

Doctor 1911

Chapter 1911: Taoist Rhyme

Although the Green Bamboo Sect is one of the most powerful super sects in the Three Thousand Great Worlds, it also faces fierce competition from other super sects.

In order to compete for the limited top cultivation resources of the Three Thousand Great Worlds, conflicts often occur among the major super sects, and the intensity of these conflicts is far beyond the imagination of other small sects and factions.

However, at the level of super sects, these conflicts are extremely secretive, and other small sects and factions have no way of knowing.

The super sects often send spies into each other's ranks to gather confidential information about their opponent's sect.

Decades ago, the Green Bamboo Sect suffered a severe loss due to a spy incident, where several genius disciples were ambushed and killed by rivals, and a newly discovered spirit stone vein was also preemptively taken by the opponent.

Since that incident, the Green Bamboo Sect has been extremely vigilant against espionage, with a zero-tolerance policy of extermination once a spy is discovered.

Therefore, upon hearing that Fang Bai might be a spy, the disciples of the Green Bamboo Sect present immediately thought of that past incident and became angry.

"Wait... wait..."

Fang Bai felt the fury of the surrounding Green Bamboo Sect disciples and really didn't want to fight with them, so he quickly said, "I have urgent matters, take me to see your Sect Master quickly!"

"Want to see our Sect Master? No way!"

Junior Sister Yun, being in love with Senior Brother Liao and seeing her lover injured, was naturally furious and pointed at Fang Bai, saying hatefully, "He severely injured Senior Brother Liao, quickly kill him!"

Fang Bai laughed with a "hey," and said irritably, "What severe injury? It's just a scratch, his internal organs weren't even harmed. Look for yourself carefully."

Junior Sister Yun was stunned upon hearing this, and immediately bent down to check, and indeed found that Senior Brother Liao's abdomen was only scratched, without any damage to his internal organs.

She breathed a sigh of relief but then, seeing Senior Brother Liao still rolling on the ground and screaming, she was both angry and amused. She kicked him, saying, "You guy, are you pretending on purpose? Get up, stop howling like a ghost!"

Senior Brother Liao rolled over and jumped up, scratching his head with a laugh, "Hehe, Junior Sister Yun, don't be angry! I just wanted to see if you would be sad for me or get angry... it turns out, you do love me!"

Junior Sister Yun blushed and spat, "Pah! Who... who loves you! Don't flatter yourself!"

Not wanting to continue on this topic, she turned to Fang Bai and said, "Even if you didn't severely injure Senior Brother Liao, you still have the suspicion of being a spy and must die! Unless you can prove your innocence, or... you are truly a descendant of our Green Bamboo Sect's acquaintance!"

Fang Bai said, "Fang Bai, who had significant ties with your sect's predecessors thousands of years ago, is my ancestor. I easily broke through your Green Bamboo Sect's concealment formation and walked straight here, doesn't that prove anything?"

In his previous life, Fang Bai also treated Green Bamboo Sect's concealment formation as if it didn't exist, barging in and getting to know the sect's disciples through a battle.

The current Fang Bai has done the same, and he believes this should suffice as proof.

After all, Green Bamboo Sect's concealment formation is exceedingly intricate, and very few could break it with ease.

Senior Brother Liao, after swallowing a spirit pill for healing and stopping bleeding, said, "Fang, this doesn't count. There are many experts in formations in this world; perhaps you just got lucky?"

He then pointed to the "Green Bamboo Sect" inscription on a stone tablet not far away, saying, "You claim to be a descendant of Senior Fang from thousands of years ago? Very well, go check those three 'Green Bamboo Sect' characters; if you can discern something from them, I'll believe you!"

Fang Bai chuckled with a silent smile, turned without looking back, and said, "No need to look. Those three characters were left by my ancestor, Fang Bai. Each stroke contains Taoist rhyme. Whoever comprehends even a bit has the hope of ascending to the Immortal Realm. If I'm not mistaken, your sect's predecessor who befriended my ancestor, Fang Bai, should have ascended to the Immortal Realm, right?"

With Fang Bai's words, the over a hundred Green Bamboo Sect disciples present were all astonished.

These people, although they couldn't discern the Taoist rhyme contained in those three characters, had heard from the sect's higher-ups that the three characters left by Senior Fang in the past contained extremely profound cultivation insights. However, over the thousands of years, only a handful of Green Bamboo Sect disciples were able to comprehend the heavenly Dao within.

Thousands of years ago, their ancestor who befriended Senior Fang ultimately ascended to the Immortal Realm due to comprehending the Taoist rhyme within those characters, which is the best proof.

The fact that this Fang Bai could even mention the words "Taoist rhyme" was simply remarkable.

"If you still don't believe... come, come, follow me! None of you seem to be able to comprehend the Taoist rhyme within these three characters, right? I will now explain it to you. If you can comprehend even a fraction, it would be a great opportunity!"

As Fang Bai spoke, he strode back to the stone tablet.

Senior Brother Liao, Junior Sister Yun, and other Green Bamboo Sect disciples all had their eyes lit up with excitement, completely forgetting about the suspicion of Fang Bai being a spy, and with a "whoosh," they all followed Fang Bai to the stone tablet, looking at him with anticipation.

The disciples of the Green Bamboo Sect had always held a sense of reverence for the three characters "Green Bamboo Sect" on the stone tablet. Some disciples would come here every day to comprehend something, hoping to gain some insight, but always left empty-handed.

To them, those three characters were just words, and they couldn't see any Taoist rhyme in them.

Just as Fang Bai was about to explain the so-called Taoist rhyme to those disciples, in a bamboo building several miles away, a few high-level members of the Green Bamboo Sect were sitting cross-legged, their divine sense already covering this area.

"That young man seems to have some skill, could he really be a descendant of Senior Fang?"

A thin, white-haired and white-bearded Thunder Tribulation expert, one of the Green Bamboo Sect's elders and an absolute high-ranking member, spoke excitedly.

Another tall and burly elder of the Green Bamboo Sect, stroking his long beard, said, "Whether he is or not, I think we should observe a bit more."

"I agree with observing more as well."

"Caution is best in all things."

The other two elders also said.

Sitting cross-legged among the four elders was a short and skinny old man.

That old man, emaciated and ordinary in appearance, with sunken eyes and cloudy eyes, looked like just an ordinary old man without any strength to even truss a chicken.

Yet this old man leads the Green Bamboo Sect, a super sect with tens of thousands of Thunder Tribulation experts, and in the entire Three Thousand Great Worlds, there is absolutely no one who dares to underestimate him.

He is Zhongli Tian, the current Sect Master of the Green Bamboo Sect, with a Half-Immortal Rank cultivation level.

"For thousands of years, only Senior Fang and the ancestor who ascended from our sect could understand the Taoist rhyme contained in those three characters on the stone tablet. If that young man truly can speak of it, it shows he is indeed a descendant of Senior Fang. At that time, we can welcome him without delay."

Zhongli Tian spoke slowly, with sharp brilliance flashing through his murky eyes.

Chapter 1912: Welcoming a Guest

Given Zhongli Tian's status, using the words "welcome," indicates that he holds Fang Bai in high esteem.

The words "Green Bamboo Sect" subtly align with the Heavenly Dao, a fact the sect master Zhongli Tian naturally understands.

However, although Zhongli Tian is indeed regarded as an exceptional cultivation genius since the founding of the Green Bamboo Sect, he still cannot compare to the senior who ascended to the Immortal Realm.

Therefore, while Zhongli Tian knows that the three words "Green Bamboo Sect" contain significant fortune, he is unable to comprehend anything from them, which greatly frustrates him.

Now, Zhongli Tian is over five hundred years old. If he still cannot ascend to the Immortal Realm in the next hundred years, he will die as his vitality is exhausted.

Zhongli Tian does not fear death but does not wish to die with regrets. He thinks that if he could glimpse the Taoist rhyme contained within those three words, he would die without regrets.

Thus, when he heard that Fang Bai plans to explain the Taoist rhyme contained in those three words to the sect disciples, Zhongli Tian was more excited than anyone else, though he hid it well.

In the eyes of the four elders, Zhongli Tian still appeared calm and collected, maintaining his dignified demeanor.

Fang Bai walked to the stone tablet, sat cross-legged, facing the words "Green Bamboo Sect," smiling with ease.

The other disciples of the Green Bamboo Sect sat around him, waiting for him to begin his explanation.

Fang Bai raised his hand, pointing to the three words on the stone tablet, and said loudly, "These three words do indeed contain some Taoist rhyme. The so-called Dao here includes countless laws, integrated into all things, existing in nature in various forms..."

Over a hundred disciples of the Green Bamboo Sect sat silently, listening carefully to Fang Bai's explanation.

Meanwhile, more disciples of the Green Bamboo Sect were gathering toward the stone tablet, drawn by Fang Bai's explanation, silently taking their seats to join the listening group.

Inside the bamboo pavilion, Zhongli Tian and the four elders also held their breath, listening intently, their faces solemn.

"...Our cultivation's so-called enlightenment is to transcend oneself, continually ascend, seek the origin of life, and achieve eternity... In the eyes of many cultivators, the Heavenly Dao is equivalent to the Immortal Dao... These three words on the stone tablet, though seeming profound and unfathomable, in essence, they are an Immortal Rank cultivation technique..."

