

Doctor 1981

Chapter 1981: Unprecedented

Fang Bai understood that what Shao Qingyun said made sense. Under normal circumstances, rescuing someone from a super sect like the Cold Flame Sect would require careful planning.

But at this moment, as the Cold Flame Sect Master, Hanwei, could end his cultivation at any time, Qin Yaorao might be in danger then, so Fang Bai did not want to and dared not waste any time.

"We can't deliberate any longer! Every moment we delay here increases Yaorao and the others' danger!"

Fang Bai decisively said, "This time for the rescue, Qingqing, Xiao Ying, and Qingyun need not participate. Just Elder Flood Dragon and I will do!"

Flood Dragon Venerable rubbed his palms and chuckled, "I've been waiting for you to say this, Palace Master!"

Liu Qingqing, Xiao Ying, and Shao Qingyun were self-aware, knowing they couldn't help and that they should not hold Fang Bai and Flood Dragon Venerable back.

Fang Bai said to Flood Dragon Venerable, "Brother Flood Dragon, I'm giving you a challenging task this time: In a while, I'll lure out the Cold Flame Sect Master; try to hold him for a hundred breaths."

Shao Qingyun couldn't help but say, "Palace Master, with all due respect, although Elder Flood Dragon is a ninth layer Heavenly Tribulation expert, the Cold Flame Sect Master is at the Demi-Immortal Realm, and once they start fighting, I'm afraid Elder Flood Dragon won't be able to hold out for a hundred breaths."

Flood Dragon Venerable glared at Shao Qingyun, saying, "Kid, do you dare underestimate this elder? Soon I'll fight the Cold Flame Sect Master for three hundred rounds just for you to see!"

Though he said this, his mind wavered, yet he was unwilling to show weakness, thinking that he would endure serious injuries to hold off the Cold Flame Sect Master for a hundred breaths, creating sufficient rescue time for Fang Bai.

Fang Bai sighed, saying, "It's a pity we don't have more time; otherwise, I have an Immortal Artifact here that I could refine properly for Elder Flood Dragon's use. By then, holding for a thousand breaths might also be hopeful!"

The Immortal Artifact Fang Bai mentioned was the Soul Loss Bell stored inside the Five Elements Space Ring.

Since the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade suited Fang Bai very well, the Soul Loss Bell had remained unused, standing quietly within the Five Elements Space Ring.

Fang Bai intended to give the Soul Loss Bell to Elder Flood Dragon, but since Flood Dragon Venerable favored spear-type Spiritual Artifacts, if forced to use the Soul Loss Bell, he might not fully unleash its true power, even if he advanced to Immortal, which would indeed be a waste.

Moreover, granting the Soul Loss Bell to Elder Flood Dragon required several hours of refining, and Fang Bai couldn't afford to wait that long or spend Spiritual Energy on refining at this time.

Hence, Fang Bai decided to temporarily lend the Soul Loss Bell to Elder Flood Dragon, and even if only a tenth of its power could be utilized in his hands, it would be enough to contend with Cold Flame Sect's Elder Hanwei for a hundred breaths.

"This Great Bell is called the Soul Loss Bell, capable of producing sound waves that greatly impact a cultivator's mindset and consciousness."

As Fang Bai spoke, he brought out the Soul Loss Bell, holding it in his palm, and then handed it to Flood Dragon Venerable, saying, "Elder Flood Dragon, integrate a wisp of Divine Sense into your blood essence, and then spray a mouthful of vital blood onto this Soul Loss Bell, which will then temporarily be yours to use."

Upon hearing the words "Immortal Artifact," Flood Dragon Venerable became instantly excited.

He carefully took the Soul Loss Bell, examining it in his palm, feeling that with it in hand, an immensely powerful force seemed to flow from his palm into his body, making him feel significantly stronger.

Fang Bai taught Flood Dragon Venerable how to use the Soul Loss Bell, making him overjoyed, stating, "Palace Master, just wait and see! With this Soul Loss Bell in hand, my combat strength increases more than double. I'll let Hanwei taste my prowess!"

Fang Bai seriously cautioned, "Elder Flood Dragon, be careful! Remember, if a hundred breaths pass and I haven't returned, and you find it difficult to hold out, lure Hanwei into the Offensive and Defensive Great Formation I'm about to set up; you can seize the chance to escape! Don't worry about me. Though I'm not Hanwei's match, escaping won't be a problem!"

Afterward, he looked at Liu Qingqing, Xiao Ying, and Shao Qingyun, saying, "As for the three of you... enter my Space Ring!"

He waved his left hand, and a gleam of light from the Five Elements Space Ring on his finger enveloped Liu Qingqing and the trio, bringing them inside.

Fang Bai had exited the Cold Flame Sect primarily to prepare a Formation, which would allow Flood Dragon Venerable to enter in case of an emergency, thus luring Hanwei into it and then using the opportunity to escape the formation and leave the Cold Flame Sect.

Flood Dragon Venerable was already an Elder of the Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace, a capable warrior, and Fang Bai didn't want him to be wasted here.

"This..."

Flood Dragon Venerable was dazed upon seeing Liu Qingqing and the trio vanish into thin air, then realized what Fang Bai mentioned about entering the Five Elements Space Ring. His gaze fell on the Five Elements Space Ring on Fang Bai's left hand, and he commented in surprise, "Qingqing and the others entered your ring?"

Fang Bai nodded with a smile, "Yes."

Flood Dragon Venerable gasped in disbelief, muttering, "How is that possible... how is that possible... Even legendary storage Immortal Artifacts can't contain living beings, right?"

Fang Bai smiled and said, "This Space Ring is a supreme-quality Immortal Artifact, with a space within that has Five Elements Spiritual Energy, forming a world of its own capable of containing everything in existence."

"Such a Space Ring is truly unheard of!"

Flood Dragon Venerable praised with a "tut-tut."

As for the origin of the Five Elements Space Ring, Fang Bai didn't mention, and Flood Dragon Venerable didn't inquire, though he thought Fang Bai might have discovered some Immortal's abode, otherwise where would these Immortal Artifacts come from?

"Time is pressing, I must set up the formation nearby!"

Fang Bai looked around keenly, observing for a moment before leaping down to a valley covering several miles and began carving array patterns and embedding Spirit Stones.

In a short moment, a formation was completed, and after teaching Flood Dragon Venerable how to activate the formation and enter or exit, Fang Bai once again infiltrated the Cold Flame Sect.

This time, he settled ten miles away from the Sect Master Hall of the Cold Flame Sect, then summoned the Houyi Bow, formed a Spirit Fire Condensed Arrow, and shot it toward the Sect Master Hall.

The Houyi Bow was, after all, a Divine Artifact. Combined with the Spirit Fire Condensed Arrow, the resulting shot's power was so immense that even a ninth-layer Heavenly Tribulation expert had to avoid its edge.

The Spirit Fire Arrow tore through the air, booming forward, causing temperatures to rise along its path, instantly igniting many structures within the Cold Flame Tower.

