

## **Divine King 741**

Chapter 741: The Problem with Being Low-Key

This woman with red teardrop moles

is the last closed-door disciple of the Dark God Island Master, known as Hong Xiang.

Though her Cultivation was only of the Pseudo Void Level of the Supreme Battle Emperor Realm,

she had mastered a Low Grade Spirit Array.

Even when facing a true Zifu Cultivator, she had no problems protecting herself.

Such is the power of a Formation.

To be able to cultivate and master the Low Grade Spirit Array in just a few months, though it was merely a simple Defensive Spirit Array,

still clearly showcased her exceptional talent in the realm of Formations.

Her master had once mentioned Xu Nian.

He said that someone had bet him that Xu Nian could learn the basics of a Formation in three days.

For her, a genius in Formations, that seemed impossible.

Even she took a full twenty days to accomplish such a feat.

Thus when she knew this youth was the Xu Nian her master spoke of,

she couldn't help but take a few extra glances.

Her final conclusion was,

this young man could not possibly grasp the basics of a Formation in three days.

He might not even understand the basic theories.

...

Xu Nian was unaware that he had become the subject of a wager.

At this moment, he was completely immersed in understanding the Formation.

Initially, this Formation knowledge seemed abstruse and difficult to comprehend.

But once he grasped the Profound Argumentations, it became much easier.

Thus, Xu Nian took only a few two-hour periods to grasp the foundational knowledge of the Formation.

However, Xu Nian was in no hurry to comprehend the basic Formation.

Instead, he continued to integrate and penetrate this Formation knowledge.

Only by thoroughly understanding these basic theories could he be more adept when comprehending Formations.

Sharpening the ax will not interfere with the work of cutting wood.

Time ticked away.

Day quickly turned to night.

A day passed.

Some Sea Demons had already withdrawn from their meditation.

It wasn't that they didn't want to persevere, but rather they were simply unsuitable for comprehending Formations.

Sitting for a day, they understood nothing.

Even if they continued sitting, it wouldn't help.

It was better to give up early.

Of course, there were some who kept persisting.

Yet no matter how much they sweated, they couldn't grasp the meaning of the Formation.

"What in the world is this? I can't understand anything," the Whale Clan Princess stood up.

She had been sitting for a whole day.

But she hadn't grasped anything.

In frustration, she gave up.

After standing up, she scanned the surroundings.

Finally, her gaze landed on Xu Nian, who was sitting in a corner.

She noticed that Xu Nian was sitting there with a furrowed brow.

A cold sneer formed in her heart.

"Hmph, looks like you haven't grasped anything either. If you can't comprehend it, there's no point in forcing yourself," the Whale Clan Princess murmured coldly.

However, she didn't disturb Xu Nian.

Instead, she turned her head toward Hong Xiang, who was not far off.

She noticed that Hong Xiang's gaze was fixed on Xu Nian, which immediately displeased her.

Xu Nian was her prey.

She couldn't allow others to covet him.

Moreover, this woman's beauty seemed to surpass her own.

Thus, her look towards Hong Xiang became jealous and hostile.

However, Hong Xiang never looked her way from beginning to end.

This made her teeth itch with frustration.

Although she was capricious, she knew this was Dark God Island.

She dared not cause trouble.

Time kept passing relentlessly.

The original sixty-two people also gradually began to stand up, shaking their heads and sighing.

After three days, they hadn't even grasped the theory of the Formation.

Let alone understanding the Formation itself.

Of course, there were also twelve who stayed behind.

These twelve included the Four Demon Emperors, Xuan Hong, a youth from the Whale Clan, a cold man from the Jiao Long Emperor's side, young men and women from the Qingcheng Sect, and some figures from minor forces.

"Ding!"

With a crisp ringing sound,

the three days had come to an end.

The twelve people opened their eyes.

The Dark God Island Master had also returned to the plaza.

The people around were speculating whether any of these twelve had truly grasped the Basic Array.

"Ladies and gentlemen, how is your understanding? Have any of you grasped this Basic Array?" the Dark God Island Master said with a smiling demeanor.

As his words dropped,

complete silence enveloped the surroundings.

Some people even shook their heads helplessly.

"Lord Island Master, this task you set is truly too difficult. To my knowledge, entry-level Formation requires at least a month, and even the most talented need ten days. You gave us only three days, which is really quite harsh," Fu Yuming from the Qingcheng Sect spoke.

As a disciple from a Cultivation Sect, he naturally had more knowledge than ordinary people.

So, he was well aware of how challenging it was to enter the realm of Formation.

Hearing this, the people around came to a sudden realization.

The previously dejected mood also relaxed.

It was not that they were incompetent, but that the demands of the Dark God Island Master were too severe.

Even the Whale Emperor and Emperor Xuanwu nodded in agreement.

In three days, they had only just grasped the surface of the basic theory.

Let alone the underlying Basic Array.

The Dark God Island Master just chuckled.

He had anticipated this situation.

So, he wasn't surprised by this.

"Just because you didn't grasp it doesn't mean others couldn't. I believe there are some among you who have understood this Basic Array," the Dark God Island Master said.

"Grasping a Basic Array in three days? How is that possible?" Fu Yuming and Fang Shishi both spoke.

Clearly, they thought the Dark God Island Master was joking.

Whale Emperor and Jiao Long Emperor were of the same mind.

However, the Dark God Island Master just smiled broadly and looked towards Xu Nian, who was standing in a corner, saying, "Xu Nian, how is your understanding?"

The people around, hearing the words of the Dark God Island Master, turned their heads to look at Xu Nian.

Could it be that when the Dark God Island Master said someone could understand, he meant Xu Nian?

Could this guy really grasp the Basic Array within three days?

When Xu Nian heard the words of the Dark God Island Master, he replied with a faint smile, "Replying to Uncle Master, my understanding is so-so."

Hearing Xu Nian's words, everyone breathed a sigh of relief.

"Damn, that scared me. I really thought he grasped the Basic Array in three days. So-so means he didn't really grasp anything," people around murmured in dismay.

The Whale Emperor and the young men and women from Qingcheng Sect showed expressions of disdain.

Within three days, they had only just begun to comprehend the theory of the Formation.

How could this young man possibly understand the Formation?

The Dark God Island Master, hearing Xu Nian's words, showed a hint of disappointment.

But he quickly came to terms with it.

Though a great genius was lacking, he had still won and obtained a bottle of Jade Dew.

Meanwhile, Hong Xiang, although emotionless, had a look in her eyes toward Xu Nian that shifted from curiosity to indifference.

Xu Nian gave a bitter smile.

He immediately realized that these people had misunderstood what he meant by "so-so."

Sometimes, being too modest can also be a flaw.

Chapter 742: I Didn't Say I Didn't Understand

"Island Master, since no one has comprehended this Basic Array, how will the ownership of the Token be decided?" Jiao Long Emperor asked.

"Hong Xiang!" the Dark God Island Master waved toward Hong Xiang standing beside him.

"Yes, Master!" Hong Xiang nodded.

After she spoke, Hong Xiang walked out.

She then said to everyone, "Since none of you have understood the Formation, according to Master's intention, the Token will belong to whoever has the deepest understanding of Formations."

"Understanding of formations?" the crowd murmured in surprise.

Xu Nian was also surprised.

He had initially wanted to step forward and reveal that he had comprehended the Basic Array.

But after hearing Hong Xiang's words, he decided to keep quiet for the time being.

He wanted to see how Hong Xiang would test others' understanding of Formations.

"Next, I will construct a Low Grade Defense Spirit Array. You will try to use the formation theory learned inside to adjust your powers and attack my Formation, so I can judge how deeply you have comprehended the Formations," Hong Xiang said.

Once she finished speaking, a fluctuation emanated from her body.

Then, seven Low Grade Spirit Stones floated in mid-air, forming a defensive wall.

The surrounding crowd expressed their astonishment at this scene.

Is this a Low Grade Spirit Array?

Is this woman also an Array Master?

Xu Nian also showed a hint of surprise.

However, his attention was soon drawn to the Low Grade Spirit Array.

Through his three days of comprehension, he had already gained a basic understanding of Formations.

Clearly, the Low Grade Spirit Array before him was much more complex than the Basic Array.

It involved the direction and route of the flow of Spiritual Energy.

There are two ways to deploy an Array: one is using one's own Spiritual Energy.

The other is using the Spiritual Energy within Spirit Stones.

The former generally cannot maintain the concentration of Spiritual Energy for long.

Whereas the latter requires a reserve of a large number of Spirit Stones.

Upon hearing Hong Xiang's words, the crowd began to closely observe the Defensive Spirit Array.