As Fang Bai said this, the disciples of the Green Bamboo Sect sitting around the stone tablet immediately became excited.

They had only heard before that the three words on the stone tablet contained Taoist rhyme, but they didn't understand what it was. Now, with Fang Bai's explanation, they were suddenly enlightened.

"These three words are actually an Immortal Rank cultivation technique!"

"No wonder it's said that if one can comprehend some of it, there's hope to ascend to the Immortal Realm!"

"An Immortal Rank cultivation technique is akin to a celestial text for us, too profound."

"Yes, comprehending an Immortal Rank technique is not easy!"

"Everything depends on fate!"

...

At this time, there were already over a thousand disciples of the Green Bamboo Sect gathered around the stone tablet. Upon learning the three words on the stone tablet were an Immortal Rank technique, everyone's face was filled with excitement.

Fang Bai did not linger on these points, raised his hand, and pointed to the three words, beginning a meticulous explanation from the first stroke of the first word.

When Fang Bai inscribed the words "Green Bamboo Sect" years ago, he imbued them with a thread of his own understanding of Taoist rhyme, writing them with a flourish and embedding the Immortal Rank cultivation technique he had gained by chance into the strokes.

Yet, in the eyes of the Green Bamboo Sect's disciples, those three words, except for their elegant and carefree style, did not reveal anything more.

But now, after Fang Bai's detailed explanation, the strokes of those three words in the eyes of many keenly perceptive disciples seemed to come alive, transforming into thousands of characters, hovering in front of them.

Those thousands of characters were indeed a cultivation technique, far more profound and advanced than anything they had cultivated before.

"This person must be the descendant of Senior Fang! Elders, follow me out to meet him!"

In the bamboo pavilion several miles away, Zhongli Tian listened to Fang Bai's explanation, without missing a word, feeling enlightened, he stood up in excitement.

The other four elders also gained much understanding from Fang Bai's brief explanation, realizing this young man must be a descendant of Senior Fang; otherwise, he couldn't have easily broken the Green Bamboo Sect's Concealment Formation, nor seen the Immortal Rank cultivation technique contained within those three words on the stone tablet.

Thus, led by Zhongli Tian, the five top experts of the Green Bamboo Sect left the bamboo pavilion, striding toward the stone tablet.

Although Zhongli Tian was short and thin, his movements were majestic, exerting a heavy pressure. Within a thousand feet radius centered on him, aside from Fang Bai and the four elders of the Green Bamboo Sect, other powerful beings felt their breath stifle.

The over a thousand disciples of the Green Bamboo Sect who were listening to Fang Bai's explanation sensed this pressure and stood up, making way, looking reverently toward their sect master.

Fang Bai shifted his gaze onto Zhongli Tian, his eyes squinting slightly.

This was the first half-Immortal Rank expert Fang Bai encountered since his rebirth.

Although the other was short and unimpressive, as he came closer step by step, Fang Bai couldn't help but feel the massive pressure, as if a mountain were pressing down on him.

Despite Fang Bai's understanding and insight into the Dao of Cultivation far exceeding all the world's strongest beings, he was still constrained by his current cultivation level, unable to counter a half-Immortal Rank expert, hence why Zhongli Tian's appearance brought him immense pressure.

However, Fang Bai could tell that Zhongli Tian and the four Ninefold Heavenly Tribulation experts behind him bore no malice toward him. Instead, he could read from their expressions that excitement and enthusiasm filled their hearts.

"It seems they already believe that I am the descendant of Fang Bai."

Fang Bai quietly watched Zhongli Tian and the others, standing still, waiting for them to approach.

Zhongli Tian walked up to Fang Bai, glanced at him several times, his eyes showing a different light, then performed a surprising gesture.

He cupped his hands and deeply bowed to Fang Bai.

This was a grand gesture of respect, a ritual of juniors to seniors.

Fang Bai knew that Zhongli Tian was bowing to the Fang Bai of his previous life, not his present self.

"I am Zhongli Tian, the current sect master of Green Bamboo Sect. May I ask your esteemed name, young friend, and your connection to Senior Fang from tens of thousands of years ago?"

After making the grand bow, Zhongli Tian straightened his back and asked with a smile.

Seeing Fang Bai remain smiling and composed in the face of an expert of his half-Immortal Rank, Zhongli Tian was greatly surprised, thinking to himself that this young man was indeed extraordinary.

An ordinary expert at the sixth level of the Heavenly Tribulation would panic at a single glance from Zhongli Tian, breaking into a cold sweat, whereas Fang Bai's expression didn't change, maintaining his

composure. This was indeed rare, indicating he possessed self-control and determination far exceeding that of similar powerhouses.

Chapter 1913: Some Troubles

Facing Zhongli Tian and the other powerful figures of the Green Bamboo Sect, Fang Bai, neither humble nor arrogant, smiled and introduced himself, "What a coincidence, I share the same name as that ancestor Fang Bai from tens of thousands of years ago, also named Fang Bai."

With these words, he not only informed Zhongli Tian of his name, but also emphasized the words "ancestor," indicating that he and Fang Bai from tens of thousands of years ago were of the same sect, with a bloodline connection.

A descendant with a bloodline connection is closer than ordinary master-disciple and trusted friends.

Zhongli Tian and the other Green Bamboo Sect powerhouses understood, if Senior Fang truly had descendants, after tens of thousands of years, many generations would have passed, and having a descendant with the same name wouldn't be unusual.

It should be known that many strong individuals in the world, out of admiration for a certain powerful ancestor, would deliberately give themselves the same name as the ancestor, hoping to reach the ancestor's height in their time.

"So Friend Fang is a descendant of Senior Fang, long have I admired him, long have I admired him!"

Knowing that Fang Bai was a descendant of that Senior Fang from ten thousand years ago, Zhongli Tian was overjoyed, thinking no wonder this Fang Bai could understand the Taoist rhyme within the words "Green Bamboo Sect," presumably because he inherited the cultivation technique secrets of his ancestor Fang Bai.

"If I can keep him here long-term, and have him explain this Immortal Rank Cultivation Technique to the sect's disciples, then the overall strength of the Green Bamboo Sect would surely have a great leap. Besides, if my cultivation level doesn't breakthrough again, I will perish a hundred years later as my life force depletes. If I can achieve sudden enlightenment and ascend by listening to his explanations, I can become an Immortal, gaining ten thousand years of life span."

Thinking of this, Zhongli Tian couldn't hide his excitement, with his body trembling slightly.

Fang Bai exchanged pleasantries with Zhongli Tian for a few moments. Out of concern for the Dragon Maiden, Zhuge Lian, and hundreds of Luoxia Village villagers, he didn't dawdle and got straight to the point, "Sect Master Zhongli, I came to your sect because I have a matter I'd like to request your help with..."

"Speak, whatever the issue, our Green Bamboo Sect will do our utmost to assist."

Currently, Zhongli Tian was eager to keep Fang Bai, agreeing without second thought.

Besides, Fang Bai's ancestor once bestowed great favor upon the Green Bamboo Sect, a matter recorded in the sect's history records, and with that old bond, Zhongli Tian couldn't think of a reason to refuse.

At the moment, Fang Bai recounted the enmity with the Fire Python Sect and being besieged by over ten thousand Fire Python Sect disciples at Fire Python Peak.

A super sect such as the Green Bamboo Sect, although isolated from the world and seldom interacting with external entities, was nevertheless well-informed. Neither major nor minor events in the three thousand grand worlds could escape their attention.

Though the Fire Python Sect wasn't nearly as powerful as the Green Bamboo Sect, it was still a top-tier sect with a practitioner who has reached the ninth level of Heavenly Tribulation, hence Zhongli Tian wasn't unfamiliar with it.

Hearing that Fang Bai was at odds with the Fire Python Sect, Zhongli Tian relaxed and patted his chest, saying, "A minor top-tier sect, easy to deal with. Come, I shall accompany you to the Fire Python Sect."

Fang Bai smiled, "Sect Master Zhong, you are mistaken, from today onward, there is no more Fire Python Sect in the world; in its place stands the Luoxia Sect."

Zhongli Tian was taken aback, then immediately realized, and smiled wryly, "Friend Fang, you mean... to destroy the Fire Python Sect?"

Seeing Fang Bai nod, Zhongli Tian couldn't help but rub his hands and frown, "That would be somewhat troublesome..."

Fang Bai's heart stirred as he asked, "Could it be that the Fire Python Sect has some powerful backing?"

Zhongli Tian replied, "As far as I know, the Fire Python Sect offers tributes to the Light Sect annually and is under its protection. The Light Sect is a super sect of equal strength to ours; it's not an entity to provoke lightly."

Fang Bai said, "It seems Sect Master Zhong is somewhat apprehensive of the Light Sect!"

Zhongli Tian did not deny, and sighed, "You are correct, Friend Fang. The Sect Master of the Light Sect, Jing Xuantian, possesses a cultivation level comparable to mine, but by coincidence a century ago, he obtained a Half-Immortal Rank Spiritual Artifact, thus his combat prowess slightly exceeds mine. In a fight with him, I am not his match."