The Cold Flame Sect had been established for over ten thousand years, and having been at peace for so long, many disciples lacked crisis awareness, so the sudden large fire caused an uproar.

In the eyes of the Cold Flame Sect disciples, the Spirit Fire Arrow shot from Fang Bai's Houyi Bow was like a crimson lightning bolt, piercing through the void and striking the heavy hall doors of the Sect Master Hall in an instant.

"Boom!"

The door, made of Black Gold and extraordinarily sturdy, was utterly shattered under the Spirit Fire Arrow's impact.

Chapter 1982: Pursuit and Assassination

That deafening explosion was like thunder on a clear day, shattering the tranquility the Cold Flame Sect had enjoyed for thousands of years since its founding.

All disciples of the Cold Flame Sect were stunned by the sound, halting their cultivation and looking towards the Sect Master Hall in astonishment.

They all wondered in their hearts, who on earth dared to attack the Sect Master Hall, challenging the authority of the Sect Leader?

"Chirp!"

The Spirit Fire Rocket continued its trajectory after blasting open the door of the Sect Master Hall, aiming for the Cold Flame Sect Master Hanwei who was meditating and cultivating inside the hall.

Blistering heat waves followed the Spirit Fire Rocket's piercing flight, surging towards Hanwei in an overwhelming manner.

Hanwei's tightly closed eyes suddenly opened, bursting with an intense glint of anger, his hair standing on end like a startled lion.

He thrust his right palm forward, causing a violent fluctuation in the space ahead, and immediately in a few meters of space, the temperature dropped sharply, forming a thick ice wall.

Fang Bai observed clearly with his Divine Sense, marveling that Hanwei, as expected of a Half-Immortal Rank powerhouse, could instantly condense water into ice, a manifestation of having cultivated Water System Techniques to the extreme.

The moment Hanwei made his move, Fang Bai realized that the Spirit Fire Rocket aimed at him could only pose a slight threat, but would be hard-pressed to injure him.

"Sizzle!"

Carrying extreme heat, the Spirit Fire Rocket collided with the thick ice wall in front of Hanwei, emitting a brief and sharp sound, while white steam rose into the air.

Next, with a "bang", the ice wall shattered into pieces, and the Spirit Fire Rocket vanished.

Though Fang Bai's arrow was tremendously powerful, as he had expected, it did not cause any harm to Hanwei.

However, Fang Bai's purpose was not to harm Hanwei, but to lure him out of the Cold Flame Sect.

After shooting the arrow, he didn't pause, swiftly moving like lightning towards the exit of the Cold Flame Sect.

When he drew the bow and shot the arrow, he was unable to conceal his aura, and was immediately detected by many powerhouses within the Cold Flame Sect.

Thus, the alarm for an external invader sounded, and countless Cold Flame Sect powerhouses, bristling with hostility, began to pursue and intercept Fang Bai, intending to kill him.

"Where do you think you're going?"

Hanwei, having broken out of his cultivation state, extended his Divine Sense, discovering the outsider Fang Bai, and shouted angrily, chasing out of the hall.

His speed was astonishingly fast, constantly closing the gap between himself and Fang Bai.

"The Sect Leader is out!"

Some of the Cold Flame Sect disciples heard Hanwei's angry shout and saw the trail of light formed by his swift movement, realizing the Sect Leader was taking action, and thus halted their pursuit of Fang Bai.

In their eyes, since the Sect Leader had personally stepped in, the fate of the invader was sealed, and their blockade seemed unnecessary, so they stayed by to watch the show.

What puzzled the Cold Flame Sect disciples, however, was how the invader managed to bypass the wondrous double formations set by their sect ancestors, which had never had a slip-up for thousands of years.

Moreover, seeing the power of the arrow the invader had just shot, it was astonishing and extraordinary. If not for the Sect Leader, any other individual would probably have been unable to withstand it, showcasing the strength of the invader.

"Where did this brat come from, able to easily break our sect's formation!"

As Hanwei pursued Fang Bai and saw him exit the mountain gate unimpeded by the formation, he was incredibly surprised, and his killing intent intensified.

"This lad either has collusion with our disciples or is well-versed in the Array Path himself, otherwise he couldn't have entered and exited the Cold Flame Sect! If he isn't eliminated today, he will certainly become a great disaster for the sect in the future!"

Hanwei thought to himself.

For thousands of years, the Cold Flame Sect relied on the double formations at the mountain gate to remain secluded from the world in peace; today, if this intruder escapes, and he reveals the way to break the formation, the double formations of the Cold Flame Sect would be rendered ineffective.

Even though the Cold Flame Sect is a rare Super Sect in the contemporary world, and no one dares to easily provoke it even without formations as a barrier, the exposure of the sect headquarters' location is never a good thing.

Therefore, Hanwei could not allow the intruder to escape.

"You all guard the sect well, I'm going after the intruder!"

Leaving this command to his sect disciples, Hanwei followed Fang Bai out of the mountain gate of the Cold Flame Sect, into the vast snow-capped peaks outside.

The disciples of the Cold Flame Sect were full of confidence in their Sect Leader's strength, and upon hearing his words, no one followed out.

Fang Bai flew southward, slowing down only after reaching a valley tens of miles away, where he landed in the valley, then raised his head and looked coldly at Hanwei descending from the sky.

"Where did this wild brat come from? Why did you enter my Cold Flame Sect?"

Upon landing, Hanwei saw how young Fang Bai was, a look of surprise flashed in his eyes, but his stride did not falter, steadily approaching Fang Bai.

A Half-Immortal Rank powerhouse's pressure was such that grass and trees bowed down, and even Fang Bai could not help but retreat two steps under the invisible pressure.

To Hanwei's questioning, Fang Bai responded only with a nonchalant grin, pursing his lips to let out a soft whistle.

With his whistle resounding, the Flood Dragon Venerable came flying from a distant mountain peak, landing beside Fang Bai, standing shoulder to shoulder with him.

"Palace Master, is this old fellow the one who abducted Ms. Yaorao?"

Flood Dragon Venerable scrutinized Hanwei across from him, his expression gradually turning grave, and said in a stern voice, "A Half-Immortal Rank powerhouse is indeed unfathomable!"

Fang Bai smirked and said, "Of course! Otherwise, how could he easily abduct Fairy Xuanbing? That Fairy Xuanbing holds the title of 'the number one Nine-Step Heavenly Tribulation powerhouse in the three thousand grand worlds!'"

The Flood Dragon Venerable sneered, discontentedly retorting, "I don't know who gave her that title! I, the Flood Dragon Venerable, do not accept it! If I ever get the chance, I must fight her to see if she truly deserves it!"

Fang Bai raised his hand toward Hanwei opposite them, saying, "If you want to fight Fairy Xuanbing, you must first stall this person for a while longer, so I can rescue Yaorao, and also rescue Fairy Xuanbing on the side!"

