Border indeed have some means."

Yet Ning Qi only sighed softly.

After learning from Taoist Baishan that ascending to the Martial Saint using external substances like the Holy Pill or Blood Emperor Gu only resulted in becoming a Fake Saint, its allure greatly diminished.

In today's world, apart from a few unique individuals, it's impossible for others to reach the Martial Saint Realm.

Even the Ancient Saints await the Spiritual Awakening, let alone others.

The only regret is that if he had known earlier about Lan Yiyi's ties to the Southern Border, he would have simply followed her aura and dealt with it directly.

Qin Yun also deeply regretted.

He originally didn't want to trouble Ning Qi repeatedly, but he never expected things to deteriorate to this extent.

Ning Qi did not blame him, only patted Qin Yun's shoulder for comfort:

"Don't worry, we still have time."

With Spiritual Power enveloping them, they streaked through the void like a bolt of lightning.

...

The Hundred Thousand Mountains.

The mountains stretched endlessly, adorned with ancient towering trees and filled with lurking dangers. Even a Martial Artist at the Gang Essence Realm would doubt their ability to navigate out successfully.

Chapter 370: One-Sided Slaughter_2

At this moment.

A figure dressed in black was rushing through the forest. Lan Yiyi was fleeing on her own, looking extremely bedraggled.

After escaping from the ancestral land.

One confidant after another fell, sacrificing themselves to cover her escape, and even Lanhe died in front of her. Thinking about the words "sorry" uttered before Lanhe's death, her feelings were incredibly complex, and any lingering resentment in her heart vanished completely.

Lan Yiyi sighed softly.

She didn't know if she could escape, but her hope was slim.

The Southern Border Alliance was in full pursuit, their attack was too fierce, and now she was utterly alone. Just before, she nearly encountered a mortal crisis. If it weren't for a burst of energy at a critical moment, she wouldn't have been able to break through the encirclement.

In her mind appeared a supernaturally powerful figure—Ning Qi.

"So he's that strong."

She mocked herself.

Previously, when Ning Qi mentioned that he owed her a favor, she didn't take it seriously. Now she realized that she had underestimated him. This energy delayed the pursuers for her and many confidants, giving them more time, yet still, they were at a dead end.

She petted her heart, where the Shared Destiny Gu was gently resonating. She silently spoke:

"Qin Yun, you must have felt it by now? Live well."

Her body was continuously weakening, with the Shared Destiny Gu, there was a mutual sense between them, and after her death, the half-life granted to Qin Yun would also dissipate. But she wasn't worried because Qin Yun should have consumed the Life-extending Treasure, allowing him to live for a while at least.

Her mind was filled with countless thoughts.

Lan Yiyi's expression gradually turned grim.

She didn't want to give up just like that. As long as there was a hint of hope, she wouldn't give up.

She suddenly changed direction, not heading outside the Hundred Thousand Mountains, but instead speeding deeper within.

Deep in the Hundred Thousand Mountains.

This was the paradise of exotic beasts.

Even the people of the Southern Border Alliance only dared to reside on the outskirts. It was said that deep in the Hundred Thousand Mountains, terrifying exotic beasts were abundant, with more Celestial Human Realm Beast Kings than the outside world combined, and rumors of more than one even more terrifying Beast Emperor!

Lan Yiyi wanted to venture deep to seize a sliver of chance because she vaguely sensed that the pursuers behind were forcing her towards the outskirts, as if pushing her to seek something.

A bolt of lightning crossed her mind, her face gradually becoming ugly.

Details one by one kept surfacing in her mind.

"Today's break into the altar seemed unusually smooth?"

"Are Tian and the others really dead?"

She recalled the shouts from her confidants before dying, urging her to escape, but invisibly, they restricted her to a path.

"What do they want me to find? The other half of my lifespan?"

Lan Yiyi felt a chill run down her spine.

Everything that happened today seemed increasingly unreasonable.

She had been meticulously scheming for so long, could it be that the tribal elders really hadn't sensed anything? How could she alone contend against the Southern Border Alliance's foundations of so many years?

With such thoughts.

She could only smile bitterly.

Today's events were likely the opponent using her own tactics against her. Perhaps some of her confidants had already turned against her, deceiving her intentionally.

She took a deep breath.

She unleashed her full potential, rushing towards the depths of the mountains.

At this point, perhaps that was her only chance of survival.

Charging forward along the way.

Occasionally, some exotic beasts appeared, but they were easily dispatched by her. Even though she was heavily wounded, as a Celestial Human Realm martial artist, she still had numerous Gu Insect techniques at her disposal, which ordinary exotic beasts couldn't stand up to.