"One by one, using your own Spiritual Energy, attack the weak points of this Defensive Spirit Array. Based on your attacking methods, I will grade you as low, intermediate, or upper," Hong Xiang said.

The crowd whispered among themselves.

Attacking using the methods of Formation?

This was no simple matter, as it required a certain level of understanding of formation theory.

"I'll go!"

A big man with a beard stepped forward.

He walked up to the Defensive Spirit Array and began to mobilize his own Spiritual Energy.

Then he threw a punch at the Defensive Spirit Array.

However, the Defensive Array showed no disturbance at all.

"Only superficially understood, low level, next!" Hong Xiang said coldly.

Hearing the low rating, Big Beard walked away disappointed.

Soon, a second person came forward.

The result was the same as the previous person, also rated low.

The third person who came forward was Xuan Hong.

His comprehension was a bit higher and he received an intermediate rating.

Then came Shark Emperor Split Sky, who was similar to Xuan Hong.

Afterwards, Jiao Long Emperor, Whale Emperor, and Emperor Xuanwu also received intermediate ratings.

This showed they had initially mastered the theory of the Formation.

Only Xu Nian, the aloof man, a young couple from Qingcheng Sect, and the genius from the Whale Clan were left.

The eighth to step forward was the genius from the Whale Clan.

He manipulated his Spiritual Energy, which bizarrely spun in the palm of his hand.

Finally, he struck directly at the defensive wall with his palm.

That palm actually caused the defensive wall to shake.

"Essentially mastered, upper level!" Hong Xiang said.

The crowd revealed expressions of surprise.

This genius from the Whale Clan actually had such strong comprehension.

Hearing the crowd's praise, the Whale Clan genius also smiled.

When he turned around, he didn't forget to throw a challenging glance at Xu Nian.

Xu Nian, in response, simply smiled disdainfully.

The next to step forward was the aloof man.

His attack was crisp and clean.

The flow of Spiritual Energy was smooth, without any hindrance.

"Essentially mastered, upper level!" Hong Xiang said.

Being able to reach upper level in three days showed they had the qualifications to embark on the path of Formation Cultivation.

Soon, only Xu Nian and the young couple from Qingcheng Sect were left.

The young couple looked at Xu Nian, who made no move.

He took the lead and walked out.

The first to make a move was the woman named Fang Shishi.

Fang Shishi gently struck out with her palm.

The defensive wall shook.

Onlookers showed expressions of surprise.

"Basic mastery, Upper-class!" Hong Xiang declared.

The crowd again showed expressions of surprise.

Upper-class?

Does that mean it's even more impressive than third-rank?

Fu Yuming merely smiled faintly and stepped forward, striking out with his palm as well.

"Buzz!"

The entire defensive wall shook violently.

"Proficiently mastered, Upper-class!" Hong Xiang announced, her eyes also showing a hint of astonishment.

Initially, her comprehension level over three days was just a bit better than Fu Yuming's.

This indicated that Fu Yuming had outstanding talent in understanding formations.

Even the Dark God Island Master seated in the high seat nodded slightly.

He evidently approved of Fu Yuming's technique.

"He truly is a genius from the Cultivation World. His comprehension is truly extraordinary."

"Yes, if nothing unexpected happens, this token will likely belong to this young man from Qingcheng Sect, an unprecedented happening in the Forbidden Seas for many years."

The Four Demon Emperors also showed faces of shock and reluctance.

However, they had no choice, as these were the rules of the Dark God Island Master.

As for the last, Xu Nian,

he was completely overlooked.

If he had only superficially mastered the technique, how could he possibly surpass this talented youth from Qingcheng Sect?

Fu Yuming also sneered, clearly not thinking Xu Nian could outperform him.

Xu Nian did not say much.

He walked straight toward the defensive wall.

Hong Xiang, on the side, looked at Xu Nian with curiosity.

Even the Dark God Island Master seated at the main seat watched each of Xu Nian's movements intently.

To see just to what level his comprehension of the formation had reached?

However, just when everyone thought Xu Nian would receive an intermediate rating,

Xu Nian simply extended one finger, spiritual energy swirling around his fingertip as he pointed at the Spiritual Energy wall.

"Boom!"

The Spiritual Energy wall instantly crumbled.

"This..."

The crowd was dumbfounded.

What happened?

Was there a problem with the formation?

Had the spiritual energy been depleted?

Those who did not understand formations had no idea what Xu Nian had done.

But the Dark God Island Master suddenly stood up from his seat.

Hong Xiang was also visibly shocked.

Had he broken her Defensive Array so effortlessly?

How could this be possible?

Although Fu Yuming and the others did not understand what Xu Nian had done,

from the expressions of Hong Xiang and the Dark God Island Master, they vaguely guessed something.

"Did you comprehend the Basic Array?" the Dark God Island Master asked.

The crowd was taken aback.

Wasn't this question already asked?

Xu Nian just smiled slightly.

He waved his sleeve,

and immediately four Spirit Stones flew out,

forming a Basic Array.

The crowd was astonished all over again.

Even the Dark God Island Master and Hong Xiang widened their eyes.

"Third-Rank Basic Array? How is that possible?" the Dark God Island Master exclaimed in shock.

Third-Rank?

The crowd was dumbfounded.

Doesn't that mean Xu Nian had comprehended the highest level of Basic Array?

How could this be possible?

"Xu Nian, since you have comprehended the formation, why didn't you say so earlier?" Hong Xiang also asked.

The crowd stared intently at Xu Nian.

Xu Nian replied with a bitter smile, "I never said I didn't comprehend it!"

Upon hearing this, the crowd was at a loss for words!

Chapter 743: Any Raise?

There was silence all around.

Indeed!

Previously, the Dark God Island Master had asked how his comprehension was.

Xu Nian's answer was rather vague.

He didn't mention that he hadn't comprehended the Basic Array.

But was this really being vague?

If comprehending the Third-Rank Basic Array was considered vague, then what were they, who couldn't even understand the theory of arrays?

The geniuses of the Whale Clan were also pale with anger at this moment.

Thinking back to how they had glanced provocatively at Xu Nian after receiving an upper-class evaluation.

Now, it was simply a blatant slap in the face.

Hong Xiang was also extremely surprised at this moment.

She understood better than anyone how terrifying it was to comprehend the Basic Array within three days.

Moreover, this guy had comprehended not just the First Rank, but the Third Rank.

"I'm asking you, how did you break my array? If you had only comprehended the Third-Rank Basic Array, it wouldn't have been possible to break my array," Hong Xiang spoke.

"Yes, even if he had comprehended the Third-Rank Basic Array, that's just the basic level; Miss Hong Xiang's array is of the Low Grade Spirit Array level."

Someone in the crowd followed up.

People around nodded in agreement.

To break the Low Grade Spirit Array so easily, one must at least be at the level of a Low Grade Array Master.

The Dark God Island Master also looked at Xu Nian with astonishment.

It was evident that he too found it strange.

Xu Nian just smiled slightly.

He didn't speak but flicked his sleeve.

Seven Spirit Stones floated in front of him.

"What... what is he trying to do?" People around showed a look of surprise.

They didn't understand why Xu Nian was taking out Spirit Stones.

"Could it be that he is going to..."

Hong Xiang and others also showed a look of surprise.

Even the Dark God Island Master widened his eyes and looked at Xu Nian.

Xu Nian then smiled, his eyes becoming sharp.

Next, one could see his fingers moving like a phantom, and then people saw the Spirit Stones form a unique pattern.

The Spiritual Energy within circulated, eventually forming a wall of Spiritual Energy defense.

"How... how is this possible?"

People around instantly widened their eyes.

The Whale Emperor and others looked on in shock.

"A Low Grade Spirit Array? How is this possible?" Hong Xiang was also incredibly shocked.

She had spent a full three months to comprehend the Low Grade Spirit Array.

And this young man just casually executed it.

If she hadn't seen it with her own eyes, she wouldn't believe it was true even if she were beaten to death.

The Dark God Island Master was also astounded.

Could this kid have comprehended it during the short time Hong Xiang was demonstrating?

If that was the case, then his perceptiveness was terribly frightening.

"It's impossible; this kid must have cheated, he must be an Array Master and he feigned comprehension," finally spoke the genius from the Whale Clan.

His eyes were filled with intense jealousy.

"It's possible!"

People around nodded one after another.

If this kid had just comprehended the Array today.

Xu Nian's actions today were truly shocking.

Hong Xiang also looked at Xu Nian with suspicion, clearly harboring some doubts herself.

"Xu Nian, let me ask you, have you ever practiced Formation before?" the Dark God Island Master asked.

"Replying to my uncle, before today, I had never studied Formation," Xu Nian answered truthfully.

At this statement, those around them showed surprised expressions.