"No problem! Let me face this Half-Immortal Rank powerhouse!"

As he spoke, the Flood Dragon Venerable held up the Soul Loss Bell borrowed from Fang Bai and charged fiercely at Hanwei.

When he was still a dozen meters away from Hanwei, the Soul Loss Bell in his hand already expanded in the air, enlarging dozens of times like a small mountain, falling directly towards Hanwei's head.

The Soul Loss Bell emitted a "buzzing" resonance in the air, with the low sound waves crashing towards Hanwei like tides, causing momentary dizziness in the mind of Hanwei, a Half-Immortal Rank powerhouse.

Simultaneously, Fang Bai brandished the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade, stepping on its back to fly up into the air, charging once more towards the direction of the Cold Flame Sect.

"Damn it!"

Hanwei forcefully steadied his mind, recalling Fang Bai and the Flood Dragon Venerable's conversation, seeing Fang Bai flying into the sky, and quickly realized what Fang Bai intended to do. He was both shocked and furious, his expression turning as dark as if it could drip water.

Chapter 1983: The Ninefold Soul-Trapping Array Confines the Powerful Enemy

In Hanwei's view, the main hall doors of the Cold Flame Sect had already been blasted open by an arrow from Fang Bai. If Fang Bai were to sneak in again to rescue Fairy Xuanbing and Qin Yaorao, without himself overseeing, he might indeed succeed.

Fairy Xuanbing and Qin Yaorao were both brought back across the Ice Sea by Hanwei. Both women possessed Innate Spiritual Roots and Primordial Yin Physiques. Hanwei intended to dual cultivate with them to increase his cultivation level. If Fang Bai rescued them, wouldn't his efforts have been in vain?

Understanding Fang Bai's intention, Hanwei was both shocked and angry, his evil fire surged, wanting to fly up and chase Fang Bai, but was helplessly entangled by Flood Dragon Venerable who wielded the Soul Loss Bell, unable to break free for a moment.

"I'll first kill you, old thief! Then I'll kill that little thief!"

Hanwei roared loudly, fully focusing on dealing with Flood Dragon Venerable, intending to quickly kill him to get rid of this persistent "plaster".

A half-immortal rank expert exerting full effort, how powerful the attack would be.

The abundant spiritual energy, with layers of pressure, surged towards Flood Dragon Venerable like a landslide or tsunami, an astonishing force.

With one punch, Hanwei could instantly freeze a hundred-meter radius space, and Flood Dragon Venerable narrowly escaped several times, thanks to the obstruction of the Soul Loss Bell, miraculously escaping danger.

"Even a Royal Grade Superior Spiritual Artifact, I could deal cracks with a few punches! This big bell is so solid, unscathed, could it be the legendary Immortal Artifact?"

Hanwei's mind was stirred, scrutinizing the Soul Loss Bell in Flood Dragon Venerable's hand, his eyes revealing a peculiar glow.

Even though he was of half-immortal rank cultivation level, being one of the top experts of the present age, he did not dare to consider himself the first among the powerhouses of the three thousand great worlds.

If he had an Immortal Artifact, he would have the confidence to challenge any formidable opponent in the world.

Thus, seeing the Soul Loss Bell in Flood Dragon Venerable's hand, greed arose within him, his eyes burning hot, wanting to claim it for himself.

"Where did you get this Spiritual Artifact from?"

Hanwei landed a punch, forcing Flood Dragon Venerable back a step, harshly demanding.

Flood Dragon Venerable retreated while fighting, although fully suppressed by Hanwei, he showed no panic and laughed, "Hehe, what Spiritual Artifact? This Soul Loss Bell of mine is an Immortal Artifact!"

"It really is an Immortal Artifact!"

Hearing this, Hanwei was overjoyed, extending his large hand forward, shouting, "Give me the Immortal Artifact, and I'll spare your life!"

"Give it to you? Dream on! Come and get it with your skills!"

While speaking, Flood Dragon Venerable's figure had already retreated into the valley where Fang Bai had set up the formation.

Hanwei, eager to get the Immortal Artifact, ignored everything else, following Flood Dragon Venerable into the valley.

Flood Dragon Venerable, seeing that he successfully lured Hanwei into Fang Bai's Nine Bends Soul Loss Formation, secretly rejoiced, shaking out a spirit stone, activating the switch of the formation.

Countless rays of light soared into the sky, weaving into a massive net of light, shrouding the entire valley within.

Hanwei felt the scene before him suddenly change, gathering a large amount of light smoke and thin mist, making it difficult to see everything around, occasionally human experts or powerful spirit beasts suddenly darted out from the mist, launching fierce attacks on him.

If a cultivator with slightly weaker strength was trapped in this illusion, they would involuntarily join in endless battles with human experts or powerful spirit beasts, eventually dying of exhaustion.

But after all, Hanwei was of half-immortal rank cultivation, with firm will, not easily beguiled by the formation's illusion, regaining some clarity after a momentary loss of focus.

"Old man, let me show you the power of this great formation!"

Flood Dragon Venerable laughed heartily, not in a hurry to exit the Nine Bends Soul Loss Formation, instead, he unleashed the Soul Loss Bell, continuing to attack Hanwei.

Hanwei could hear Flood Dragon Venerable's voice, but for a moment couldn't discern his direction, nor could he see his figure. Seeing the Soul Loss Bell floating in the air, continuously emitting annoying sound waves disturbing his mind, he punched with full force upwards, aiming to hit the Soul Loss Bell.

He then followed Flood Dragon Venerable's laughter, using the wind to locate him, and launched another punch.

However, after this punch was thrown, the immensely strong force seemed to sink into the sea, disappearing without a trace.

It was like a strong person gathering power for ages, when punching towards the opponent, found the opponent vanished from sight, and the punch hit empty air, feeling extremely unsatisfying.

Hanwei did not know that although his strike seemed to miss and had no effect, it actually posed a significant threat to the Nine Bends Soul Loss Formation, causing a violent turmoil in the light net enveloping the entire valley.

No matter how marvelous a formation in this world is, when it encounters sufficient powerful force, there is no need to waste effort thinking of ways to break it, brute force can directly shatter it.

If Hanwei's strength were just a bit stronger, this Nine Bends Soul Loss Formation might have been broken in an instant.

"A half-immortal rank expert is indeed formidable! If this old fellow keeps attacking, the Nine Bends Soul Loss Formation might not hold out for long before it collapses."

After exiting the formation, Flood Dragon Venerable watched the trembling light net, silently calculating the time, hoping Fang Bai could rescue Qin Yaorao and Fairy Xuanbing within a hundred breaths, and then they could leave this place together.

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As Flood Dragon Venerable entangled Hanwei, Fang Bai, like a lightning bolt, shot towards the direction of the Cold Flame Sect, once again infiltrating the vast valley where the Cold Flame Sect was located.

With Hanwei, the half-immortal rank expert gone from the Cold Flame Sect, Fang Bai grew bolder. Although he concealed his own aura, he was no longer as cautious and meticulous as before.