After a pause, he continued, "At our level of engagement, a small weakness can decide life and death. Therefore, unless absolutely necessary, I do not wish to start a war with the Light Sect!"

Fang Bai understood Zhongli Tian; as Sect Master and the Green Bamboo Sect's only Half-Immortal Rank expert, his existence was crucial to the sect.

It can be said without exaggeration, if Zhongli Tian were to fall in a battle with the Light Sect's Sect Master Jing Xuantian, the Green Bamboo Sect might face a calamity and perhaps disintegrate.

"A mere Half-Immortal Rank Spiritual Artifact..."

Fang Bai sneered, showing disdain, said, "I have a spiritual artifact here, which I will lend to you. With it, you can contend with the Light Sect's Sect Master, without fear!"

While speaking, with a thought, the sword-shaped Immortal Artifact acquired beneath the rift of the Blood Sea Desert flew out from within the Five Elements Space Ring and hovered before Zhongli Tian.

Fang Bai released the restriction on the Immortal Sword, allowing Zhongli Tian to merge his Divine Sense with it, then infused it with his blood essence, making the Immortal Sword temporarily his own.

"See if this sword suits you!"

Fang Bai smiled as he spoke to Zhongli Tian, who was beaming with joy.

The moment Zhongli Tian saw the Immortal Sword, he felt it was extraordinary, believing that it should also be a Half-Immortal Rank Spiritual Artifact. With this sword in hand, his battle prowess would soar, and naturally, he wouldn't fear the Light Sect's Jing Xuantian.

Zhongli Tian originally wielded a sword-shaped Spiritual Artifact, so switching to another sword didn't seem awkward.

Grasping the Immortal Sword, he soared into the sky, slashing with great joy, feeling its power seemed to exceed expectations, and excitedly cried out.

"With this sword, I'm confident in facing off against Jing Xuantian!"

Zhongli Tian landed in front of Fang Bai, fondly caressing the Immortal Sword a few times, then put it away, laughing loudly said, "Friend Fang, there is no time to lose, let us depart for Fire Python... no, I mean Luoxia Sect! Elder Lin, Elder Zheng, you two bring along four stewards of our sect and follow me!"

The Fire Python Sect has over ten thousand powerhouses on their side. As confident as Zhongli Tian was, he wouldn't go alone with Fang Bai without support, thus he brought along two Elders and four stewards.

With these individuals, it would be sufficient to kill their way through the over ten thousand disciples of the Fire Python Sect.

According to Fang Bai, although the Fire Python Sect had over ten thousand disciples, there were only eight senior members. Once they were eliminated, the ten thousand disciples would fall into disarray and pose no threat.

Elder Lin and Elder Zheng responded in agreement and randomly selected four from the eight stewards, then left the Green Bamboo Sect with Fang Bai and Zhongli Tian, flying towards Fire Python Mountain.

The Green Bamboo Sect, protected by a Concealment Formation, had no worry of external foes taking advantage when Zhongli Tian and the others departed.

Chapter 1914: Get Out Here!

At this moment, Fire Python Peak, located ten thousand miles away from Green Bamboo Sect, was undergoing relentless and continuous assaults by tens of thousands of powerful figures from Fire Python Sect.

To breach Fire Python Peak's defenses early and massacre hundreds of villagers from Luoxia Village, tens of thousands of Fire Python Sect warriors, under the command of Fire Python Sect Master Shi Chengjin, fell into a frenzy, unleashing their full force with each wave of attack.

And the defensive array set by Fang Bai would violently tremble with each attack, as if it were about to shatter and collapse in the next moment.

Without Fang Bai here, hundreds of villagers from Luoxia Village seemed to have lost their backbone. Whenever the formation shook violently, they would become anxious and worried.

However, Dragon Maiden, Zhuge Lian, and Huo Hai remained relatively calm.

According to Fang Bai's instructions before he left, as soon as they discovered that the defensive array was shaking beyond a certain limit, they would inject the spirit stones from their Space Rings into the array patterns surrounding the peak to maintain the formation's normal operation, preventing it from being breached too quickly.

Beneath the Sect Master Hall of Fire Python Sect behind them lay the place where the sect had accumulated cultivation resources for thousands of years, filled with countless Spirit Stones, ensuring they wouldn't run out.

As per Fang Bai's estimate, even if the disciples of Fire Python Sect attacked with full force, this defensive array could hold out for at least half a month, and Dragon Maiden, Zhuge Lian, and others wouldn't be in danger during this period.

"Everyone, don't worry! Fang Bai has gone to seek reinforcements and should be back soon!"

Seeing some villagers looking worried and anxious, Dragon Maiden shouted loudly.

Zhuge Lian also said, "No matter what, Fang Bai would never abandon us! I believe, maybe today, maybe tomorrow, Brother Fang will return with reinforcements!"

As she spoke, Dragon Maiden sensed something and looked towards the southern sky, where several figures were speeding towards them like meteors.

Although still far away, Dragon Maiden already felt Fang Bai's presence, knowing that among those figures, Fang Bai must be there.

"He's back! Fang Bai is back!"

Dragon Maiden couldn't help but shout with joy, then let out a sigh of relief.

Once Fang Bai returned, he could bear all the burdens for them, and all they had to do was silently support him from behind.

Huo Hai and other villagers of Luoxia Village also looked up at the southern sky. Seeing that there weren't as many reinforcements as they imagined, a few showed signs of disappointment in their eyes.

In their view, Fang Bai coming with only a few "reinforcements" couldn't possibly stand against the tens of thousands of powerful fighters from Fire Python Sect.

"This is..."

Even Huo Hai felt a sense of absurdity when he saw Fang Bai returning with only a handful of people.

He thought Fang Bai would bring hundreds to thousands of reinforcements, even if not as numerous as Fire Python Sect's disciples, but what he saw was pitifully few.

"Unless those are all ninth-level heavenly tribulation experts, otherwise facing over ten thousand strong fighters from Fire Python Sect, they might as well be courting death."

Huo Hai lamented in his heart.

The villagers of Luoxia Village, including Huo Hai, couldn't sense the aura of Zhongli Tian and other powerful figures from Green Bamboo Sect, so they had no way to know their strength. They assumed that since they were Fang Bai's friends, their strength would not surpass Fang Bai by much, perhaps seventh or eighth-level heavenly tribulation at most.

Though experts of seventh and eighth-level heavenly tribulation were definitely powerful, in this situation, their impact would clearly be minimal, not enough to stop the attack from over ten thousand Fire Python Sect warriors.

Meanwhile, Fire Python Sect Master Shi Chengjin had felt the aura of Fang Bai and others early on. Among those accompanying Fang Bai, there were four experts of eighth-level heavenly tribulation, two comparable to himself, and one whose strength he couldn't even discern, which shocked him greatly.

"Could that short, lean elder be a Demi Immortal?"

Shi Chengjin looked towards Zhongli Tian from afar, unable to fathom where Fang Bai had found such powerful allies.

In that instant, Shi Chengjin felt an urge to flee.

If only Zhongli Tian had come, Shi Chengjin could have joined forces with tens of thousands of Fire Python Sect disciples to possibly confront him. But now, accompanying Zhongli Tian were two ninth-

level heavenly tribulation experts and four eighth-level experts. If they attacked from different directions with him as the target, then the ten thousand disciples of Fire Python Sect were completely defenseless.

If they first killed him, the tens of thousands of powerful figures in Fire Python Sect would lose their fighting spirit, pushing the sect to the brink of collapse.

Shi Chengjin shivered at this thought.

Yet immediately, he remembered the powerful backing of Fire Python Sect, which boosted his confidence once more.

He planned that should Zhongli Tian and others intervene, he would invoke this backing to intimidate them, making them hesitate to go too far.

Shi Chengjin didn't believe that anyone would dare oppose a super sect like the Light Sect.

In an instant, Fang Bai, Zhongli Tian, and others arrived near Fire Python Peak.

"Who is the Fire Python Sect Master? Get out here!"

On his first glance upon arrival, Zhongli Tian could tell who were the disciples of Fire Python Sect and gave a light shout towards their densest section.

Though his was a light shout, to those Fire Python Sect disciples, it was like thunderclaps beside their ears, shaking their blood and making their eardrums roar. Some couldn't withstand it and bled through their seven orifices, falling from the sky.

Even the powerful Shi Chengjin staggered, nearly losing his balance.

"Turns out he really is a Demi Immortal!"

Shi Chengjin's face turned pale, his expression changing as he struggled to maintain his composure, stepping out from the crowd to float dozens of feet away from Zhongli Tian.

"I am Shi Chengjin, the Fire Python Sect Master. May I know how I can assist the esteemed senior?"

Shi Chengjin cupped his hands in salute, his demeanor respectful.

Though he had strong backing, Shi Chengjin dared not disrespect Zhongli Tian since Zhongli Tian's strength could easily suppress him. If he angered Zhongli Tian, and he acted recklessly, Shi Chengjin wouldn't escape with his life.

One must bow under the eaves.

Shi Chengjin understood this proverbial logic.

Although he had backing, it wasn't present at the scene, and if provoked, it would be him who suffered.

Zhongli Tian glanced at Shi Chengjin, murderous intent flashing in his eyes, shouting sternly, "Are you the Fire Python Sect Master? Very well, prepare to die!"