"He's lying! How could anyone comprehend the basics of Formation in such a short time? Even if they could, how do you explain the Low Grade Array?" A young Whale Clan member said excitedly.

"I agree with the young Whale Clan member's statement; I simply cannot believe someone could have such high comprehension abilities," Fu Yuming chimed in.

"That's right, even in the Cultivation World, the most talented formation geniuses took ten days just to grasp the First Rank Basic Array, let alone a Low Grade Spirit Array," Fang Shishi added.

With these two speaking up,

the others around them began to look at Xu Nian with even more skepticism.

The Dark God Island Master observed Xu Nian's expression.

However, to his surprise, Xu Nian remained very calm in the face of the crowd's skepticism,

as if they were not talking about him at all.

Not to mention whether it was true or not, just having such a temperament at his age,

was already indicative of an extraordinary character.

Moreover, his calmness also indicated that he was not guilty at all.

"Master, I also do not believe anyone could comprehend a Low Grade Spirit Array in such a short period of time," Hong Xiang turned and spoke to the Dark God Island Master.

Hearing Hong Xiang's words, Xu Nian's lips curled into a slight smile.

Indeed, he had used the time Hong Xiang deployed the Low Grade Array to understand it.

Out of three days, he had spent two and a half days mastering the basics of that array.

And those three basic arrays, he had grasped them in just half a day.

Moreover, the more he progressed, the deeper Xu Nian's understanding of the Formation became.

So when Hong Xiang was deploying the Array, Xu Nian used the Gray Dragon Eye to see through its principles.

Next, all he had to do was mentally simulate it once to master it.

"Lord Island Master, since he was able to comprehend the Low Grade Spirit Array in such a short period of time, why not let him try to grasp another Low Grade Spirit Array now? Give him two hours, and if he can do it, it will prove his innocence," Fu Yuming proposed.

Two hours?

The crowd around them showed surprised expressions.

Two hours to comprehend a Low Grade Array?

And for someone who had only been studying Formation for three days, weren't these terms a bit too harsh?

The Dark God Island Master also felt it was quite harsh.

But without doing so, how could he prove the unbelievable truth of Xu Nian's comprehension?

"Why should I agree to you?"

Just then, Xu Nian suddenly turned his head and coldly sneered at Fu Yuming.

"Does that mean you're scared?" Fu Yuming said with a light laugh.

Since the crowd was already skeptical, hearing Xu Nian say this made them feel even more that Xu Nian was guilty.

"If you want me to agree to your terms, I can, but do you dare to bet with me?" Xu Nian said with a smile.

The crowd was stunned.

They did not understand what Xu Nian meant.

"Bet what?" Fu Yuming asked, somewhat surprised.

"It's simple—you think I had already learned the array beforehand, right? Then later I will do as you said. If I lose, my life is yours, but if you lose, you must kneel down and kowtow to me three times," Xu Nian said with a smile.

Upon hearing this, the crowd widened their eyes.

Had Xu Nian gone mad?

Daring to bet his life against Fu Yuming?

Even Hong Xiang showed a shocked expression.

Fu Yuming's eyes were dark and unreadable.

He stared at Xu Nian, and finally, a cold smile appeared on his lips, "Fine, I accept your bet! I hope you won't back out at that time."

Xu Nian just smiled slightly, then turned to the crowd and shouted, "Anyone wants to raise the stakes?"

The crowd was utterly bewildered!

Chapter 744: So-So

"I raise the bet. I obtained an Ice Snow Sea Urchin King, which is equivalent to the effects of a Low Grade Spirit Pill. If he loses, I want him to kneel before me and kowtow," the genius youth from the Whale Clan declared loudly.

"Alright!" Xu Nian responded with a smile.

The crowd around them was momentarily surprised.

They hadn't expected someone to actually raise the bet.

The people around glanced at each other and then started shouting, "I raise the bet, I raise the bet..."

In their view, Xu Nian was almost certain to lose.

How could anyone comprehend a Low Grade Spirit Array in just two hours?

Unless this guy had already reached the level of a Mid-grade Array Master.

But that was simply impossible.

Beside them, Hong Xiang's usually cold face also showed continuous surprise.

He looked at Xu Nian, who was confirming the bets with the surrounding people, filled with intense confusion.

How could this boy, who looked even younger than herself, think of doing this?

Could he truly comprehend a new Low Grade Spirit Array in just two hours?

Soon, Xu Nian had agreed on the bets with the people around him.

Ultimately, no fewer than ten people participated in the bet.

The people around were convinced Xu Nian would lose, but Xu Nian himself appeared utterly unconcerned.

"Alright, since everyone suspects that Xu Nian has already learnt the formation, let me test Xu Nian again. I will act as the examiner for this assessment. No objections, right?" the Dark God Island Master announced.

"No objections," the crowd responded in unison.

"Good, since there are no objections, I shall begin. I have a Low Grade Spirit Array that I created myself. Moreover, it's a Killing Array, which is considered upper-class among Low Grade Spirit Arrays. I will use this array for the assessment," the Dark God Island Master said.

As soon as these words were spoken, the crowd began to whisper among themselves.

"Is the island master holding a grudge against Xu Nian? To bring out an Upper-class Low Grade Spirit Array, and it's even the toughest kind, a Killing Array—it's like he's making sure Xu Nian loses!"

"Hmph, so what? I think the island master feels deceived and wants to severely punish this arrogant kid."

"I think so too. Who does he think he is, even daring to deceive the island master?"

...

The crowd continued to discuss.

Fu Yuming had a cold smile too.

He had disliked Xu Nian for a long time.

He didn't expect that even the Dark God Island Master wanted to get rid of him. Now he wanted to see how Xu Nian would handle himself after losing.

The Whale Clan's genius youth also sneered continuously.

His gaze at Xu Nian turned to one of mockery, as if he was already looking at a dead man.

Xu Nian, facing the crowd's glances, felt disdain in his heart.

Yet, he looked towards the Dark God Island Master.

He knew that the master wasn't trying to harm him, but rather test him.

But the test was perhaps too much.

"Swoosh!"

The Dark God Island Master waved his sleeve, and a huge Array Map floated in the air.

The Array Map unfolded, revealing the Array Patterns.

The crowd around looked towards the Array Map, but they couldn't understand the Profound Argumentation of the array at all.

Yet, this made them even surer that Xu Nian was doomed.

Even Hong Xiang frowned deeply at the Array Map.

Such a complex Array Map would take her months to comprehend anything.

She couldn't believe that Xu Nian could grasp anything in just two hours.

However, when she turned around, she found Xu Nian intently focused on the Array Map.

His eyes didn't blink.

Unaffected by the external environment.

"Could he really be comprehending it?" Hong Xiang was slightly startled.

She then stopped thinking too much and started trying to comprehend the array herself.

She wanted to see how much she could comprehend in two hours.

And while Xu Nian and Hong Xiang were seriously studying the Formation,

the others around them started whispering among themselves.

Their topic was just one thing,

all discussing what Xu Nian's failure would look like after two hours.

"This foolish tortoise, agreeing to such a bet, it's obviously unfair. Such a stupid guy, I wouldn't want him as my servant," the Whale Clan Princess said, frustrated.

Yet, her eyes were slightly reddened.

On the other side, Emperor Xuanwu was also chatting with Xuan Hong.

"Great-grandfather, do you think Brother Xu Nian can really do it?" Emperor Xuanwu asked in astonishment.

"Yes!" Xuan Hong replied decisively.

Emperor Xuanwu was startled.

He hadn't expected such a straightforward answer from his great-grandfather.

"Did he study Formation before?" Emperor Xuanwu asked.

Even if he had just comprehended Hong Xiang's Formation on the spot,

it wouldn't necessarily mean he could comprehend the Killing Array so quickly!

"I don't know if he has studied Formation before, but one thing I am sure of is that Xu Nian never does things he's unsure of. Since he dared to agree, he must be able to do it," Xuan Hong said.

Emperor Xuanwu looked at his great-grandfather in surprise.

He found his great-grandfather's gaze exceptionally resolute.

He hadn't realized that Xu Nian held such a high place in Xuan Hong's heart.

Time passed by slowly.

The surroundings gradually quieted down.

The crowd's expressions varied.

But most were sneering at Xu Nian.

Xu Nian had already stopped looking at the Array Map and was sitting cross-legged on the ground, eyes closed.

His brow furrowed from time to time.

"This kid keeps frowning, he must have encountered an insurmountable obstacle, haha!" the people around laughed loudly.

The Dark God Island Master was also observing Xu Nian.

He had put forth such a difficult Formation to test Xu Nian.

If Xu Nian really lost in the end, he would definitely speak out to save Xu Nian's life.