At this moment around the main hall of the Cold Flame Sect, four Direct Disciples of the seven-layer Heavenly Tribulation level were guarding.

Although the sect was invaded, in the minds of the Cold Flame Sect disciples, since the sect leader had gone to hunt down the intruders, the opponent was doomed, and there was no need for high-alert vigilance.

Therefore, although those four Direct Disciples were responsible for guarding the main hall, each stood there lazily, chatting and laughing leisurely.

Fang Bai silently approached the four Cold Flame Sect Direct Disciples, then used the Soul Capturing Heart Refining Technique, launching a divine sense attack on the four.

Though those four Cold Flame Sect Direct Disciples had the same cultivation level as Fang Bai, their strength was far inferior, thus they were easily controlled by Fang Bai, falling into a brief state of stupor.

In this brief moment, Fang Bai successfully slipped into the main hall, appearing in front of Qin Yaorao and Fairy Xuanbing.

Qin Yaorao felt a gentle breeze on her face, a blur before her eyes, raising her eyes and focusing, she saw Fang Bai in white robe standing before her with a smile.

"..."

Though unable to move or speak, Qin Yaorao's eyes quickly filled with moisture, indicating how shocked and excited she was at the moment.

Fairy Xuanbing beside Qin Yaorao also saw Fang Bai. Although she did not recognize Fang Bai, from Qin Yaorao's excited and joyful expression upon seeing Fang Bai, she seemed to guess something, her eyes turned cold, and her expression became somewhat unpleasant.

Chapter 1984: I Am Fang Bai, Qin Yaorao's Man!

At this moment, Fang Bai's eyes were only on Qin Yaorao, and as for the icy gaze of Fairy Xuanbing beside him, he couldn't be bothered to pay any attention.

"Yaorao, it's me, you're not dreaming!"

Fang Bai was worried that Qin Yaorao might get too excited and cause some commotion that would alert the Cold Flame Sect disciples outside. Therefore, he didn't remove the restraints on her body and quickly used the Thread Condensation Sound Transmission Technique to say, "I met Xiao Ying on Xuanbing Peak and learned that you were kidnapped and brought here. I came specifically to rescue you!"

After a pause, he transmitted again, "I will now bring you into the Five Elements Space Ring and take you out. We'll discuss other matters when we reach safety."

As he spoke, he waved his left hand lightly, and with a flash of light from the Five Elements Space Ring, Qin Yaorao's figure instantly disappeared.

Inside Fang Bai's Five Elements Space Ring, there were already three people: Liu Qingqing, Xiao Ying, and Shao Qingyun.

Among them, Liu Qingqing and Qin Yaorao had already met in the Minor World, and Xiao Ying regarded Qin Yaorao as the closest person. Therefore, both women were filled with joy and surprise upon seeing Qin Yaorao suddenly appear.

"Sister Qin!"

"Senior Sister Qin!"

The two women stepped forward in unison, embracing Qin Yaorao from both sides, calling out emotionally.

"Yaorao has been placed under a restriction and cannot speak to you now! Whatever you have to say, save it for later!"

Fang Bai's voice echoed within the Five Elements Space Ring.

Although Qin Yaorao couldn't speak or move, upon seeing Liu Qingqing and Xiao Ying, a hint of joy was revealed in her eyes.

After rescuing Qin Yaorao, Fang Bai turned to leave.

Fairy Xuanbing was dumbfounded when she saw Qin Yaorao disappear out of thin air and soon realized it was Fang Bai's doing. When she saw Fang Bai turning to leave, she opened her mouth to say something, but no sound came out, and she was only left anxious.

"Fine, seeing as you've taken care of Yaorao, I will save you as well!"

After walking a dozen steps, Fang Bai suddenly turned back and waved his hands, sending out several strands of spiritual energy.

The strands of spiritual energy struck different parts of Fairy Xuanbing's body, causing her body to gently tremble as her once stifled energy channels flowed freely, her long-lost formidable power swiftly returning to her.

"Are you Fang Bai?"

Although she was saved by Fang Bai, Fairy Xuanbing showed no gratitude, emotionlessly asking.

Fairy Xuanbing already guessed that this man in front of her was the one her most cherished disciple Qin Yaorao had been dreaming of day and night.

At the moment her strength returned, Fairy Xuanbing truly wanted to slay Fang Bai with a single strike, to reaffirm Qin Yaorao's dedication to cultivation.

However, she quickly dismissed the thought because she knew that with Qin Yaorao's stubborn temperament, if she actually killed Fang Bai, Qin Yaorao would hate her forever, and their master-disciple bond might not only be lost but could even turn into enmity.

This was something Fairy Xuanbing didn't want to see.

"That's right, I'm Fang Bai, Qin Yaorao's man!"

Fang Bai cast a nonchalant glance at Fairy Xuanbing, then turned and strode out of the Sect Master Hall, his voice reaching her ears: "I've lifted the restriction on you. In a few moments, your strength will return to its peak. I'm leaving now!"

Fairy Xuanbing watched his back, eyes flashing with cold light, and said icily, "You can go, but leave Yaorao here!"

Fang Bai slightly curled his lips, ignoring Fairy Xuanbing, and accelerated out of the Sect Master Hall.

Fairy Xuanbing snorted angrily, feeling her strength had recovered to seven or eight-tenths. Unless she was unlucky enough to meet a Half-Immortal rank powerhouse like Hanwei, no one could harm her.

With that thought, she also dashed out of the hall, following the faint trace of spiritual energy Fang Bai left behind to track him.

Though she hadn't founded a sect, she hoped that Qin Yaorao could inherit her mantle and naturally wouldn't let Fang Bai take her away.

The Cold Flame Sect's only Half-Immortal rank powerhouse, Hanwei, had been entangled by the Flood Dragon Venerable, so no one in the Cold Flame Sect could stop Fang Bai from leaving. Therefore, Fang Bai didn't conceal his aura, moving swiftly towards the sect's exit.

Fairy Xuanbing, on the other hand, released her aura without restraint.

Seeing numerous Cold Flame Sect disciples rushing to surround her, Fairy Xuanbing recalled the humiliation Hanwei had brought her when he abducted her, hatred seething in her eyes, filled with malevolence and murderous intent, as she charged towards those disciples.

"Die!"

Fairy Xuanbing's strength had recovered to about ninety percent. When two direct disciples of the Cold Flame Sect approached, she glared at them and forcefully struck with both palms, sending two overwhelming spiritual energies that flung the disciples away, killing them instantly.

The two direct disciples were at the seventh level of the Heavenly Tribulation, yet were slain with a single blow by Fairy Xuanbing, shocking many of the Cold Flame Sect powerhouses.

But soon, more Cold Flame Sect disciples charged forward, fearlessly launching a fierce assault on Fairy Xuanbing.

"If you want to die, stay and fight with the Cold Flame Sect disciples, then wait for Hanwei to return and capture you again! If you don't want to die, come with me!"