With a swift green flash, the Immortal Sword Fang Bai had given to Zhongli Tian was unsheathed, swift as lightning, tearing through space and air, shooting towards Shi Chengjin.

Even though the Immortal Sword could only unleash the battle power of a half-immortal level spiritual artifact, wielded by Zhongli Tian at half-immortal rank, its thrust seemed to pierce through the void, unstoppable and shockingly fierce.

With Fang Bai's Immortal Sword as support, Zhongli Tian feared not the backing of Fire Python Sect and had no apprehensions about destroying it.

Shi Chengjin didn't expect Zhongli Tian to attack so resolutely. Seeing the sword strike, he realized he couldn't block it by his own power, terrified to the core.

In his panic and fright, regardless of anything else, Shi Chengjin waved both hands to either side, immediately grabbing several elite disciples of Fire Python Sect with his Spirit Qi Big Palm, hurling them into the path of the Immortal Sword's thrust.

Chapter 1915: Unimaginable

"Puff!"

"Puff!"

"Puff!"

...

Several soft sounds echoed as the immortal sword unleashed by Zhongli Tian pierced through the bodies of several disciples of the Fire Python Sect, whose forms instantly turned into clouds of blood mist dispersing into the air.

After piercing through several Fire Python Sect disciples, the immortal sword did not lose momentum; its target remained Shi Chengjin.

Shi Chengjin retreated with all his might, while his hands continuously grabbed disciples of the Fire Python Sect, throwing them forward to intercept the sword's attack.

With cries of anguish, in the blink of an eye, over ten disciples of the Fire Python Sect perished under Zhongli Tian's immortal sword, transforming into blood mist that vanished into the heavens and earth.

The tactics of Shi Chengjin left the thousands of disciples of the Fire Python Sect on site feeling a chilling cold in their bones, causing them to scatter in escape, lest they become sacrificial pawns for their own sect master.

Due to the obstruction posed by the bodies of over ten disciples, the immortal sword unleashed by Zhongli Tian significantly weakened, allowing Shi Chengjin to narrowly escape disaster.

Yet, Shi Chengjin had been so terrified by the sword's aura that he was left trembling, and after escaping the attack, he dared not linger, transforming into a stream of light and fleeing towards the distant horizon.

At that moment, Shi Chengjin thought only of his own escape, caring not for the lives of the thousands of disciples within the sect.

As the sect master of the Fire Python Sect, Shi Chengjin fled in panic, leaving behind the disciples, who naturally lost all confidence and courage to continue fighting, causing immediate disbandment and dispersal.

Thus, the encirclement of thousands of Fire Python Sect disciples around Fire Python Peak shattered without a fight.

"Well done!"

On the summit of Fire Python Peak, hundreds of villagers from Luoxia Village saw Fang Bai's return, which instantly reversed the situation on the scene, and they couldn't help but let out thunderous cheers, each face wearing a long-lost smile.

"I will kill him!"

Zhongli Tian felt humiliated for failing to kill Shi Chengjin on the spot and immediately wielded the immortal sword to pursue Shi Chengjin.

Fang Bai knew that under Zhongli Tian's relentless pursuit, Shi Chengjin was doomed, so he deactivated the defense array of Fire Python Peak and descended onto the summit with several strong figures from the Green Bamboo Sect.

Hundreds of villagers from Luoxia Village watched Fang Bai and the few strong figures he brought with awe and reverence in their eyes.

Dragon Maiden and Zhuge Lian stood among the villagers, their eyes filled with autumn-like waves, gazing at Fang Bai with infinite joy.

Huo Hai hurriedly approached Fang Bai and the others, deeply bowing, and said solemnly, "Thank you, Senior Fang, and all the seniors for your assistance. All the villagers of Luoxia Village will not forget."

"You're too kind."

The high-level figures of the Green Bamboo Sect were unaware of Huo Hai's status but, seeing his familiarity with Fang Bai, dared not be rude and nodded with smiles.

Fang Bai smiled at Huo Hai and said, "It's not Luoxia Village; it's Luoxia Sect! Sect Master Huo, you've forgotten again!"

Huo Hai scratched his head, smiling wryly, "Yes! Yes! It's Luoxia Sect! I said it out of habit and found it difficult to change instantly."

Fang Bai introduced Huo Hai to the high-level members of the Green Bamboo Sect, and upon learning that these guests were high-level figures from a super sect, Huo Hai's heart raced with excitement, feeling even more grateful to Fang Bai.

Without Fang Bai, high-level figures from a super sect like the Green Bamboo Sect would never pay attention to someone like him, not even sparing a glance.

Now, the powerful figures at the eighth and ninth levels of Heavenly Tribulation from a super sect greeted him, a lowly sect master, with smiles and courtesy.

Such circumstances were beyond Huo Hai's wildest imagination.

Fang Bai then introduced Dragon Maiden and Zhuge Lian to the high-level members of the Green Bamboo Sect.

Though Fang Bai didn't explain his relationship with the two women, each high-level member of the Green Bamboo Sect was worldly-wise, naturally perceiving the close ties between Fang Bai and the women, at least as very intimate confidantes, if not Martial Dao companions.

Such ties were enough to make the Green Bamboo Sect senior members look at Dragon Maiden and Zhuge Lian with admiration, speaking courteously to them.

Everyone stood on the summit of Fire Python Peak, exchanging pleasantries while waiting for Zhongli Tian's return.

Dozens of breaths later, Zhongli Tian flew back, wielding his immortal sword and holding a head in his hand, the head of the Fire Python Sect Master, Shi Chengjin.

"This fellow escaped quickly, but still couldn't escape the palm of my hand!"

Zhongli Tian said as he tossed Shi Chengjin's head into the air and flicked a spirit energy stream, which struck the head, causing it to explode into a mist of blood.

Thus, the Fire Python Sect, once one of the top sects in the great world of three thousand, vanished without a trace.

Huo Hai watched Shi Chengjin's demise firsthand, letting out a long breath of relief, contemplating how Luoxia Sect would now occupy the Fire Python Sect's territory and enjoy its centuries-old cultivation resources.

Luoxia Sect's rise and prosperity were imminent.

"Seniors, please enter the Sect Master Hall for conversation."

Huo Hai enthusiastically invited Fang Bai, Zhongli Tian, and the Green Bamboo Sect's strong members.

To Huo Hai, Luoxia Sect was in its initial phase and very weak. Establishing ties with the Green Bamboo Sect and seeking their protection promised a peaceful future.

Inside the Sect Master Hall, Fang Bai and Zhongli Tian casually took their seats. Huo Hai dared not take the master seat but accompanied them in a lower seat, while the high-level members of the Green Bamboo Sect sat in stone chairs across, leaving the once high-positioned sect master chair empty.

"Sect Master Zhong, had it not been for your support, along with the elders and stewards, Luoxia Sect would have been in peril. On behalf of Sect Master Huo and all Luoxia Sect disciples, I thank you."

Fang Bai sat in the chair without standing, casually hugging his fists toward Zhongli Tian to express gratitude.

He dared do so, but Huo Hai couldn't; upon hearing his words, Huo Hai hurriedly rose, embraced his fists, and bowed deeply in thanks.

For Zhongli Tian, whether it was Senior Fang from a past life or the descendant before him, both had greatly benefitted the Green Bamboo Sect. So, upon hearing Fang Bai's words, he also hugged his fists and said, "Friend Fang praises me! If thanks are due, they're to you!"

Fang Bai laughed, "Alright, let's stop with the politeness! In the future, Green Bamboo Sect and Luoxia Sect will look after each other, and neither will need to say thanks!"

In the future, Zhongli Tian would still need Fang Bai's help to explain the immortal rank cultivation techniques engraved on his sect's stone tablet for himself and all his sect disciples, so he was eager for Fang Bai's notion of mutual care, responding affirmatively.

Huo Hai was shocked and puzzled upon hearing Zhongli Tian call Fang Bai "friend," wondering why they regarded each other as equals when Fang Bai was so young and still not on par with Zhongli Tian in strength.

Unable to understand the reason, Huo Hai chose not to dwell on it. Regardless, Fang Bai was now the honorary elder of Luoxia Sect, and his amicable relationship with the Green Bamboo Sect master brought limitless benefits to Luoxia Sect and was a tremendous opportunity.

Chapter 1916: Zhongli Tian Is Very Excited

“Although we have extinguished the Fire Python Sect this time, the Bright Sect behind it will surely not let it go! I believe it won’t be long before the Bright Sect comes to hold us accountable.”

After the people in the hall chatted about some light topics, Zhongli Tian suddenly spoke seriously.

Huo Hai didn’t know what kind of sect the Bright Sect was, but upon hearing that it was the Fire Python Sect’s backing, he felt a vague sense of awe and cautiously asked, “Senior, forgive my ignorance, but may I ask what kind of sect the Bright Sect is?”

Zhongli Tian replied, “The Bright Sect is similar to our Green Bamboo Sect; it is also a Super Sect with a Half-Immortal Rank powerhouse stationed! Their Sect Master’s strength is not inferior to mine.”

“Ah...”

Zhongli Tian’s words poured over Huo Hai like a bucket of cold water, chilling him from head to toe.