"Time's up!"

Just then, a servant keeping the time spoke up.

Both Xu Nian and Hong Xiang opened their eyes at the same time.

"Is it over? It seems this bet will be settled now," someone in the crowd said.

Fu Yuming and others sneered.

Xu Nian's end was finally here.

Hong Xiang couldn't help but look at Xu Nian, noticing his serious expression and the absence of any relief on his face.

"Sigh, it seems he didn't comprehend it. I only managed about one percent myself, this Formation is truly too difficult," Hong Xiang muttered to herself.

"Xu Nian, time is up. If you haven't comprehended it, just come over and accept your death obediently!" Fu Yuming said with a smirk.

"Before dying, kneel down and knock your head loudly," a talent from the Whale Clan said with a sneer.

"And my ten thousand Low Grade Spirit Stones."

"And mine..."

The crowd followed, shouting.

Upon hearing this, a faint smile appeared on Xu Nian's lips.

The Dark God Island Master also looked at Xu Nian and asked, "Xu Nian, how is your comprehension?"

Hearing the Master's question, Xu Nian lifted his head and replied, "Master, it's so-so!"

The crowd went dead silent.

So-so again?

Chapter 745 You Can Kneel Now

"Before Xu Nian said it was a give-or-take, and they had been deceived."

"Could it be that this time, Xu Nian had created another miracle?"

"Hmph, playing tricks, Xu Nian, have you truly comprehended or not? I think you're just intentionally wasting time," a genius of the Whale Clan snorted.

People all around deeply nodded in agreement.

Xu Nian merely scoffed at this.

"Oh? What sort of give-or-take are you talking about?" asked the Dark God Island Master with a smile.

"There was a problem I just couldn't figure out," Xu Nian replied.

"Can't figure it out? Then you haven't understood, Xu Nian. I suggest you come over and honor your bet," Fu Yuming said with a cold laugh.

Everyone around burst into laughter.

They looked as if they were waiting to see Xu Nian made a fool of himself.

However, Xu Nian ignored them and looked at the Dark God Island Master.

Hong Xiang shook her head helplessly too.

A problem he couldn't figure out?

That must be an excuse!

She too lost interest in the young man for a moment.

"Lord Island Master, you have heard everything about the betting agreement just now, please decide for us," Fu Yuming spoke to the Dark God Island Master.

The Dark God Island Master's face immediately showed difficulty.

Fu Yuming's move was really harsh, making it impossible for the Island Master to cover for Xu Nian.

However, just when everyone thought Xu Nian was going to be embarrassed,

Xu Nian's voice rang out beside their ears.

"I said I couldn't figure out one problem, but I didn't say I hadn't comprehended the formation," Xu Nian said with a smile.

Everyone around was taken aback.

Even Hong Xiang, disappointed a moment ago, stared at Xu Nian in surprise.

Even the Dark God Island Master was shocked by Xu Nian's words.

"Impossible, you just said you had an issue you couldn't figure out, doesn't that mean you haven't grasped the formation?" Fu Yuming snorted coldly.

Xu Nian sneered and said, "I said I had a problem I couldn't figure out because I felt there was a flaw in this formation. I couldn't think of a good way to fix it, but now I have figured it out."

At this statement, everyone around was astounded.

A flaw in the formation?

A fix?

Even the Dark God Island Master widened his eyes at Xu Nian.

"Hmph, anyone can boast. I could also say I could create a Top-grade Spirit Array," Fu Yuming snorted coldly.

Clearly, he did not believe Xu Nian's words.

Everyone around nodded to Xu Nian in agreement.

"Buzz!"

However, Xu Nian waved his sleeve cuff.

Eighteen Low Grade Spirit Stones directly appeared in the air.

Instantly, these Spirit Stones flowed with Spiritual Energy in an extremely complex pattern of Array Patterns.

"Buzz!"

Spears entirely made of Spiritual Energy appeared in the air and suddenly attacked right in front of Fu Yuming.

The tips of the spears, filled with endless Killing Intent, pressed against Fu Yuming's forehead.

Fu Yuming, seeing the spears so close, sweat chilled on his back.

He was filled with intense shock.

Everyone around was stunned.

The field became extraordinarily quiet.

"Now you can kneel!" Xu Nian's voice resounded.

Cold and resolute.

Fu Yuming's face showed struggle.

However, Xu Nian snorted coldly.

With a flick of his intent,

a spear of Spiritual Energy instantly pierced through Fu Yuming's thigh.

"Ah..."

Fu Yuming let out a painful scream.

This Low Grade Spirit Array, being a Killing Array, did not falter even against a true Zifu powerhouse.

Forget mentioning those in the Cave Void Realm who had already been suppressed in their cultivation.

Thus, at this moment, Fu Yuming had no resistance in front of Xu Nian.

"Kneel or not kneel?" Xu Nian coldly questioned.

That sharp gaze emitted a strong killing intent.

Fu Yuming felt a chill in his heart, and in that instant, he felt as though a gigantic demon had grasped and choked his neck.

"Thud!"

Fu Yuming knelt down on the floor, producing a crisp sound.

Everyone around was shocked.

Fu Yuming's kneeling felt as if he had knelt on their hearts.

It caused an immense tremor within them.

Who was Fu Yuming?

He was a genius from the Cultivation World.

Such a being was definitely not someone they, people suppressed by heaven and earth, could provoke.

But now, this genius was kneeling forcefully before them.

Beside them, Fang Shishi was also taken aback.

She hadn't expected her fellow disciple to kneel like this.

"You dare harm my brother, seeking death!"

Fang Shishi, furious, drew out her sword and slashed towards Xu Nian.

"Get lost!"

However, Xu Nian simply waved his sleeve.

A Spiritual Energy Giant Hammer struck directly at Fang Shishi's abdomen.

"Puff!"

Fang Shishi was blasted away.

The surrounding crowd was shocked beyond measure.

They looked at Xu Nian with unparalleled awe.

Hong Xiang was also completely stunned.

She could tell that the power Xu Nian was now using came from the formation he had just comprehended.

A guy who had just come into contact with formations less than two hours ago.

He had managed to use the formation to such an extent.

Had she not witnessed it with her own eyes, she would never have believed it, even if she were beaten to death.

The Dark God Island Master was also shocked beyond measure at this moment.

He saw much more than Hong Xiang did.

He realized that the formation Xu Nian was now displaying was not entirely his own.

Rather, it was an improvement on his formation.

It appeared to be more perfect and more offensive than his own.

"Genius... oh no, a freak, an absolute freak, I never expected that this old man had picked up such a treasure, Bai Tianhan, you win this time, I am willingly defeated," the Dark God Island Master excitedly said in his heart.

His gaze towards Xu Nian heated up.

At this moment, the prodigy from the Whale Clan was too scared to speak and could only obediently pull out his previous wager.

And those who had raised the stakes were also regretting it immensely.

However, they dared not withhold the wagers.

Because Xu Nian, in control of the Killing Array, was not someone they could contend with.

"Thump thump thump!"

Fu Yuming also kowtowed three times, shattering the floor.

Only then did Xu Nian retract the formation.

"Great Grandfather, I now understand why you believed so much in Brother Xu Nian, his temperament, courage, and talent are beyond ordinary people, honestly, I'm a bit envious of you," Emperor Xuanwu said to Xuan Hong beside him.

Xuan Hong smiled.

At first, he thought following such a young man for half a year would be very boring.

But now, he didn't regret it one bit; instead, he looked forward to their upcoming encounters even more.

"Haha, Xu Nian, I truly didn't expect you not only comprehended the Low Grade Spirit Array but also improved on my formation, you really are the most outstanding formation genius I have ever seen, very well, I shall fulfill the previous agreement and impart all my lifetime's learning to you," the Dark God Island Master said.

The surrounding crowd opened their mouths wide in awe.

Xu Nian had even improved the formation?

Is this guy even human?

As the crowd looked at Xu Nian, they couldn't even muster jealousy.

Chapter 746 The Wrath of the Whale Emperor

Xu Nian's actions dazzled everyone present.

The final Token naturally also belonged to Xu Nian.

Not only that, but Xu Nian also acquired numerous treasures from those around him.

These were all the result of the bets he had just won.

As for Fu Yuming and Fang Shishi, they had no face left to stay any longer.

After bidding farewell to the Dark God Island Master, they left in haste.

Before leaving, both Fu Yuming and Fang Shishi gave Xu Nian a fierce glare.

They also left behind a phrase, "Xu Nian, you'd better stay in this lost world for the rest of your life, because once you enter the Cultivation World, we will make sure you have nowhere to be buried."

After saying these words, they turned into streaks of light and disappeared into the horizon.