Fang Bai's voice once again reached Fairy Xuanbing, who was fiercely battling dozens of Cold Flame Sect disciples surrounding her.

Upon hearing this, Fairy Xuanbing gritted her teeth, snorted, forced back the surrounding Cold Flame Sect disciples, and took the opportunity to make her escape, heading in the direction Fang Bai had gone.

Fairy Xuanbing wasn't afraid of death, but she feared being captured and humiliated by Hanwei. Her purity would be difficult to maintain, making life worse than death.

"Chase! Don't let them escape!"

"That woman was caught by the Sect Master to be used as a furnace cauldron. If she escapes, we'll all be punished by the Sect Master!"

"Did you notice that kid was like the one the Sect Master was pursuing..."

"Impossible! If the Sect Master was pursuing someone, how could they possibly escape? Hmm, he might just look similar!"

"Whoever he is, daring to intrude on our sect's territory, either kill him or capture him alive and wait for the Sect Master to return to deal with him!"

...

The number of Cold Flame Sect disciples pursuing Fang Bai and Fairy Xuanbing grew more and more, quickly reaching over a thousand. They shouted curses and chased furiously.

They were proud disciples of a Super Sect, normally filled with immense pride, how could they allow two intruders to escape under their watch?

However, the speed of those Cold Flame Sect disciples couldn't compare to Fang Bai and Fairy Xuanbing.

By the time they reached the sect's gate, Fang Bai and Fairy Xuanbing had already broken through the dual major formations and left far behind.

Fairy Xuanbing followed Fang Bai all the way, successfully breaking through the formations, growing more astonished in her heart. She hadn't expected this young cultivator to be so formidable.

She had already noticed that although Fang Bai was at the seventh level of the Heavenly Tribulation, his combat power was comparable to the ninth level.

Moreover, when encountering the dual major formations blocking the sect's gate, he swiftly broke through without delay, showcasing his extraordinary formation insights.

If Fang Bai hadn't led the way, Fairy Xuanbing thought that just those dual major formations would have given her a headache.

Such a cultivator could truly be called a prodigy.

Chapter 1985: Don't Even Think About Shaking Me Off!

"Where is Yaorao? Hand him over!"

Just after leaving the gate of the Cold Flame Sect, Fairy Xuanbing overtook Fang Bai, blocking his path, and asked coldly.

"Yaorao is my woman, and from now on, I will protect her. No need for you to worry! Step aside!"

Seeing Fairy Xuanbing blocking his way, Fang Bai was greatly impatient and said irritably.

Fairy Xuanbing replied coldly, "Yaorao is my disciple. She should come with me! If you don't hand her over, you won't leave here!"

Fang Bai burst into angry laughter, his gaze fixed on Fairy Xuanbing with a mocking expression on his face, saying, "Go with you? To continue being captured and humiliated? You can't even protect yourself, how can you protect her?"

"You..."

Fang Bai's words were like a hard slap across Fairy Xuanbing's face, making her face flush with embarrassment, leaving her speechless.

However, what Fang Bai said was indeed the truth, and Fairy Xuanbing had no power to refute.

Seeing the renowned "Number One of Nine Heavens' Ninth Level Heavenly Tribulation" Fairy Xuanbing left speechless and her expression changing, Fang Bai felt a secret satisfaction in his heart.

However, he also worried that this old woman, in her shame and anger, might fight with him regardless of consequences. Although he didn't fear her, if Hanwei suddenly returned, things would get troublesome.

To pacify Fairy Xuanbing, Fang Bai raised his left hand, revealing the Five Elements Space Ring, and said, "Yaorao is in my Five Elements Space Ring. She's perfectly safe for now! If you don't want to drag everyone down to death together, then step aside and let me pass!"

"Five Elements Space Ring? A storage Spiritual Artifact that can hold living beings?"

Fairy Xuanbing observed the Five Elements Space Ring worn on Fang Bai's left hand, her pupils narrowing slightly, filled with shock.

"Spiritual Artifact? What kind of Spiritual Artifact can hold life? If you don't understand, don't speak, lest you make a fool of yourself!"

Fang Bai scoffed, mocking Fairy Xuanbing's ignorance.

Surprisingly, Fairy Xuanbing did not become angry and instead asked, "Is Yaorao really in this ring of yours?"

Fang Bai frowned and replied, "Nonsense! I'm not so bored as to joke about my own woman!"

Just then, a streak of light flew from afar, landing beside Fang Bai. Who else could it be but Flood Dragon Venerable?

"Palace Master, have you rescued the person?"

Upon seeing Fang Bai, Flood Dragon Venerable blurted out his question.

Before Fang Bai could answer, he let out a surprised "huh" and his gaze fell on Fairy Xuanbing, frowning, he asked, "Fairy Luo? Is it you?"

In the past, Flood Dragon Venerable had traveled the great tri-worlds and met Fairy Xuanbing, Luo Yun, once, so they recognized each other, but there was no interaction between them, and thus they were not familiar.

Fairy Xuanbing, always cold and proud, only glanced indifferently at Flood Dragon Venerable when he greeted her, without speaking, while thinking, "Flood Dragon Venerable, one of the rare Ninth Level Heavenly Tribulation experts of the times, actually calls this boy 'Palace Master' and with respect... what is this boy's true identity?"

She frowned, recalling that Qin Yaorao had once mentioned Fang Bai was just a loose cultivator, with no status or background. When did he become a Palace Master?

"Fairy Luo still has the same temperament as before! It seems I'm overthinking things! Haha..."

Flood Dragon Venerable felt a bit awkward as Fairy Xuanbing ignored him, letting out a self-deprecating chuckle.

Fang Bai asked, "Elder Flood Dragon, how is the situation with the great formation on that side?"

When Flood Dragon Venerable heard Fang Bai mention it, he quickly said, "That Hanwei is powerful, though he doesn't understand the way to break the formation, he continuously attacks it with brute force. I think at most within a hundred breaths, the formation will be broken!"

Fang Bai nodded, "For Hanwei to break the formation, it will take much of his Spiritual Energy, he'll need to restore himself before he can pursue us. Therefore, we should have around a thousand breaths to escape. There's no time to waste; we should leave immediately, getting as far from Cold Flame Sect as possible!"

At this moment, hundreds to thousands of figures burst forth from the gate of Cold Flame Sect, shouting and flying towards them.

"The disciples of Cold Flame Sect are chasing us. If we're entangled with them, it'll be troublesome as well, let's go!"

Saying this, Fang Bai summoned the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade, stepping on it, he was the first to fly into the air.

"Fairy Luo, will you go on your own, or with us? I think it's better for us three to travel together, in case Hanwei catches up, we three can join forces to support each other!"

Flood Dragon Venerable said to Fairy Xuanbing.

"That Fang Bai took away my disciple, I have to keep an eye on him! Don't think you can shake me off!"