In the battle with the Fire Python Sect, although the Fire Python Sect Master Shi Chengjin was beheaded, many of his disciples escaped. Some of them will surely go to the Bright Sect to file a complaint. If the Bright Sect comes to hold us accountable, what are we going to do?

Huo Hai felt a chill in his heart, sat in the chair with a vacant stare, as if his soul had left him.

Even though Fang Bai had just mentioned that the two sects should look out for each other, Huo Hai did not dare to hope that the Green Bamboo Sect would go to war with the equally powerful Bright Sect for the sake of the small Luoxia Sect.

Thinking of Fang Bai, a glimmer of hope ignited in Huo Hai’s heart, and he looked up at him.

Seeing Huo Hai's lost and forlorn look, Fang Bai, knowing that he was greatly frightened by Zhongli Tian's words, smiled and said, "Sect Master Huo, don't worry too much. It's fine if the Bright Sect doesn't come, but if they do, we'll just deal with them."

Huo Hai's mouth was full of bitterness, and he sighed, "How can we handle it? The opponent is a Super Sect, and if their Sect Master makes a move, a single slap could wipe us all out!"

Fang Bai said, "If we can't handle it, isn't there still the Green Bamboo Sect? Sect Master Zhongli said that they will not stand aside in this matter!"

"Really?"

Upon hearing this, Huo Hai immediately sat up straight, his spirits lifted, and his eyes regained their sparkle.

Zhongli Tian nodded and said, "That's right, if the Bright Sect comes, our Green Bamboo Sect's experts will take the lead!"

Huo Hai let out a long breath, his previously despairing spirit now filled with hope, and he felt much relieved.

"Friend Fang's ancestors did a great kindness to our Green Bamboo Sect, a kindness that our sect disciples have remembered for generations. Now that Friend Fang has matters, how can we stand aside?"

Zhongli Tian added.

Fang Bai understood that Zhongli Tian's enthusiasm was related to the set of Immortal Rank Cultivation Technique he explained, so he also stated, "After this matter is over, I will stay in the Green Bamboo Sect for a while to explain the Cultivation Method on the stone stele to your disciples. As for Sect Master Zhongli, if you diligently comprehend that Cultivation Method, you are likely to advance further within sixty years."

“Really?”

Upon hearing Fang Bai’s words, Zhongli Tian became even more excited than Huo Hai earlier, his eyes glimmering with joy,

Currently, Zhongli Tian is already a Half-Immortal Rank expert, and if he advances further as Fang Bai said, wouldn’t he ascend to become an Immortal?

Zhongli Tian has only a century of life left; if he cannot break through in this century, he will perish, returning to dust like all other strong practitioners.

But if he can ascend to become an Immortal within a hundred years and enter the nine great Heavenly Domains of the Immortal Realm, his lifespan will be greatly extended.

If he can continue to make breakthroughs in the Immortal Realm, his lifespan will increase, becoming even more eternal, ultimately achieving the eternal realm, and attaining immortality is not impossible.

Therefore, when Fang Bai said that Zhongli Tian had hope of advancing within sixty years, how could Zhongli Tian not be excited?

A cycle of sixty years is not long for the already centuries-old Zhongli Tian; he has the patience to focus on cultivation.

“Indeed! With good luck, it might not even take sixty years!”

Fang Bai seriously said.

If anyone else had said this, Zhongli Tian would not have believed it and would not have been so excited.

But Fang Bai was different; he was the descendant of Senior Fang, and Senior Fang had ascended to become an Immortal tens of thousands of years ago and had comprehended the Heavenly Dao before ascending.

Zhongli Tian was sure that the extraordinarily talented Senior Fang of tens of thousands of years ago must have passed down all his Cultivation Techniques and secret techniques before ascending to the Immortal Realm, otherwise how could Fang Bai, as his descendant, see through the Taoist Rhyme contained in the three words “Green Bamboo Sect” and explain the Immortal Rank Cultivation Method to his disciples?

Even though Zhongli Tian is now a Half-Immortal Rank expert, just half a step away from entering the Immortal Rank realm, it’s that mere half-step that he can never cross without the right opportunity.

Thinking that he has the hope of becoming an Immortal and no longer needs to worry about perishing a hundred years later, Zhongli Tian breathed a long sigh of relief, feeling much more relaxed than Huo Hai earlier.

“Steward Liu, Steward Feng, please return to the Green Bamboo Sect, dispatch ten thousand elite disciples to Luoxia Sect, and prepare to confront the Bright Sect’s invasion. Also, send disciples to closely monitor the Bright Sect’s movements. If there is any unusual activity from the Bright Sect, report it immediately.”

In the past, if a full-scale conflict broke out with a strong sect like the Bright Sect of the same level, Zhongli Tian would certainly hesitate.

Because a battle between two Super Sects would undoubtedly result in heavy losses for both sides, which would not be in the Green Bamboo Sect’s interest.

But now, seeing the hope of becoming an Immortal, Zhongli Tian is willing to pay a great price for it.

Besides, Zhongli Tian has already decided that once his cultivation level breaks through, he would take the opportunity before ascending to the Immortal Realm to suppress the Bright Sect Master Jing Xuantian, help his sect destroy the Bright Sect, and demand compensation doubly for the loss.

After Steward Liu and Steward Feng left with orders, Zhongli Tian, together with Fang Bai and Huo Hai, discussed in the Sect Master Hall how to deal with the Bright Sect’s large-scale invasion.

In the following days, although knowing that a great war might descend, the entire Luoxia Sect remained relaxed, with no one worrying or fretting about it.

For the hundreds of disciples of the Luoxia Sect, with the Sect Master of a Super Sect like the Green Bamboo Sect in charge, and more than ten thousand elite disciples under their banner helping to fend off a formidable enemy, what is there to worry about?

Fang Bai was not idle these days either. To quickly enhance the overall strength of the Luoxia Sect's disciples, he spent every day from morning to night explaining Cultivation Techniques and demonstrating secret techniques to them in the square in front of the Sect Master Hall.

During these times, the Dragon Maiden and Zhuge Lian would also sit beside him and listen.

Even Zhongli Tian and several senior members of the Green Bamboo Sect would join the fun and listen from afar.

What Fang Bai explained to the disciples of the Luoxia Sect was naturally also Immortal Rank Cultivation Techniques.

In Fang Bai's view, among the hundreds of Luoxia Sect disciples, some of them are not lacking in aptitude. Explaining Immortal Rank Cultivation Techniques to them meant that as long as they could comprehend a bit, their strength could quickly improve.

Although this approach is tantamount to forcing growth, Fang Bai has his ways to help them stabilize their realm after they break through.

Chapter 1917: Asking While Knowing the Answer

After several consecutive days of explanations, the Disciples of Luoxia Sect couldn't comprehend much. However, the Dragon Maiden, Zhuge Lian, and Zhongli Tian gained considerable insights.

"The things that Fang Bai explains, every word and phrase, contain Great Dao Principles, profound and mysterious, incredibly marvelous. Could these be secret techniques of Immortal Rank cultivation techniques?"

Although Zhongli Tian is a Half-Immortal Rank expert, he feels that this young man's insights into cultivation far exceed his own upon hearing Fang Bai's explanations, which astonishes him greatly.

The words and phrases explained by Fang Bai, even someone like Zhongli Tian, a veteran of hundreds of years of cultivation, finds them difficult to fully understand in a short time. Thus, he can only memorize them firmly, intending to study them closely when he has more leisure time in the future.

A fortnight later, a Disciple from the Green Bamboo Sect, responsible for monitoring the trends of the Light Sect, came to report. Sect Master Jing Xuantian of the Light Sect, guided by a fleeing Elder of the Fire Python Sect, was personally leading close to ten thousand elite Disciples to Luoxia Sect, claiming to seek justice for the Fire Python Sect.

"Knowing Jing Xuantian's character, coming this grandly is a lie to seek justice for the Fire Python Sect; his true intent is to annex the Fire Python Sect's Cultivation Resources!"

Zhongli Tian said with a sneer after hearing this.

Zhongli Tian knows that Jing Xuantian is not one to rise early without profit. After Shi Chengjin's demise, the Fire Python Sect was headless with tens of thousands of Disciples dispersed, making it already nominally defunct. The Light Sect has no reason for shelter. The reason for coming in force must be for the Fire Python Sect's millennium-accumulated Cultivation Resources.

Although Zhongli Tian does not fear the Light Sect in the slightest, the opponent is a strong sect of the same level as the Green Bamboo Sect, and he dares not be careless.

He knows the Light Sect's tens of thousands of Disciples will attack Luoxia Sect in a few days, so he starts arranging troops, making preparations for the upcoming battle.

The team coming from the Light Sect to raise troops and question the crime came very quickly. Six days later, led by Sect Master Jing Xuantian, tens of thousands of Disciples arrived in a dense mass before the gate of Luoxia Sect, with magnificent momentum and grand awe.

While on Luoxia Sect's side, hundreds of Disciples, plus tens of thousands from the supporting Green Bamboo Sect, were layered like an iron wall, blocking the path of tens of thousands of Disciples from the Light Sect, with equally impressive momentum.