Xu Nian merely chuckled at their threats, unconcerned.

Having lost face, they needed to utter some harsh words.

Of course, if they really encountered him in the Cultivation World, they certainly would not let Xu Nian off.

After all, they were experts at the Cave Void Stage.

If Xu Nian were to enter the Cultivation World, he truly wouldn't stand a chance against them.

"Xu Nian, you need to be careful of them from now on. You've angered them this time, and the Qingcheng Sect will not let you off easily," the Dark God Island Master spoke up.

"Thank you for the reminder, elder. I will remember," Xu Nian nodded and said.

The Dark God Island Master nodded in response.

He knew that Xu Nian was a very cautious person.

He didn't need to remind him too much.

"Xu Nian, these are the Formations I have comprehended throughout my life, which even include some insights into Formation; I will pass them all on to you," said the Dark God Island Master.

As he spoke, more than a dozen Jade Scrolls appeared in his hand.

Xu Nian knew that these Jade Scrolls contained indispensable Formation knowledge.

The prospect of what knowledge these dozen Jade Scrolls held was terrifying.

"Thank you, elder. I will certainly not disappoint your painstaking efforts," Xu Nian said while nodding.

"Very good, to have a genius like you inherit my mantle makes me feel at ease to proceed with Tribulation Crossing," the Dark God Island Master laughed heartily.

"Tribulation Crossing?" Xu Nian was momentarily surprised.

He hadn't expected the Dark God Island Master to be preparing for Tribulation.

However, the thought sank in that the Dark God Island Master was indeed about to go through the Tribulation.

"Master!" Hong Xiang seemed concerned and began to speak with apprehension.

However, before she could finish, the Dark God Island Master interrupted her.

"Hong Xiang, you are the last disciple I have taken in, and also the one with the highest talent among all my disciples. However, I need to retreat for a long time to prepare for the Tribulation, and I won't have the time to teach you. Therefore, I have also prepared a set of Jade Scrolls for you, and I have decided to have you leave with Xu Nian for the Cultivation World," the Dark God Island Master said.

"Leaving Dark God Island for the Cultivation World?" Hong Xiang was stunned.

She clearly hadn't expected her Master to say such a thing to her.

Xu Nian was also slightly taken aback.

The Dark God Island Master actually wanted Hong Xiang to go with him?

"Xu Nian, next, I entrust Hong Xiang to you. After all, she is half a Senior Sister to you. I hope you can take good care of her on my behalf," the Dark God Island Master said.

As he spoke, he looked at Xu Nian with a meaningful smile.

Xu Nian's mouth twitched.

He silently cursed the old man for having a belly full of cunning schemes.

Still, he nodded and agreed, "Alright, elder, rest assured I will take good care of Senior Sister Hong Xiang."

Seeing Xu Nian agree, the Dark God Island Master also showed a smile.

Xu Nian felt helpless, after all, the Dark God Island Master had shown him kindness.

"Master, I don't want to leave Dark God Island," Hong Xiang spoke up.

"You must leave. You have grown up on the Tianhen Continent, but this place is too confined for you. You should experience more in the Cultivation World. Following Xu Nian is your best choice. With him to take care of you, I can rest a bit easier," the Dark God Island Master insisted.

Having finished speaking, he placed the dozen or so jade scrolls into Hong Xiang's hands.

Hong Xiang had more to say, but in the end, she hesitated once again.

The Master was going into retreat, and her staying on the island would be of no help.

Thus, the best course of action was to leave.

"Junior Brother Xu Nian, I'll be counting on you in the future." Hong Xiang turned her head and spoke to Xu Nian.

"Senior Sister, it's all about mutual care and support." Xu Nian looked at Hong Xiang with a smile.

Hong Xiang didn't smile, yet the red mole under her eye made her delicate face appear exceptionally vivid.

It added an indescribable charm to her.

Xu Nian thought, if she could smile.

She would probably look even more beautiful.

Of course, Xu Nian didn't have any other thoughts.

It was just a pure appreciation for beautiful things.

"Alright, Xu Nian, here is the token to enter the Endless Abyss. I have applied a formation on it, but this formation can only withstand the terrible forces of the abyss for 15 minutes. Whether you can pick the Spirit Fruit depends on you. Remember, this token can only take five people at once, you decide on your own." The Dark God Island Master tossed a token to Xu Nian,

Then turned and left.

Xu Nian caught the token and examined it carefully.

He noticed that indeed, complex array patterns were on the token.

No wonder these Sea Demons were so desperate to obtain this token.

It turns out it was the power of the array patterns on the token that could resist the terrifying forces within the abyss.

One trip with five people?

So, who should he bring?

Xuan Hong counted as one, himself as another.

That left three more spots available.

Besides, he could also bring Emperor Xuanwu and Lie Tian.

So who should get the last spot?

"Senior Sister Hong Xiang, would you like to join us in entering the Endless Abyss?" Xu Nian turned his head to ask Hong Xiang.

"No, I'm guessing you'll be ready to leave after the trip to the Abyss. I want to spend more time with the Master during this period," Hong Xiang replied.

Xu Nian nodded.

Since Hong Xiang didn't wish to go, then who should he give it to?

"Junior Brother Xu Nian, are you still struggling with who to give the spot for the trip to the abyss? Why not give it to me?" The Whale Emperor approached with a smile.

"Oh? Does the Whale Emperor also need the token? I would think that with your strength, you wouldn't need a token to enter." Xu Nian replied, his words tinged with sarcasm.

Before, the Whale Emperor had been targeting him, but now seeing that he had the token,

He was saying nice things, trying to mend fences opportunistically.

Was he that foolish?

"You..." Hearing Xu Nian's mockery, the Whale Emperor immediately became enraged.

"Tell me, what conditions do you require to give one spot to me?" the Whale Emperor asked.

Xu Nian smiled slightly and said, "No conditions will do."

"Xu Nian, don't be too much," the Whale Emperor stared at him with anger.

"So what if I am?" Xu Nian asked back with a light laugh.

The Whale Emperor's eyes brimmed with killing intent.

His eyes narrowed.

"Hmph, Xu Nian, just you wait and see, you will regret your decision today," the Whale Emperor snorted coldly, then left with the young talents of the Whale Clan and the Whale Clan Princess.

As the Whale Clan Princess departed, she gave Xu Nian a glance.

Her eyes revealed a complex emotion.

Xu Nian, however, could only helplessly shake his head.

Chapter 747 Dark Abyss

As the Whale Emperor departed, the crowd on the plaza gradually dispersed.

However, at this moment, the Jiao Long Emperor did not leave.

"Brother Xu Nian, could you spare a slot for my Jiao Long Clan?" The Jiao Long Emperor asked, smiling as he approached Xu Nian.

"Oh? And why should I give your Jiao Long Clan a slot?" Xu Nian asked with a smile, looking at the Jiao Long Emperor.

In fact, he did have an extra slot in his hand.

He had originally thought that if there were no suitable candidates, he would just let Emperor Xuanwu arrange someone at random.

But to his surprise, the Jiao Long Emperor came to him as well.

Although he did not have a good impression of the Jiao Long Emperor, he was curious to hear how the Jiao Long Emperor planned to persuade him.

"Of course, I wouldn't expect Brother Xu Nian to give me a slot for nothing. As long as you give me the slot, I will gift this to Brother Xu Nian," the Jiao Long Emperor said.

After speaking, a black stone appeared in his hand.

"This is... the Void Netherworld Stone!" Xu Nian looked at the black stone, and his face suddenly showed a look of surprise.

"Surprising that Brother Xu Nian is quite knowledgeable. Yes, this is the Void Netherworld Stone, and I assume you understand its uses," the Jiao Long Emperor said.

Xu Nian nodded.

The Void Netherworld Stone was indeed a mid-grade refining material.

Moreover, it came with the Dark Devouring effect of the dark attribute.

For practitioners of the Dark Attribute Profound Argumentation, it was an absolute treasure.

However, for Xu Nian, this stone had no allure whatsoever.

"While the Void Netherworld Stone is indeed a precious refining material, it is of little value to me, I'm afraid I must disappoint you," Xu Nian said with a slight smile.

The Jiao Long Emperor's brow immediately furrowed.

Clearly, he had not expected Xu Nian to refuse.

"Then Brother Xu Nian, feel free to state any conditions you might have," the Jiao Long Emperor said.

The Spiritual Jade Fruit was too important for them.

Now that their cultivation had reached a bottleneck.

Without the aid of the Spiritual Jade Fruit, they would be unable to improve.

Therefore, he must obtain the Spiritual Jade Fruit by any means this time.

"If you want me to give you the slot, you'll have to tell me the identity of the person behind you," Xu Nian said.