Fairy Xuanbing said coldly.

Though she said this, she was actually worried about Hanwei catching up. By herself, she absolutely wasn't a match for Hanwei, and if captured by him again, the consequences would be unimaginable.

Flood Dragon laughed heartily and also used his own Spiritual Artifact to fly up, catching up with Fang Bai, and returned the Soul Loss Bell to him.

"In your hands, the Soul Loss Bell's power can't even unleash one or two tenths, it's truly a waste. Don't worry, if one day I come across a spear-shaped Immortal Artifact, I will definitely give one to you."

Fang Bai laughed as he saw Flood Dragon Venerable handing back the Soul Loss Bell with some reluctance.

Flood Dragon Venerable chuckled, "Palace Master, keep your word! I'll be waiting!"

They flew side by side in front, while Fairy Xuanbing followed behind, the three mighty experts of this age shot like lightning towards the south of the Extreme North Continent.

That day, the three of them flew over Ice Flower City. Fang Bai picked up Lin Feng, a former disciple of Cold Flame Sect and fellow sect member of Shao Qingyun, continuing southward, soon reaching above the Ice Sea.

The hundreds of thousands of miles of Ice Sea seemed endless, with sea water crisscrossed by ice mountains and layers. Once they entered it, it would not be easy for Hanwei to track down the three of them.

For Fang Bai, beyond these hundreds of thousands of miles of Ice Sea lay the Western Desolate Continent. As long as they could return to the Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace in the Heaven's Net Realm, he and Flood Dragon Venerable and others would be completely safe.

The present Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace had Xuan Feng Venerable, a strong demi-Immortal Rank power, guarding it. Even if Hanwei chased there, he wouldn't be able to handle them in the least.

At the edge of the Ice Sea, Fairy Xuanbing requested to see Qin Yaorao. Fang Bai thought that he and Flood Dragon Venerable together could suppress her and was not afraid of any tricks, so he released Qin Yaorao and Xiao Ying from the Five Elements Space Ring, allowing the three master and disciple to meet.

Fairy Xuanbing did not expect Xiao Ying to still be alive, and was both excited and delighted, rare for her to thank Fang Bai.

Qin Yaorao and Fairy Xuanbing, having experienced a calamity together at Cold Flame Sect, deepened their master-disciple bond quite a lot. Meeting each other, they sighed with emotion, grateful to have escaped from Hanwei's clutches.

"Master, after returning to the Western Desolate Continent, I plan to follow Fang Bai to the Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace, please fulfill this, I will be very grateful."

Qin Yaorao spoke very politely, but with an unusually firm attitude.

Fairy Xuanbing understood Qin Yaorao, knowing that even if she could forcefully keep her physically, she could not keep her heart. Whatever Qin Yaorao decided, no one could persuade her to change her mind.

Chapter 1986: Are You Interested in Ascending to Immortality?

"Yaorao, is the bond between us as master and disciple truly at its end?"

Fairy Xuanbing felt heartbroken by Qin Yaorao's "ruthlessness" and sighed as she spoke.

Despite being strict and demanding towards Qin Yaorao and Xiao Ying, she had always regarded them as her own children. Seeing Qin Yaorao determined to follow Fang Bai without any attachment to herself made her feel inevitably sad.

However, she had always been a proud woman, and no matter how heartbroken, she needed to present a facade of strength.

Qin Yaorao was not an ungrateful person; she knew that despite Fairy Xuanbing's harsh training over the years, it was genuinely intended to improve her cultivation level, hence she always held a sense of gratitude in her heart.

Yet, in her heart, no one could replace Fang Bai's place, not even Fairy Xuanbing.

If she had never met Fang Bai, it would have been fine, but having met him, how could she bear to part again?

Gazing into Fairy Xuanbing's eyes, Qin Yaorao saw a trace of sorrow. She bit her lip, knelt slowly before Fairy Xuanbing, and kowtowed, saying, "The grace of Master's teachings and nurturance, this disciple will remember forever, not daring to forget! If Master still wishes to acknowledge Yaorao as a disciple, Yaorao would be willing to serve Master for a lifetime!"

"Master, apart from Senior Sister Qin, the other eight senior sisters have all perished. If Senior Sister Qin leaves, it would just be the two of us left on Xuanbing Peak. Why don't we... why don't we follow Senior Sister Qin to the Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace, okay?"

Xiao Ying spoke softly from the side, showing a few hints of anxious worry on her face.

Her bond with Qin Yaorao was deep, stronger than sisters; she really didn't want to part with Qin Yaorao. Hearing that Qin Yaorao intended to follow Fang Bai away yet not mentioning her, she became anxious, which led to her words just now.

In her heart, she would rather go with Qin Yaorao than stay with her master; otherwise, she would never be happy for a lifetime.

Fairy Xuanbing gave Xiao Ying a sideways glance, saying indifferently, "Xiao Ying, speak honestly. Do you not wish to stay with your master and instead want to leave with Senior Sister Qin?"

"I... I... I..."

Xiao Ying, who had been timid and fearful since childhood, felt her scalp tingling and legs soft as Fairy Xuanbing's expressionless gaze fell upon her, stammering without saying anything coherent.

The Flood Dragon Venerable suddenly interjected, "Fairy Xuanbing, what Miss Xiao Ying said is right. Of your ten disciples, only these two remain, the rest have all perished. What is there to linger on Xuanbing Peak for? Our Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace is on the rise. You might as well bring both disciples and join the palace."

Fairy Xuanbing coldly retorted, "I have no interest in joining any sect!"

Fang Bai suddenly took an interest in recruiting Fairy Xuanbing to "join forces."

After all, Fairy Xuanbing was a powerful figure at the ninth level of the Heavenly Tribulation. Although her title of "the foremost of the ninth level of the Heavenly Tribulation" was debatable, such a strong figure joining the Emperor's Palace would significantly boost the palace's overall strength.

"Then, are you interested in ascending to become an immortal?"

Fang Bai spoke leisurely, gazing upon the boundless Ice Sea ahead.

Ascending to immortality is the ultimate dream of every cultivator in the three thousand great worlds. For a staunchly ambitious figure like Fairy Xuanbing, who only pursues supreme cultivation, the obsession to ascend is nearly fanatical.

Sure enough, upon hearing Fang Bai's words, Fairy Xuanbing's heart stirred, and she turned to Fang Bai, asking, "What do you mean by that?"

Fang Bai got straight to the point, "If you are willing to join my Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace, I will ensure your ascension to immortality!"

Previously, he used the same words to successfully recruit the Flood Dragon Venerable, and now, by leveraging his persuasion skills and showing enough strength, he believed Fairy Xuanbing would find it hard to refuse.

"You, with only a seventh-level Heavenly Tribulation cultivation, speaking of ascending to immortality with me—don't you think it's a joke?"

Fairy Xuanbing coldly sneered.