Both sides recognized the strength of each other's formation and did not act rashly, standing off a few hundred feet apart.

"Sect Master Jing, bringing so many here to Luoxia Sect, what is the reason?"

Zhongli Tian took steps in the void, stepped forward out of the crowd, and asked loudly, facing Jing Xuantian.

Jing Xuantian also stepped forward and sneered at Zhongli Tian: "Why must Sect Master Zhongli ask when you already know?"

The Light Sect, like the Green Bamboo Sect, appeared isolated from the world but had extremely informed sources, already understanding the causes and consequences of the Fire Python Sect incident.

The Fire Python Sect had long been under the Light Sect's protection. Now it was destroyed by a small fledgling sect, and its territory occupied, while the Green Bamboo Sect stepped in for protection. This seriously challenged the Light Sect's status and authority, making Jing Xuantian quite indignant.

Bringing thousands of elite Disciples this time was not a spur-of-the-moment decision but rather a certainty that the Green Bamboo Sect wouldn't completely fall out with the Light Sect to protect a small start-up sect, as this wouldn't benefit the Green Bamboo Sect.

Jing Xuantian planned to first threaten and intimidate the Green Bamboo Sect upon arriving at the Fire Python Sect, demanding their withdrawal from the Fire Python Sect's territory and returning Fire Python Mountain to the Fire Python Sect Disciples.

If that move didn't work, he hoped they could equally divide the Fire Python Sect's Cultivation Resources, withdrawing with satisfactory benefits from this dispute.

He believed the Green Bamboo Sect would not hold onto a risk of mutual destruction and would not refuse to negotiate with him.

Of course, if the two sides really couldn't reach an agreement, Jing Xuantian was also prepared to start a battle, as he was convinced that with a Half-Immortal Rank Spiritual Artifact in hand, he could suppress Zhongli Tian in strength.

Thus, this dispute would ultimately end with a victory for his side.

Though some cost would be paid, compared to the gain, Jing Xuantian deemed it extremely worth it, as the Fire Python Sect was a top-notch sect with no small amount of Cultivation Resources accumulated over millennia.

"If Sect Master Jing came for the Fire Python Sect, I urge you: do not meddle in this matter!"

Zhongli Tian stroked his long beard and said coldly: "The Fire Python Sect dared to attempt the destruction of our allied Luoxia Sect. Naturally, I cannot tolerate it!"

He referred to Luoxia Sect as a "partner" of Green Bamboo Sect, thereby expressing his resolution to advance and retreat with Luoxia Sect.

Jing Xuantian, upon hearing this, did not become angry. Instead, he laughed and said: "Does Sect Master Zhongli not know that the Fire Python Sect is also an ally of our Light Sect? Now that the Fire Python Sect is destroyed, and its sect territory taken, can we just watch?"

Zhongli Tian sneered: "The Fire Python Sect brought its destruction upon itself by causing trouble. Sect Master Jing, are you planning to forcibly stand up for them?"

Jing Xuantian took a deep breath and said solemnly: "Even if the Fire Python Sect was wrong, harsh punishment should suffice. Destroying the sect was too vicious, wasn't it? Doesn't Sect Master Zhongli care about our Light Sect's feelings? If this matter doesn't have a fair explanation, where is our Light Sect's face to stand in the world?"

Zhongli Tian, smiling all over his face, said: "I'm not sure what Sect Master Jing means by a 'fair explanation.' Forgive my ignorance, but could Sect Master Jing make it clearer?"

Jing Xuantian froze for a moment, then gnashed his teeth, thinking to himself how he had already said it so plainly. Didn't believe an old fox like you wouldn't understand. Do I need to say it directly and bluntly?

He glanced at the Elder of the Fire Python Sect standing beside him, cleared his throat, and said: "Well... I think it's better to resolve enmity than create it. If you would apologize and immediately withdraw from Fire Python Mountain, then we can let this matter go..."

The Elder of the Fire Python Sect beside him was momentarily astonished, then seemed to understand something, full of unwillingness.

Previously, fleeing to the Light Sect like a homeless dog, he hoped that the Light Sect, considering the Fire Python Sect's regular Tributes of Cultivation Resources, could bring him back to fight for the fallen Fire Python Sect strong men.

But now it seems that Jing Xuantian, concerned with his interests, did not want a major conflict with the Green Bamboo Sect but aimed to minimize the issue.

However, the Elder of the Fire Python Sect also figured it out: retaining the sect's millennium-accumulated Cultivation Resources was already incredibly valuable. So seeking revenge for the fallen powerhouses was unrealistic.

As long as they could reoccupy Fire Python Mountain, the dispersed tens of thousands of Disciples of the Fire Python Sect could potentially regroup, and possessing significant Cultivation Resources, there could be a day when the Fire Python Sect rises again.

"Apologize? Withdraw from Fire Python Mountain? Ha... Haha..."

Zhongli Tian laughed aloud and said: "Sect Master Jing, if you were in my shoes, would you do such a thing?"

Chapter 1918: Battle of the Half-Immortal Rank

Jing Xuantian was naturally aware that the conditions he proposed were ones that Zhongli Tian would never agree to, so he wasn't surprised by Zhongli Tian's refusal.

"In that case... no need for an apology, just withdraw from Fire Python Mountain immediately!"

Jing Xuantian made a concession.

Zhongli Tian remained silent, looking at Jing Xuantian with a faint smile, seemingly waiting for him to continue his offer.

"Withdraw from Fire Python Mountain, and you're allowed to take away twenty percent of the Fire Python Sect's cultivation resources... this is our bottom line!"

Jing Xuantian made a significant compromise this time.

In Jing Xuantian's view, the Fire Python Sect, having been established for thousands of years, must have substantial cultivation resources stored. Allowing the Green Bamboo Sect to take away twenty percent was already a considerable amount.

Seeing Zhongli Tian still saying nothing, Jing Xuantian became furious and said in a deep voice, "Sect Master Zhongli, I've already conceded repeatedly. One must know when to be satisfied!"

Zhongli Tian smiled faintly and said leisurely, "Fire Python Mountain has already been renamed Luoxia Mountain. From now on, only the Luoxia Sect exists here, not the Fire Python Sect. Additionally, all cultivation resources here belong to the Luoxia Sect, and no one else should covet them! Otherwise, they will be our enemy, the Green Bamboo Sect!"

Seeing that he not only refused to make any concessions but also displayed an aggressive stance, Jing Xuantian couldn't help but become enraged. He stepped forward, his overwhelming pressure surged forth, and he shouted angrily, "Old Zhongli, do you really want to break off all relations?"

Zhongli Tian retaliated with the same pressure, laughing loudly, "So what if we break off relations? Jing Xuantian, what can you do about it?"

Jing Xuantian raised his hands, and a pair of Dark Iron Clubs appeared in them, a Half-Immortal Rank Spiritual Artifact he had obtained by chance.

Holding the iron clubs, he stepped forward through the air, closing in on Zhongli Tian step by step, and said coldly, "Thirty years ago, in a battle between you and me, you fled after a thousand moves. Today, let me see just how much you've improved over these thirty years!"

With the iron clubs in hand, the pressure he released suddenly increased by several degrees, so much so that even those like Huo Hai standing hundreds of meters away at the mountain summit could feel the overwhelming pressure of a collapsing mountain, inducing a sense of fear.

The two Elders from the Green Bamboo Sect worked together to set up a spiritual energy defensive barrier in front of everyone, countering the surging pressure from Jing Xuantian, allowing Huo Hai and others to breathe a sigh of relief.

Zhongli Tian, who bore the brunt, naturally felt the pressure from Jing Xuantian, and his expression changed slightly.

"Thirty years ago, you could beat me only because of the advantage of the spiritual artifact in your hand. Now, history won't repeat itself!"

He displayed a confident smile on his face, summoned an Immortal Sword, and held it across his chest. The sword unleashed a brilliant Green Glow, immediately neutralizing the pressure from Jing Xuantian.

"That sword of yours... it couldn't be a Half-Immortal Rank Spiritual Artifact too, could it?"

Seeing the sword in Zhongli Tian's hand, Jing Xuantian's face couldn't help but change, and he exclaimed involuntarily.

Zhongli Tian chuckled proudly and said, "If you can have a Half-Immortal Rank Spiritual Artifact, why can't I? Come, Jing Xuantian, and see for yourself just how much I've improved in these thirty years!"

Jing Xuantian's expression fluctuated as he became sinister, feeling the situation go awry.

Just as Zhongli Tian had mentioned earlier, he could only defeat Zhongli Tian back then by relying on the assistance of his pair of iron clubs, and not his own power. If this advantage were negated, beating Zhongli Tian would be nearly impossible.

Comparing both sides' overall strength, Jing Xuantian found it to be fairly even. If a full-scale conflict broke out, both sides would suffer heavy losses.

This was quite different from what Jing Xuantian had anticipated and was something he was unwilling to see.

"Fight, or not fight?"

For a moment, Jing Xuantian was in a dilemma, undecided.

"Jing Xuantian, I know you have concerns and don't want an all-out war. In fact, neither do I. How about you and I battle it out? If you win, I'll leave immediately with my men, and everything here will belong to you. Conversely, you leave with your men and no longer meddle in this matter. How about it?"