He had already asked Emperor Xuanwu before, but Emperor Xuanwu said he had never seen this person.

This made Xu Nian even more curious.

How could a human being be under the Jiao Long Emperor's command?

"You mean him?" the Jiao Long Emperor said with a smile, pointing at the stern-looking man.

Xu Nian nodded.

"He is someone I rescued at sea. Although a human, he is not weak in strength, so I let him serve as my personal guard," the Jiao Long Emperor explained.

"Oh? Aren't you afraid that he comes with unknown intentions?" Xu Nian asked.

"Ha, unknown intentions? What do I, the Jiao Long Emperor, have that is worth his attention? Moreover, if he were a Sea Demon, I might be a bit concerned, but he is a human, what is there to fear?" the Jiao Long Emperor laughed heartily.

Xu Nian nodded.

The most important thing to the Jiao Long Emperor was the throne of the Jiao Long Clan.

As he had said, if the stranger were a Sea Demon, there might be a possibility of a spy sent by other forces.

But if it was a human, they would have no interest in his position as the Jiao Long Emperor.

"If you truly want to know his origins, I can call him over to ask," the Jiao Long Emperor offered.

"No need, tomorrow morning, we will gather above Dark God Island and head to the Dark Abyss together," Xu Nian said, waving his hand.

He had only asked casually.

He was not particularly interested in the real identity of the stern man.

The reason he agreed to giving the Jiao Long Emperor a slot was that he had his own motives.

With the Nine Dragon Supreme Bloodline that he possessed,

he was not at all afraid that the Jiao Long Emperor would entertain any thoughts of rebellion against him.

With this, he could control three out of the four major powers of this sea region.

"Good!"

The Jiao Long Emperor immediately agreed with joy.

Then he left with the stern man.

"Xuan Feng, Lie Tian, tomorrow morning, you two also come to Dark God Island to meet me," Xu Nian said to Emperor Xuanwu and the Shark Emperor.

Both nodded in agreement.

They knew that Xu Nian took care of them.

But Emperor Xuanwu was somewhat surprised.

He had not expected Xu Nian to be so familiar with the newly appointed Shark Emperor.

After a careful thought, he suddenly realized the truth.

The look he gave to Xu Nian became even more mysterious.

Xu Nian simply smiled faintly.

Watching the departing crowd, a slight smile appeared in his eyes.

He was prepared to break through to the Zifu Realm after this trip to the Dark Abyss.

Only by reaching the true Zifu Realm would he qualify to make his mark in the Cultivation World.

After all, the Zifu Realm was still considered a low-level existence in the true Cultivation World.

...

Time flashed by, and the next day arrived.

Xu Nian and Xuan Hong came to the airspace above Dark God Island.

He saw the Three Emperors, who had arrived as promised.

"Now that everyone is here, let's go," Xu Nian commanded.

The Three Emperors, along with Xuan Hong, all headed towards the deep seabed.

After a period of travel,

Xu Nian and his companions once again arrived above the Dark Abyss.

Looking at the pitch-black giant hole, Xu Nian could still feel an intense fear.

This fear arose from the depths of their hearts.

"This Dark Abyss is filled with a terrifying power; without the protection of the Dark God Island Master's Token, it's impossible to enter," spoke Emperor Xuanwu.

Xu Nian nodded.

He could feel it too.

"In a moment, I will activate the Formation within the Token. It will cover each of us with a Defensive Light Shield. However, this Defensive Light Shield will only last the time it takes an incense stick to burn, so whether or not you can harvest a Spirit Fruit depends on everyone's own fortune," Xu Nian said to the Three Emperors.

The Three Emperors nodded.

They had experienced such events countless times before.

So, naturally, they were well aware of what Xu Nian meant.

Xu Nian did not say much more.

He directly crushed the Token.

"Buzz!"

The Token immediately emitted a glow.

Then, five Light Shields enveloped Xu Nian and the others.

The moment the Light Shields were in place, Xu Nian could clearly feel

that the oppressive fear in their hearts had lessened significantly.

"Let's go!"

Then the five of them all plunged into the interior of the Dark Abyss.

Xu Nian was also gradually falling into darkness.

He found that inside the Dark Abyss's hole, the power of the soul could not be utilized at all.

It was as if the Soul power had been sealed within their bodies.

To find Spiritual Jade Fruit, they could only rely on their eyesight.

However, it was truly too dark in here.

Moreover, the area of the Dark Abyss was simply too vast.

And the Spirit Fruits near the entrance of the Dark Abyss had long been harvested.

So, finding a Spirit Fruit was not an easy task.

Xu Nian followed the wall downwards.

He activated his Gray Dragon Eye.

However, he could still only see things within a hundred-meter radius.

And as they continued to descend, he could clearly feel an odd force striking against their Defensive Light Shields.

Without the shield's protection, he would probably have been injured by this force.

"Eh, is that a Spiritual Jade Fruit?"

Suddenly, not far from Xu Nian, on a nearby wall, he spotted a small tree.

Hanging on the tree was a fruit that looked like white jade,

which also emitted a faint fragrance.

Chapter 748 Mysterious Vine

Xu Nian immediately dashed towards the direction of the Spiritual Jade Fruit.

"Xu Nian, be careful!"

However, at this moment, Emperor Xuanwu spoke up to warn him.

Xu Nian was startled and then he saw a vine suddenly shoot out from the Spiritual Jade Fruit Tree ahead.

Like an eastern sword.

It aimed to pierce through Xu Nian's body.

Xu Nian's gaze instantly sharpened, and a sharp sword appeared in his hand.

He swung the sword at the vine.

"Clang!"

The sword struck the vine, but surprisingly, it did not cut through.

"What a sturdy vine," Xu Nian muttered to himself.

Soon, the vine tightly wrapped around the sword in his hand.

"Crack!"

The sword, only of Meteorite Iron Level, was directly snapped by the vine.

"These vines are extremely hard, comparable to Divine Iron, and they possess strong offensive capabilities. Once entangled, it is very difficult to break free, and the Defensive Light Shield becomes weaker under its attack," Emperor Xuanwu explained.

"So that's how it is," Xu Nian muttered to himself.

However, soon a smile appeared on his face.

Comparable to Divine Iron.

That meant it was not as good as Divine Iron.

"Swoosh!"

The vine, having missed its first strike, came at Xu Nian again.

Xu Nian smiled faintly.

Another Immortal Sword appeared in his hand.

"Hum!"

A strong Wind Attribute Dimension Cutting Profound Argumentation emanated from it.

Xu Nian instantly swung his sword.

"Pu chi!"

The vine was immediately cut by Xu Nian's stroke.

"Hiss!"

The vine emitted a strange cry.

Then Xu Nian saw the small tree uproot itself and head toward the depths of the Dark Abyss.

"Thinking of running?"

Xu Nian immediately turned into a bolt of lightning and chased after it.

At the same time, he swung his sharp sword.

"Pu chi!"

The small tree was directly split into two parts.

And Xu Nian caught the Spiritual Jade Fruit in his hand.

The fruit was somewhat cold, but it contained a strange power within.

If he had not guessed wrongly, it was this power that helped cultivators expand their Dantian.

Xu Nian did not hesitate and directly stuffed the fruit into his mouth.

"Just eating it like that? The power of this fruit is very violent, you need to sit down and regulate your breath, otherwise, it can easily cause the Dantian to collapse," Emperor Xuanwu spoke again.

Xu Nian just smiled faintly.

He was not concerned at all.

The Dan Sea Species Green Lotus he cultivated was completely unfazed by any violent power.

Indeed, once the fruit entered his stomach, it transformed into a surge of power that rushed into Xu Nian's Dantian.

As this power swept into the Dantian,

Xu Nian's entire Dantian actually expanded by twice its original size.

"Huh, it's actually useful!" Xu Nian muttered to himself, his face showing a look of joy.

An expansion of the Dantian by twice its size meant that Xu Nian could accumulate more Spiritual Energy before breaking through to the Zifu Realm.

This would make his entry into the Zifu Realm much more stable.

Even his potential in the Zifu would be greater than the average person.

"I didn't expect this fruit to have such great effects. It looks like I need to pick a few more," Xu Nian muttered to himself.

After finishing, Xu Nian continued to sweep around.

He wanted to find more fruits like this.

...

While Xu Nian was searching for the fruits,

above the Dark Abyss,

there were currently two figures floating.

One was dressed in a red robe, and the other in a black long robe.

The person in the red robe was the Whale Emperor.

As for the man in the black robe beside him, his true face was not clear.

However, the aura emanating from him was incredibly powerful.

"Are you sure the Dark God Island Master has already secluded himself in closing up?" the man in the black robe asked the Whale Emperor beside him.