Fang Bai, unperturbed, continued leisurely, "In the Sword Stone Forest behind your Xuanbing Peak, I saw the Myriad Sword Immortal Scripture. Let me ask you, is your name Luo Yun, and is Luo Changtian your ancestor?"

Upon hearing the name "Luo Changtian," Fairy Xuanbing looked at Fang Bai as though she had seen a ghost, her face full of shock, her voice trembling as she asked, "How do you know Luo Changtian is my ancestor? Who exactly are you?"

"My name is Fang Bai. One of my ancestors was also named Fang Bai... By the way, that Fang Bai was precisely the master of your ancestor, Luo Changtian! So, by generation, you should call me senior!"

Fang Bai couldn't reveal his rebirth and had to fabricate another identity for himself.

But Luo Changtian was indeed one of his disciples from many years ago, to whom Fang Bai imparted the Myriad Sword Immortal Scripture.

When Fang Bai saw the Myriad Sword Immortal Scripture in the Sword Stone Forest behind Xuanbing Peak and learned her name was Luo Yun, he guessed that Fairy Xuanbing, Luo Yun, must be a descendant of Luo Changtian.

Thus, with more confidence in recruiting Fairy Xuanbing to join the Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace.

Though Fairy Xuanbing was aloof and proud, she held deep admiration and reverence for her ancestor Luo Changtian. Hearing that Fang Bai was a descendant of her ancestor's master and able to mention the Myriad Sword Immortal Scripture and her ancestor's name, she started believing him somewhat.

However, she did not acknowledge him straightforwardly without complete confirmation and frowned, asking, "Since you know the Myriad Sword Immortal Scripture, give an explanation of a few verses. Otherwise, why should I believe you?"

Although maintaining a cold demeanor, there was a hint of respect in her tone.

Fang Bai smiled and, in the presence of the Flood Dragon Venerable, Liu Qingqing, and Xiao Ying, quickly recited a verse from the Myriad Sword Immortal Scripture and then began explaining it word by word.

The Myriad Sword Immortal Scripture is an Immortal Rank cultivation technique, profound and esoteric. Every time Fairy Xuanbing went to the Stone Sword Forest in the back mountain to observe and comprehend, it felt like reading a heavenly book. Over a century, she hardly grasped a single fraction.

Nonetheless, understanding even that fraction allowed her to ascend to the ninth level of the Heavenly Tribulation and become one of the top cultivators of her time.

Fairy Xuanbing thought if she could comprehend more of the Myriad Sword Immortal Scripture, she wouldn't have been subjected to the humiliation of being kidnapped by Hanwei.

When Fang Bai explained the Myriad Sword Immortal Scripture, he spoke slowly, simplifying the complex, incorporating some of his own cultivation insights and experiences, giving Fairy Xuanbing a feeling of sudden enlightenment and awakening.

All laws originate from the same source.

All paths share the same root.

The Myriad Sword Immortal Scripture elucidated by Fang Bai contained the Great Dao Principles and supreme mysteries, intoxicating not only Fairy Xuanbing but also the Flood Dragon Venerable, Qin Yaorao, and Xiao Ying, who were all deeply immersed and unable to extricate themselves.

Especially Qin Yaorao and Xiao Ying, who had both cultivated the Myriad Sword Immortal Scripture. As they listened, the spiritual energy within their Qi Sea surged, faintly showing signs of breaking through to the next level.

Chapter 1987: Persuasion

Fang Bai stopped speaking after just a moment, then looked at Fairy Xuanbing with a smile.

He knew that his explanation was enough to dispel any doubts Fairy Xuanbing might have.

"No matter how I dedicated myself to cultivation before, I could never comprehend more of the Myriad Sword Immortal Scripture. But after hearing his explanation today, some things are so simple and straightforward. Could this person really be a descendant of the ancestral master?"

Fairy Xuanbing quickly snapped out of her daze, with no more doubts in her heart about Fang Bai's identity.

She solemnly knelt before Fang Bai, then bowed her head to the ground, and said in an incredibly respectful tone, "Luo Yun pays respects to Senior!"

As a disciple of Fairy Xuanbing, Xiao Ying saw her master kneel and hurriedly knelt down too, thinking excitedly, "To think that Fang Bai has such a significant background that even my master has to kneel before him! Now it seems that my master will also have to obey him! This way, I can follow Senior Sister

Qin to the Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace on the Western Desolate Continent. How wonderful!"

Although Qin Yaorao was also a disciple of Fairy Xuanbing, she was also Fang Bai's confidante, and she valued the latter more, so she simply continued to stand there without following Fairy Xuanbing and Xiao Ying to bow to Fang Bai.

"Please rise, Fairy."

Fang Bai accepted Fairy Xuanbing's courtesy openly and then extended his hands to help her stand.

"Do you believe my words now, Fairy?"

Once Fairy Xuanbing stood, Fang Bai asked with a cheerful smile.

Fairy Xuanbing nodded solemnly and said, "Previously, Luo Yun didn't know your identity, and I was very disrespectful. I hope you can forgive me! I have no doubts about your words now!"

Fang Bai said, "As I said before, if you wish to join the Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace, I will assist in your ascent to immortality! But of course, whether you wish to or not is entirely up to you; I won't force you!"

This time, Fairy Xuanbing didn't hesitate, nodding, "Luo Yun would be a fool not to be willing!"

Fang Bai laughed heartily and said, "Great! With the Fairy joining our ranks, it's like gaining a mighty ally! Let's return to the Western Desolate Continent and meet the powerful beings in the Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace!"

Xiao Ying was extremely excited to see her master agree to go to the Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace, cheering joyfully.

Qin Yaorao also breathed a sigh of relief, a smile appearing at the corner of her mouth, as she thought this was exactly the result she had hoped for.

Worried that the Cold Flame Sect Master Hanwei might pursue them, Fang Bai and the rest didn't dare stay long. So, Fang Bai instructed Qin Yaorao and Xiao Ying to return inside his Five Elements Space Ring, while he, the Flood Dragon Venerable, and Fairy Xuanbing flew on their Spiritual Artifacts.

Although the hundred thousand li Ice Sea was vast, Fang Bai and the other two, either being at the ninth level of the Heavenly Tribulation or possessing combat power equivalent to it, could fly at extremely high speeds, covering several thousand li in a day.

When their spiritual energy was depleted, the three would land on the ice sheets of the ice mountains to rest and recuperate, while also hunting a few sea fishes and using fire spiritual energy to grill them into delicious meals.

Fortunately, the journey was smooth and without any dangerous encounters or sightings of the Cold Flame Sect Master Hanwei. It seemed he had given up the chase.

On this day, the three finally saw the coastline ahead from afar and all breathed a collective sigh of relief.

Reaching the Western Desolate Continent meant they were far from the Cold Flame Sect and no longer had to worry about their safety. Thus, Fang Bai released Qin Yaorao, Liu Qingqing, Xiao Ying, Shao Qingyun, and Lin Feng from the Five Elements Space Ring to accompany them.