With his sword in hand, Zhongli Tian felt a surge of ambition, pointing the Immortal Sword at Jing Xuantian, and said aloud.

This statement gave Jing Xuantian an out, and he responded immediately, "Fine! Let's have a duel! If you lose, you leave! If I lose, I leave!"

At this point, both stopped being verbose, holding their Half-Immortal Rank Spiritual Artifacts, charging towards each other forcefully.

Both were the top experts of the time, wielding supreme power with each move, and with their Half-Immortal Rank Spiritual Artifacts assisting, their attacks and defenses showed an unparalleled strong force.

Within a thousand-meter radius centered on them, waves of energy swept through, spiritual energy surged, and images of clubs and sword radiance intersected continuously, creating impacts. Powerful spiritual energy shockwaves spread out in rings, expanding into the surrounding space.

The strong individuals around feared being caught in their battle, retreating to watch from a distance, not daring to step closer.

"Swish!"

Zhongli Tian suddenly swung his right hand, with a several-meter-long shocking Green Glow shooting out, aimed at Jing Xuantian.

Jing Xuantian dodged, and the sword radiance struck a mountain behind him, creating a loud noise as the mountain split with a deep fissure, and several thousand-jin boulders rolled down thunderously.

Jing Xuantian's eyes sparkled with cold light as he retaliated, throwing his two iron clubs, which expanded instantly into large rods, striking towards Zhongli Tian from the air.

"Humph!"

Zhongli Tian let out a cold snort, brandishing his Immortal Sword to weave several strands of sword radiance into a net, blocking the descending iron clubs.

"Boom!"

The iron clubs crashed into the sword net, which dispersed and vanished, while the clubs were repelled dozens of meters away.

"Old Zhongli's spiritual artifact seems to be even stronger than my iron clubs!"

Jing Xuantian noted that his spiritual artifact couldn't overpower Zhongli Tian and was instead repelled by the opponent's sword radiance, feeling a chill in his heart, realizing there was almost no chance to win this battle.

But at this moment, having come this far, retreating would tarnish his reputation, forcing him to grit his teeth and continue fighting.

Zhongli Tian had once been defeated by Jing Xuantian's pair of iron clubs. Seeing the Immortal Sword repelling the clubs without harm, he was ecstatic, unleashing a loud roar.

His fighting spirit surged, making his attacks more aggressive. For a moment, he pressed Jing Xuantian to the point where he was flustered and constantly retreating.

Since achieving the Demi-Immortal Realm, Jing Xuantian hadn't met his match. Yet now he was being suppressed by Zhongli Tian, feeling increasingly irritated, and in a fit of rage, fiercely swinging his clubs to launch a frantic counterattack to regain ground.

"Jing Xuantian, if we continue fighting, we might both end up badly injured or exhaust our spiritual energy, forcing us to cease battle. How about this: you withdraw from this dispute, and you're allowed to take twenty percent of the Fire Python Sect's cultivation resources. From now on, we'll not interfere with each other."

Zhongli Tian knew that Jing Xuantian had a ruthless side, and if pushed too far, he might fight desperately.

Zhongli Tian, having arrived at the invitation of Fang Bai to protect the Luoxia Sect, wasn't keen on an all-out fight to the death with the Light Sect. Trading a small portion of cultivation resources for peace between the two sects seemed feasible to him.

He also believed that Fang Bai and Huo Hai, along with other Luoxia Sect disciples, would agree with his decision.

Chapter 1919: No Tricks

Jing Xuantian was hesitating.

He understood that if he were to cease the battle and withdraw now, it would negatively impact his reputation and that of the Light Sect.

But if they continued fighting, as Zhongli Tian said, both sides might suffer mutual destruction, and this would inevitably lead to a full-scale conflict among the disciples of both sects, causing a disastrous outcome.

This was something Jing Xuantian did not want to see.

Being able to become the Sect Master of a super powerful sect, Jing Xuantian was by no means a hot-headed brute. He retreated dozens of feet, his gaze fixed on Zhongli Tian, and after weighing in his mind for a moment, finally made a decision.

“Fifty percent!”

Jing Xuantian stretched out five fingers and said, “We can withdraw, but we must take fifty percent of the Fire Python Sect’s cultivation resources with us!”

“Sect Master Jing, how could you...”

The Elder from the Fire Python Sect saw Jing Xuantian change his mind. Instead of seeking justice for the Fire Python Sect, he now wanted to take away half of the Fire Python Sect’s accumulated cultivation resources over the ten thousand years, and he was anxious.

“Die!”

A trace of ruthless malice flashed through Jing Xuantian’s eyes as he swung the iron mace in his hand, smashing it down on the Fire Python Sect Elder.

Although that Elder was a Heavenly Tribulation Eightfold expert, in the face of Jing Xuantian, who possessed a Half-Immortal Rank Spiritual Artifact, he had no chance to resist or evade; amidst a scream, he was smashed into a pulp and fell on the spot.

Jing Xuantian gave a cold snort, took up the iron mace, and fixed his gaze on Zhongli Tian's face.

Zhongli Tian saw that Jing Xuantian had killed off the only remaining Elder of the Fire Python Sect, and knew he had decided to make peace. With a chuckle, he extended three fingers and said, "Thirty percent! I can give you at most thirty percent!"

Jing Xuantian's face contorted with anger, and he said through gritted teeth, "Our Light Sect mobilized tens of thousands of disciples, and you think you can dismiss us with thirty percent of the cultivation resources? Impossible!"

"This..."

Zhongli Tian turned his head, looking at Fang Bai, who stood on a distant mountaintop.

Fang Bai understood that Zhongli Tian was seeking his opinion, as the cultivation resources of the Fire Python Sect did not belong to the Green Bamboo Sect but were occupied by the Luoxia Sect. Smiling, he nodded and said, "Zhongli Sect Master will have the final say on everything!"

His words clearly handed over the decision-making power to Zhongli Tian. No matter how much cultivation resources Zhongli Tian agreed to give to the Light Sect, he would have no objections.

Although Huo Hai was the Sect Master of the Luoxia Sect, with Zhongli Tian and Fang Bai present, he had no right to speak.

Of course, Huo Hai wouldn't say anything either. He even thought that as long as the Light Sect was willing to withdraw from the battle and the disciples of the Luoxia Sect remained unharmed, he would be willing to give away most of the cultivation resources of the Fire Python Sect to the Light Sect.

"Forty percent!"

Zhongli Tian gritted his teeth, pretending to feel the pain, and said to Jing Xuantian, "At most, you can take away forty percent. If you disagree, we can only continue to fight!"

Jing Xuantian knew that negotiating to this extent was already very difficult, as Zhongli Tian's strength had improved significantly, and he could no longer defeat him.

Moreover, with their Light Sect's ten thousand disciples having come from afar to fight on foreign soil, staying too long would put them at a disadvantage. It would be better to take some benefits and withdraw as soon as possible.

As for withdrawing in this manner affecting his own or the sect's reputation, what did that matter?

Once he recharged and improved his strength in the future, he would return to eliminate the small Luoxia Sect and defeat Zhongli Tian, bringing great renown to himself and the sect.

"Forty percent is acceptable! But we must take it away immediately!"

Jing Xuantian said in a deep voice.

The reason he wanted to take it away immediately was to prevent Zhongli Tian and others from making any unexpected moves, storing some of the Fire Python Sect's cultivation resources in advance. If that happened, he'd suffer a great loss.

Zhongli Tian and Fang Bai exchanged a glance from afar, both of them smiling.

This smile appeared in Jing Xuantian's eyes as though the old and young duo were like a pair of cunning foxes plotting something unknown.

"Don't play any tricks! Otherwise..."

Jing Xuantian sternly warned, "Otherwise, we'll fight your sect even if it leads to mutual destruction!"

He thought that the Fire Python Sect's cultivation resources were likely stored within the mountain body beneath the Sect Master Hall, and the method of entry should be known only to Zhongli Tian and the

high-level members of the Luoxia Sect. As long as he kept a close watch on them and didn't let them leave in advance, they'd have no time to move those cultivation resources.

Zhongli Tian, twiddling his beard, said with a smile, "We are completely sincere, and all the disciples of the Luoxia Sect are here. Where would we find the time to play tricks? Jing Xuantian, do not gauge a gentleman's heart with your own petty mind!"

Jing Xuantian snorted, his face darkened, and said, "In that case, I will dispatch part of the sect's disciples to go receive the cultivation resources!"

Subsequently, Jing Xuantian pointed out two Elders, four Stewards, and more than a thousand disciples, who, under the guidance of Fang Bai and Huo Hai, entered the Sect Master Hall in single file.

These powerhouses from the Light Sect, working together, were strong enough that as long as Zhongli Tian and other disciples of the Green Bamboo Sect did not act, they did not fear any ambush.

Jing Xuantian also believed that Zhongli Tian would not engage in such a stupid ambush, as it would eliminate any chance of reconciliation between the two sides.

Just as Jing Xuantian had guessed, the cultivation resources stored by the Fire Python Sect over thousands of years were indeed inside the mountain body of Fire Python Peak, and the entrance was beneath the seat of the Sect Master.

Under the monitoring of several Light Sect's senior members, Huo Hai opened the entrance passage to the stored cultivation resources and led the Light Sect's disciples into it.