"Yes, I've confirmed it, so you can feel confident to make your move," replied the Whale Emperor with a light laugh.

"Hmph, I hope what you're saying is true, otherwise both of us will die," the black-robed man said. "Since Xu Nian carries the entire inheritance of the Dark God Island Master, he is definitely regarded highly by the master. Normally, I wouldn't even enter your waters."

"Don't worry, there won't be any problems," said the Whale Emperor. "Just kill Xu Nian and all the inheritance of the Dark God Island Master will be yours, then you can leave this place. I only want the Spiritual Jade Fruits they carry; I'll bear all the consequences."

"It seems you plan to consume the Spiritual Jade Fruit and then make a breakthrough, leaving the Forbidden Sea area?" said the black-robed man with a cold laugh.

"Exactly, I've reached a bottleneck now. As long as I consume another Spiritual Jade Fruit and accumulate some Spiritual Energy, I can break through directly to the Zifu Middle-stage, and then I will not fear the Heavenly Tribulation at all," said the Whale Emperor.

His eyes were filled with excitement.

Indeed, their goal in obtaining the Spiritual Jade Fruit was to successfully break through to a higher realm when the time came.

This way, they would have more chances of surviving the impending Heavenly Tribulation.

"Hmph, but from what you've said, this human named Xu Nian still has plenty of secrets," the black-robed man said. "Otherwise, how could a youth under twenty possess such high Cultivation?"

"You're right, Xu Nian indeed has many secrets," said the Whale Emperor. "I had people inquire about him on the Tianhen Continent; Xu Nian already has quite a reputation there, and he's grown so much in less than five years."

"Five years? Even in the Cultivation World, nobody could reach such a realm within five years. It seems Xu Nian is truly extraordinary. When I kill him later, his secrets will be ours," the black-robed man said with a cold laugh.

A cold smile also appeared on the corner of the Whale Emperor's mouth.

He looked down at the Dark Abyss, his eyes unusually cunning.

"Xu Nian, I originally begged you for a chance, but since you disagreed, don't blame me for being ruthless," said the Whale Emperor, a trace of killing intent flashing in his eyes.

...

And while the Whale Emperor and the black-robed man were waiting at the entrance for Xu Nian and others,

Xu Nian had also just collected three more Spiritual Jade Fruits.

Xuan Hong and the Three Emperors also had their harvests.

Although the yields varied, it was still worth the while.

"It's about time we left," Xu Nian calculated the time and said.

The others around him agreed one after another.

Then the group aimed to sweep out of the Dark Abyss.

"Whoosh!"

However, at that moment,

a vine came directly from the deep parts of the Dark Abyss.

It pierced through Xu Nian's Defensive Light Shield,

latching onto Xu Nian's ankle.

Xu Nian was taken aback,

and quickly drew his Immortal Sword to sever the vine.

"Ah!"

But before Xu Nian could act,

the vine suddenly exerted force,

snatching Xu Nian towards the depths of the abyss.

"Xu Nian!"

Xuan Hong and the others immediately noticed Xu Nian's predicament.

However, as they were about to rescue Xu Nian,

a terrifying force suddenly hit their Defensive Light Shields,

blasting them all out of the Dark Abyss.

While Xu Nian struck his Immortal Sword into the wall, attempting to stop his descent,

he found the power too overwhelming.

His speed was not reduced at all.

Eventually, he was pulled to the bottom of the abyss.

Chapter 749 The Magical Ancient Tree

"It hurts so much, my bones nearly fell apart."

Xu Nian woke up from his unconsciousness and rubbed his aching body.

He had been dragged into the bottom of this abyss by a tremendous force, ultimately crashing heavily onto its floor.

As Xu Nian was falling, he made a rough estimation.

The depth of this abyss was at least tens of thousands of zhang deep.

Adding his falling speed to the calculation.

Even his physical body found it somewhat hard to bear.

However, fortunately, as Xu Nian was falling, he timely summoned his Dragon Scale Armor.

It was this which offset a large portion of the force, saving Xu Nian from being crushed to pieces.

Even so, he was still severely injured.

His entire Scale Armor was shattered, and even his internal organs showed signs of damage.

"Could this be the bottom of the Endless Abyss?" Xu Nian looked around.

He discovered a huge ancient tree not far ahead of him.

Although the ancient tree was not tall, only about a hundred meters, its trunk was the thickest Xu Nian had ever seen among all trees.

The terrifyingly thick trunk had a diameter of about a kilometer.

However, the tree appeared to be withered.

Its once dense branches were almost devoid of green leaves.

Only on one branch still hung two pitiful green leaves, which seemed to be wilting as well.

The trunk was as shriveled as the skin of an old, aged man.

Xu Nian's brows furrowed slightly.

Because he discovered that, aside from this withered ancient tree, everything else was pitch-black.

There was no other object in sight.

Clearly, he had been bound and pulled down by the vines, and it was all the doing of this ancient tree.

What surprised Xu Nian, though,

was that he could not sense any of the terrible power of the Dark Abyss at this moment.

Logically, at the bottom of the Dark Abyss, he should be suffering from the assault of that terrifying power.

But from the fall until now, he hadn't felt the slightest bit of that dreadful force.

"What's going on here?" Xu Nian murmured in astonishment.

"Young man, you are now within the range of my domain, so naturally, you will not be in any danger, but if you step out beyond a hundred meters from me, that would be a different story," an aged voice suddenly sounded.

Xu Nian was startled.

He turned his head to look at the ancient and aged tree.

Correct, the voice came from that very tree.

Xu Nian walked toward the ancient tree,

and only then did he discover a face on the tree.

"Was it you who pulled me down just now?" Xu Nian asked warily.

This ancient tree had been here for at least tens of thousands of years.

"Yes, it was I who pulled you down here, but rest assured, I have no ill intentions toward you," the ancient tree spoke.

Its voice was old yet somewhat weak.

"You seem a bit weak?" Xu Nian ventured to ask.

"You have noticed. Indeed, my longevity is nearing its end; I fear I won't live much longer," the ancient tree responded.

Xu Nian's brows furrowed again.

Such a massive ancient tree, approaching the end of its life span.

No wonder all the leaves on its trunk had withered.

"But I see your Cultivation is not low; how can your longevity be nearing its end?" Xu Nian inquired.

"Alas, I actually reached the Peak of the Tribulation Crossing Stage thousands of years ago, but due to the conditions of this realm, and the restrictions placed on me by that Immortal back then, I am unable to leave this Dark Abyss and will ultimately exhaust all my life here," the withered tree said.

Xu Nian was taken aback.

A measure of sympathy for the withered tree welled up in his heart.

He had not expected that this was the reason for its plight, having run dry of lamp oil and water.

"Did you pull me down here because you want my help with something?" Xu Nian asked.

Since the old tree had pulled him down, there must be a purpose to it.

"Yes, I pulled you down here because I wanted your help. I detected the aura of a Divine Tree emanating from you," the ancient tree spoke.

"Divine Tree?" Xu Nian was surprised.

Then he remembered something.

Indeed, he had previously obtained a Seven-colored Bodhi Tree.

"I do have a Divine Tree, but it's just a sapling. What do you want me to do?" Xu Nian asked warily.

He was very aware of the preciousness of the Seven-colored Bodhi Tree.

If the ancient tree had designs on the Divine Tree, he would definitely not agree to it.

"Only a sapling? Alas, I had hoped to rely on the power of the Divine Tree to extend my lifespan, but it seems now that it is of no use," the ancient tree said with disappointment.

Xu Nian frowned slightly and his face took on a contemplative look.

With a thought, a Seven-colored Radiance appeared in his hands.

This was none other than a leaf from the Seven-colored Bodhi Tree.

"This is the Seven-colored Bodhi Tree, the legendary Divine Tree. You actually possess such a tree?" the ancient tree exclaimed, eyes widening in surprise.

"The life force of this Seven-colored Bodhi Tree is very strong. It should be able to add another ten years to your lifespan. In twelve years, I will come here and try to find a way to take you away," Xu Nian told the ancient tree.

Having said that, he immediately dispersed all the life essence from the leaf onto the ancient tree.

As the essence dispersed, the ancient tree seemed to regain some vitality.

"Thank you. I can feel it; some of the life force has returned," the ancient tree said gratefully.

"Don't thank me. If in twelve years, I can't take you away, all this will be for naught. So wait to thank me once I've saved you in twelve years," Xu Nian said with a smile.

In truth, he felt a bit of pity for the ancient tree.

That's why he couldn't help but lend his aid.

Now, seeing some vitality restored to the ancient tree,

His heart felt much more at ease too.

His power was inadequate for now.

He could not help the ancient tree break the seal.