But eventually.

Everything around her grew increasingly silent, and later, even the calls of insects disappeared.

Lan Yiyi halted, coldly scanning her surroundings:

"Come out, I already know your plan, give it up!"

A stretch of silence.

Moments later.

Figures emerged from the shadows, aided by the Shadow Gu's power, which helped them conceal their presence and tracks.

Lan Yiyi looked over, recognizing them as not just the Southern Border Alliance's many strongmen, but surprisingly seeing some of her 'deceased' confidants among them, now lowering their heads, avoiding her disdainful gaze.

Red Flame did not have the previous anger but calmly stated:

"Why bother? Tell us where the other half of your lifespan is, and you shall be with the Gu God, all the people of Southern Border will remember your contribution."

Lan Yiyi sneered.

Such a monument she did not want.

"Alright, I'll tell you."

"Where is it?"

"In the Great Yan Imperial Palace, I gifted it to a significant figure there—dare you go take it?"

Red Flame remained silent and, after a while, sighed:

"Such nonsense only reveals your quarrelsome state."

"Since you are unwilling, we'll have to proceed with Soul Guidance; it may slightly affect the subsequent sacrificial effects, but the Gu God has already issued decrees, this is merely the last attempt."

Lan Yiyi's expression subtly changed.

With this, her greatest leverage would be gone.

She cautiously watched her surroundings, the Power of Heaven and Earth gathering around her, as Celestial Human Realm experts surrounded her, and atop Red Flame's head appeared a fiery toad—Fire Toad Gu, capable of controlling Exotic Flames.

Red Flame spoke with a chilling voice:

"One thing I didn't misspeak about, which is... I've indeed disliked you for a long time!"

His words fell, and he decisively waved his hand, causing the fire toad to open its mouth, unleashing blazing red flames that engulfed the void with immense force, attempting to incinerate everything. The surrounding people simultaneously attacked.

Lan Yiyi felt a sense of hopelessness arise.

In this situation, it was indeed a dead-end.

Just as she was about to fight to the death, a prolonged dragon's roar echoed across the sky, causing everyone instinctively to look upwards into the void. Through the dense branches and leaves, a majestic white True Dragon appeared in their view.

What shocked them even more was the faint presence of two figures atop the White Dragon.

Lan Yiyi's eyes widened.

The resonance of the Shared Destiny Gu was unprecedentedly strong.

The figure she dreamed of unexpectedly descended from the sky. She rubbed her eyes, and that handsome and formidable figure remained, even drawing closer, causing Lan Yiyi to smile.

Ning Qi observed the youthfully restored Qin Yun now rushing forward, shaking his head with a laugh.

At True Martial Mountain, no one could persuade Qin Yun to restore his youthful appearance, yet knowing he was about to see Lan Yiyi, he did so without any reminders.

The two arrived at the critical moment.

Just in time to witness this scene.

Qin Yun, anxious, dashed forward.

Ning Qi calmly regarded the Southern Border strongmen, losing interest as they were merely mediocre weaklings.

He descended slowly.

Red Flame stared intently at the youthful Daoist before him, feeling a creeping sense of dread.

Although the Southern Border avoided the outside world, it wasn't totally ignorant of it.

"Could you be Ancient Saint Tianjian gracing us?" he cautiously inquired.

Ning Qi glanced at him without speaking.

The Red Flame elder quivered with fright, hurriedly forcing a smile intending to flatter, but the next moment froze in place, an unsettling chill running down his spine.

The young Daoist casually pointed, and the White True Dragon, with overwhelming authority, descended powerfully, swishing its tail, unleashing immense might.

Streams of Power of Heaven and Earth were brutally swept away.

The Exotic Flame-spewing Fire Toad's flames were reversed, causing it to scream in pain, but soon fell silent, the Fire Toad crushed within the Dragon's claws along with its owner, reduced to a lump of flesh.

This was a one-sided slaughter.

The White True Dragon was like a Beast Emperor, rendering the Celestial Human Realm powerless.

Ning Qi's expression was serene.

Uninterested in listening to their nonsense.

Moments later, the forest fell silent.

Ning Qi observed Qin Yun and Lan Yiyi, locked in a tender gaze, humorously stating:

"Long time no see, Miss Lan. For the record, the Shared Destiny Gu issue wasn't us informing him; he retained some residual consciousness from before."

Upon hearing this.

Lan Yiyi blushed deeply, lowering her head in embarrassment.