Inside the mountain body, the cultivation resources stored by the Fire Python Sect were abundant but far less than the previous estimation made by the senior members of the Light Sect, and rare cultivation resources were even scarcer.

This left the senior members of the Light Sect, who had expected to return fully loaded, greatly disappointed.

An Elder went out to report to Sect Master Jing Xuantian, while the others stayed behind, preparing to transfer the cultivation resources into their own Space Rings.

Jing Xuantian learned from that Elder of his sect that the cultivation resources stored by the Fire Python Sect were far less than expected, causing him to frown slightly. Yet he thought Zhongli Tian and others couldn't be faking it. After cursing under his breath, he waved his hand and said, "Forget it, take the forty percent and let's withdraw!"

Jing Xuantian was now thinking that regardless of the quality or rarity of cultivation resources, so long as the quantity was sufficient.

Inside the mountain body, the cultivation resources stored by the Fire Python Sect over thousands of years were piled up like a mountain. After over a thousand disciples of the Light Sect filled their Space Rings and left, two more groups of a thousand disciples each were rotated in, and only then did they manage to collect forty percent.

"Sect Master Zhongli, until we meet again!"

Jing Xuantian obtained what he wanted, although he wasn't very satisfied, he finally had an account for all the sect's disciples. Coldly leaving behind these words, he then took tens of thousands of disciples from the Light Sect and hurriedly flew away, returning to the Light Sect.

"Hahaha..."

When the powerful members of the Light Sect had flown far away, Zhongli Tian, Fang Bai, and Huo Hai exchanged glances and burst into laughter.

The Dragon Maiden and Zhuge Lian, two women, also covered their mouths and giggled, thinking that the Light Sect believed they had profited, when in reality they suffered a heavy loss.

Chapter 1920: Perfecting the Formation

Jing Xuantian, having already left the Luoxia Sect, didn't know that during his great battle with Zhongli Tian, Fang Bai had used the Thread Condensation Sound Transmission Technique to communicate with Zhongli Tian and had already transferred more than half of the rare cultivation resources inside the mountain into his Five Elements Space Ring.

Therefore, when the disciples of the Fire Python Sect entered the mountain, all they saw were some leftover ordinary cultivation resources, and what they finally took away was barely twenty percent of the total.

Ironically, the disciples of the Light Sect thought they had gained a significant advantage this time, but in reality, they didn't get much benefit.

However, only a few people like Fang Bai and Zhongli Tian knew about this; other disciples of the Green Bamboo Sect and Luoxia Sect were unaware.

After the disciples of the Light Sect withdrew, Fang Bai immediately lifted the defensive array on Luoxia Peak, and all the disciples of the Luoxia Sect breathed a sigh of relief.

The tense, sword-drawn atmosphere of the strong enemy pressing down dissipated, replaced by a sense of relief.

The disciples of the Luoxia Sect showed rare smiles on their faces and began to joke and laugh, with some even becoming somewhat complacent, thinking that even a super sect like the Light Sect couldn't do anything to them, and they could rest easy in the future.

However, as the Sect Master, Huo Hai didn't dare to be even slightly complacent, instead feeling even more pressure.

Huo Hai wasn't naïve enough to think that the Light Sect would never return after retreating. He knew that once the Light Sect prepared thoroughly and came again in force, it would be the true calamity for the Luoxia Sect.

Even though the Green Bamboo Sect was powerful and allied with them, ultimately they were thousands of miles away and couldn't provide protection at every moment.

Therefore, for the Luoxia Sect to protect itself, it must become strong on its own.

But for a newly established sect to grow from small to large, from weak to strong, is not a task that can be accomplished overnight, and Huo Hai worried that the Light Sect would return before the Luoxia Sect could strengthen itself.

"You don't have to worry too much about this."

After learning of Huo Hai's concerns, Fang Bai said, "I will set up multiple formations at Luoxia Mountain. Once a powerful enemy attacks, you can hide within the formations and wait for the Green Bamboo Sect to come to the rescue."

Among the martial artists and various sects in the Three Thousand World, there are many ways of communication. The simplest and most convenient is to inject divine sense into a Jade Pendant, with both parties holding a piece each.

In this way, if anything dangerous happens, one side only needs to crush their Jade Pendant, and the other party's pendant will sense it and shatter as well, thereby notifying the other party of the danger.

Before the Sect Master Zhongli Tian left the Luoxia Sect, he gave a few Jade Pendants infused with his divine sense to Huo Hai and a few high-level members of the Luoxia Sect, stating that if the Luoxia Sect encountered a great calamity, they should crush the pendants, and the disciples of the Green Bamboo Sect would receive the message and come to assist in the shortest time possible.

The defensive array set up by Fang Bai on Luoxia Peak could hold for ten days to half a month, enough time for the Green Bamboo Sect's strong reinforcements to arrive, so there was no need to worry about a large-scale invasion by the Light Sect.

Huo Hai initially wanted the Green Bamboo Sect to take a portion of the cultivation resources obtained from the Fire Python Sect as a token of gratitude for their aid, but Zhongli Tian firmly refused to accept, leaving Huo Hai no choice but to give up.

It was not that Zhongli Tian looked down on those cultivation resources, but he knew that Fang Bai was an Honorary Elder of the Luoxia Sect and had a close relationship with the sect. For Fang Bai's sake, no matter how many cultivation resources there were, he couldn't take them.

If he did, the fate between the two parties would end.

Besides, compared to the Immortal Rank cultivation technique explained by Fang Bai, what were some cultivation resources?

Fang Bai and Zhongli Tian agreed that after some time, he would visit the Green Bamboo Sect again to continue explaining the set of Immortal Rank cultivation techniques to the sect's disciples, after which Zhongli Tian left with the disciples of the Green Bamboo Sect, satisfied.

"The entrances to those super sects are all equipped with concealment formations. I will now create one for you as well, so that when strong enemies attack in the future, they won't find the entrance so easily. Besides, I was a bit rushed when setting up the defensive array before and there are still many places that need to be improved."

After Zhongli Tian and the others left, Fang Bai said to Huo Hai.

In the following days, Fang Bai, accompanied by Dragon Maiden, Zhuge Lian, and Huo Hai, roamed various parts of Luoxia Mountain, selecting suitable locations to start setting up the concealment formation.

Setting up a formation to conceal an entire sect requires a huge number of spirit stones, but fortunately, the Luoxia Sect had almost all the cultivation resources of the Fire Python Sect, and lacked no spirit stones.

After half a month, Fang Bai finally completed the concealment formation.

On the day the formation was completed, Fang Bai led Huo Hai and other Luoxia Sect disciples away from Luoxia Mountain, then activated the concealment formation, asking Huo Hai and the others to find the sect's entrance.

Huo Hai and others found that without Fang Bai's guidance, they couldn't find the entrance to the sect. They realized how marvelous this formation was, feeling both surprised and delighted, thinking that with this formation's protection, the sect's safety had increased.

"I had no idea Elder Fang was so proficient in the Array Path."

Huo Hai praised with admiration.

Fang Bai stayed at the Luoxia Sect for another half month, naturally spending time imparting knowledge to the disciples of the Luoxia Sect.

"We are going to leave for a while, take good care of yourselves. If there's anything difficult to handle, seek help from the Green Bamboo Sect."

On this day, Fang Bai bid farewell to Huo Hai and others, heading to the Green Bamboo Sect with Dragon Maiden and Zhuge Lian.

Huo Hai and others had long considered Dragon Maiden and Zhuge Lian as family, holding Fang Bai in high regard. Hearing they were leaving, they felt an overwhelming sense of reluctance.

When Fang Bai and the two women left, hundreds from the Luoxia Sect led by Huo Hai escorted them outside the sect. Some female disciples, who were on good terms with Dragon Maiden and Zhuge Lian, held their hands and wept incessantly, unwilling to see them leave.

"We will come back to visit everyone in the future."

Dragon Maiden and Zhuge Lian, also teary-eyed, said while waving.

"Let's go back! Starting tomorrow, all disciples will begin closed-door cultivation, striving to strengthen the sect as soon as possible!"

Watching Fang Bai summon a spiritual artifact, taking Dragon Maiden and Zhuge Lian to the sky, disappearing far away, Huo Hai sighed, leading hundreds of disciples back to the sect.

Several days later, Fang Bai and his two companions arrived at the Green Bamboo Sect, thousands of miles away, and were warmly welcomed by Zhongli Tian and other high-level members of the sect.

"I probably won't stay long at the Green Bamboo Sect. Afterward, I need to continue searching for family and friends scattered in the Three Thousand Worlds. But please rest assured, Sect Master Zhongli, during this time, I will do my best to explain to your disciples the set of Immortal Rank cultivation techniques inscribed on the stele. As for how much your disciples can comprehend, it depends on their fortune."

Fang Bai said to Zhongli Tian.

Upon hearing that Fang Bai would leave soon, Zhongli Tian felt a bit disappointed, but he also understood that cultivation emphasizes destiny and cannot be forced, so he nodded and said, "Regarding those family and friends of Friend Fang, our Green Bamboo Sect will also help in the search. Once there is good news, we will contact Friend Fang."