He could only wait, and try again twelve years later.

"Thank you, human. The fact that you have been recognized by the Seven-colored Bodhi Tree shows that your potential is boundless. If you truly save me after twelve years, I can give you a great gift," the ancient tree said.

"A great gift?" Xu Nian asked curiously.

"Yes, it is related to the Immortal Treasure. I have mastered a secret of the Immortal Treasure that no one else knows. If you indeed save me after twelve years, I will share this secret with you," the ancient tree declared.

Xu Nian nodded his head.

Having dwelled here for so long, the ancient tree must know some secrets unknown to others.

Hence, Xu Nian wasn't surprised by its claim.

"Well, I will take my leave now," Xu Nian said.

As he was about to depart,

"Human, let me send you off. With your current strength, you are not capable of withstanding the forces of the Dark Abyss," the ancient tree spoke up.

Xu Nian considered this and nodded.

Then, he saw a vine extend from the ancient tree,

surging with a faint green light.

This green light then enveloped Xu Nian.

"Hum!"

A force transferred, and Xu Nian was propelled outward, away from the abyss by the ancient tree.

The ancient tree watched Xu Nian leave, smiling faintly and said, "Human, do not let me down!"

Chapter 750 Soul Attack

While Xu Nian was conversing with the ancient tree,

at the entrance of the Dark Abyss, an unexpected event was unfolding.

"Hand over the Spirit Fruits in your possession," the Whale Emperor said to the Three Emperors and Xuan Hong with a faint cold smile on his lips.

But his eyes would occasionally glance towards the interior of the Dark Abyss.

Xu Nian had not appeared—could it be that he was still inside the Dark Abyss and had not come out?

But hadn't it already been 15 minutes?

The brows of the Three Emperors and Xuan Hong furrowed slightly,

revealing a deep solemnity in their eyes.

Xu Nian, having been pulled into the depths of the abyss, is probably hard-pressed to survive.

Unexpectedly, the Whale Emperor was still guarding the entrance to the Dark Abyss.

"Whale Emperor, do you really think you can take the Spiritual Jade Fruits from the four of us with your power?" the Jiao Long Emperor asked with a light laugh.

"Alone, of course not, but now I am not alone," the Whale Emperor replied with a sneer.

After he finished speaking, a black-robed man appeared behind him.

The Three Emperors were all taken aback, their eyes growing surprised as they looked towards the black-robed man.

"It's you!"

Emperor Xuanwu and the Jiao Long Emperor exclaimed in surprise together.

They recognized the identity of this black-robed man.

This person was a fearsome figure from the forbidden sea region, known as Fang Tu.

His movements were always unpredictable and mysterious.

He was often found in the seas of the Cultivation World as well as the forbidden regions.

As for his strength, though it was also at the Pseudo Heavenly Phenomenon Level, he possessed a terrifying Talent Divine Ability.

This Divine Skill was called Soul Destruction.

In other words, Fang Tu held a fearsome method of Soul Attack in his hands.

Even genuine Zifu Cultivators were somewhat fearful of it.

So, in general, nobody dared to mess with this guy.

However, Emperor Xuanwu and the Jiao Long Emperor hadn't expected this fellow to appear here.

And he was even in cahoots with the Whale Emperor, taking on them.

"Whale Emperor, where is this Xu Nian you speak of? You better not be deceiving me," Fang Tu said, turning his head to look at the Whale Emperor after appearing, not confronting Emperor Xuanwu and the others.

"Fang Tu, how could I possibly deceive you? Xu Nian must not have come out from within this Dark Abyss—I'm not sure what's happened, but you and I should first take the Spiritual Jade Fruits from their hands. I am willing to split the gains evenly with you," the Whale Emperor said.

"Hmph, I will trust you once—for now. I want two-thirds of the Spiritual Jade Fruits, and you get one-third," Fang Tu declared.

"Fine! I agree," the Whale Emperor said through gritted teeth, finally speaking up.

Only then did a smile appear on Fang Tu's face as he turned his attention to the Three Emperors and Xuan Hong.

"Emperor Xuanwu, Jiao Long Emperor, you've heard it yourselves. If you don't want to die, it's best if you hand over all the Spiritual Jade Fruits in your possession," Fang Tu said with a cold laugh.

His laugh revealed teeth that were triangularly shaped, making him look exceptionally fierce.

"Fang Tu, we have always kept to our own paths without interfering with each other. Why must you meddle in these murky waters today? Whatever the Whale Emperor has promised you, we can offer as well," Emperor Xuanwu said, his tone conveying a veiled threat.

"Hmph, it's useless. Emperor Xuanwu, whatever the Whale Emperor is offering me, you cannot give. So, you might as well hand over your possessions quietly, to save me the effort of taking action," Fang Tu said with a cold sneer.

Emperor Xuanwu and the Jiao Long Emperor exchanged a glance.

Then, they both quickly lunged in different directions towards Fang Tu with incredible speed.

The two great Demon Emperors, were top-notch powerful figures of the forbidden sea region.

The two striking together could be said to present a force that, apart from the Dark God Island Master, hardly anyone could withstand.

However, upon seeing this, the Whale Emperor at the side revealed a smile.

"Courting death!"

Fang Tu himself responded with disdain.

Just as they were about to strike him,

suddenly, a bell appeared in Fang Tu's hands.

With a gentle shake from Fang Tu,

a wave of bell chimes instantly spread out.

"Ah..."

Emperor Xuanwu and Jiao Long Emperor clutched their heads and screamed in agony at the same time.

Two daggers simultaneously appeared in Fang Tu's hands.

"Thud!"

The daggers directly pierced through both their chests.

Propelling them away.

Instantly, blood flowed profusely.

Standing at a distance, Sky Splitting Shark Emperor, upon witnessing this scene, was dumbfounded.

The moment the bell rang,

he, too, felt a terrible stabbing pain in his head.

Luckily, the bell's attack was not meant for him.

So, he quickly recovered.

However, Emperor Xuanwu and Jiao Long Emperor, caught off guard by that terrible soul attack, lost consciousness in an instant.

They were incapable of defending themselves.

"What a terrifying soul attack. To think that it's executed through the sound of a bell, that must be a low-grade spiritual artifact in his hands," Emperor Xuanwu, enduring the intense pain, pulled out the dagger from his chest and mused to himself while looking at Fang Tu in the distance.

Never having stepped into the Zifu Realm, nor having cultivated any secret techniques of the soul, they were clueless about how to defend their souls.

Thus facing Fang Tu's attack, they were completely defenseless.

"How about it, are you ready to hand over the Spiritual Jade Fruit now?" Fang Tu sneered.

Emperor Xuanwu's eyes were filled with intense unwillingness, yet he was without recourse.

At this rate, they were likely to meet a grim fate.

Whale Emperor, also a ways off, laughed coldly.

"Hmph, ignorant juniors, let me deal with you!"

However, just at that moment, Xuan Hong let out a loud roar.

Then, he charged toward Fang Tu.

"Courting death!" Fang Tu roared and vigorously shook the bell in his hand.

His bell attack caused everyone around to be in immense pain.

But it was of no effect on Fang Hong.

"I am a true Heavenly Phenomenon Realm powerhouse. How would I be afraid of your insignificant soul attack?" Fang Hong sneered coldly.

Then, he was upon Fang Tu.

Both struck out simultaneously.

"Boom!"

Their forces collided.

Fang Tu and Xuan Hong both took several steps back.

The two appeared evenly matched.

Fang Tu looked towards Xuan Hong with a face full of surprise.

This guy was actually a true Heavenly Phenomenon Realm master, which meant his soul must at least be at the Heavenly Phenomenon Realm level.

Even if his cultivation was suppressed, his Soul Realm remained unaffected.

As for Fang Tu, his soul level was merely at the Zifu Peak Level and naturally couldn't harm Xuan Hong in the slightest.

Emperor Xuanwu and Jiao Long Emperor on the sidelines felt a surge of hope.

With this turn of events, did they not have a chance at salvation?

"Whale Emperor, leave him to you. I'll go and finish off those three," said Fang Tu right away.

"No problem," immediately replied Whale Emperor.

With that said, he lunged toward Xuan Hong and launched a ferocious attack.

Elsewhere, Fang Tu rapidly moved towards Emperor Xuanwu and Jiao Long Emperor.

"Not good, Grand Elder is tied up, and Fang Tu can still kill us," cursed Emperor Xuanwu to himself.

As they saw Fang Tu approaching, they also braced themselves to face the enemy despite their pain.

"Ding, ding, ding!"

Once again, a series of bell sounds rang out.

Emperor Xuanwu and Jiao Long Emperor readied themselves to cover their ears.

However, this time, they didn't feel any pain at all.