Although there were only eight of them, their collective combat power was impressive, with just Fang Bai, the Flood Dragon Venerable, and Fairy Xuanbing capable of wiping out a top-level sect.

Passing by Xuanbing Mountain, Fairy Xuanbing first visited the graves of her eight disciples that Fang Bai had buried and mourned for a while. Then, with Fang Bai and the others, they arrived at the Sword Stone Forest behind Xuanbing Peak.

"Senior..."

Fairy Xuanbing was just about to speak to Fang Bai when Fang Bai raised his hand to interrupt her.

"Once you arrive at the Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace, you'll be taking up the position of an Elder, so it wouldn't be appropriate to call me 'Senior' anymore. You can call me Palace Master instead!"

Fang Bai said with a smile.

Fairy Xuanbing nodded and said, "Palace Master, I'm about to leave Xuanbing Peak. Do you think we should destroy this Sword Stone Forest?"

Once they leave, there will be no one to guard the Sword Stone Forest, and the Immortal Rank Cultivation Techniques carved there might be seen by others.

The Myriad Sword Immortal Scripture was, after all, passed down by Fang Bai's ancestors to Fairy Xuanbing's ancestors, so Fang Bai naturally had the right to decide its fate.

Fang Bai thought for a moment, then shook his head and said, "No need! Let this Myriad Sword Immortal Scripture remain for destined individuals in the future to comprehend."

To Fang Bai, leaving this opportunity behind was providing the powerhouses of the Three Thousand Great Worlds with a shortcut to advance. Anyone who could comprehend even two or three parts of it would have the chance to ascend to the Immortal Realm.

Of course, to the vast majority of cultivators, the Myriad Sword Immortal Scripture was as profound and incomprehensible as the Heavenly Scriptures unless they were extraordinarily talented and fated individuals.

The Fairy Xuanbing, possessing a Dual Attribute Innate Spiritual Root of Water and Metal, spent a hundred years and only grasped one or two parts of the Myriad Sword Immortal Scripture, illustrating how difficult it truly was to fully comprehend it.

Fairy Xuanbing, Qin Yaorao, and Xiao Ying all had long resided around Xuanbing Peak, and as they left, they suddenly felt a sense of reluctance. After lingering for half a day, they finally departed with Fang Bai and the others.

When they reached the Western Desolate Continent, without the urgency of being pursued by Hanwei, they were in no rush to travel. They spent most of their time walking, crossing mountains and rivers, entering great cities, occasionally battling spirit beasts or dueling strong adversaries, treating it as a form of training.

On this day, when Fang Bai and the others passed through the Thundercloud Realm, they noticed thousands of strong practitioners gathering towards a single direction.

Fang Bai, well-acquainted with the Western Desolate Continent, knew that the direction those strong practitioners were heading was the renowned Thundercloud Mountain Range.

Within the Thundercloud Mountain Range, clouds gathered without dispersing, electricity surged within the clouds, and thunder roared, giving one the feeling of being in an apocalyptic world.

"Let's go take a look!"

Knowing that wherever many strong practitioners gathered, something was bound to happen, Fang Bai thought it wouldn't hurt to investigate since they had nothing else to do. There might even be a fortuitous encounter.

The Thundercloud Mountain Range spanned ten thousand li, with a thousand peaks, all barren due to the lack of sunlight and frequent thunderstorms, where no flowers, plants, or trees could survive.

Upon reaching the edge of the Thundercloud Mountain Range, Fang Bai found that it had changed significantly from tens of thousands of years ago, likely due to a significant world-altering event, with the Thunder Lightning Spirit Qi more than doubling in density.

Within the thick cloud layers, thousands of lightning snakes darted and leapt wildly, occasionally converging and striking the ground, leaving the land shattered and enveloped in dust, depicting a terrifying scene.

Chapter 1988: Thunder Essence Immortal Pill?

Fang Bai remembered that within the Leiyun Mountain Range, there was a Burial Artifact Peak.

Originally, the Burial Artifact Peak was just an ordinary mountain in the Leiyun Mountain Range. Over the millennia, strong cultivators often fought battles on that peak, and the spiritual artifacts of the fallen remained there.

Over time, the number of spiritual artifacts there exceeded ten thousand, hence it was named Burial Artifact Peak.

Before flying to the Immortal Realm in the past, Fang Bai once visited the Burial Artifact Peak, hoping to find a cherished treasure, but left disappointed.

Because at that time, although there were many spiritual artifacts left on the Burial Artifact Peak, the best were merely superior royal-grade artifacts, which were of no assistance to Fang Bai anymore.

At this moment, thousands of strong cultivators were gathering from all directions, including Great Calamity Period Experts at the Thunder Tribulation Realm. Fang Bai thought their objective couldn't just be the spiritual artifacts on the Burial Artifact Peak.

"This Leiyun Mountain Range has a unique geology that easily attracts thunder and lightning. Over thousands of years, it has continually been struck by lightning. Perhaps some treasure is really about to appear; otherwise, why would so many strong cultivators gather?"

Thinking this, Fang Bai extended his Divine Sense to eavesdrop on the movements of the strong cultivators around, hoping to gather some useful information from their conversations.

"Brother Changqing, you came as well?"

"Yes! I heard there's a treasure appearing in the Leiyun Mountain Range. How could I miss that?"

"Brother Changqing, do you know what treasure is appearing?"

"It's said to be the Thunder Essence Pill!"

"Thunder Essence Pill? What kind of treasure is that? Even a superior royal-grade high-ranking Thunder Essence Pill is not a rarity in the eyes of us Great Calamity Period cultivators at the Thunder Tribulation Realm!"

"Ha, I missed a word earlier. It's said to be the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill!"

"Im... Immortal Pill? The legendary Immortal Pill?"

"Whether it's an Immortal Pill, I only heard rumors. I came to the Thunder Tribulation Immortal Meridian this time just to verify the truth of the news!"

"If it truly is an Immortal Pill, then the Leiyun Mountain Range will definitely witness a bloody storm!"

"If I could consume an Immortal Pill, even if I can't ascend to the Immortal Realm, my strength would certainly greatly increase!"

"Just right, my cultivation technique is thunder-based. If the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill really exists, I must compete for it this time no matter what!"

"The Thunder Essence Immortal Pill may not be useful for my cultivation, but it can be exchanged for a massive amount of cultivation resources! I might get involved as well!"

...

Fang Bai heard the conversation between two strong cultivators several miles away, and his heart stirred upon hearing the words "Thunder Essence Immortal Pill".

Though in the Immortal Realm, Immortal Pills are just ordinary cultivation resources, in this vast universe of three thousand worlds, they are considered legendary treasures, extremely rare.

It's not an exaggeration to say that any cultivator, no matter how poor their aptitude, stands a great chance of advancement as long as they can withstand the impact of a wisp of immortal power after consuming an Immortal Pill.

There are countless cultivators in the world, with most cultivating the five elements of gold, wood, water, fire, and earth. However, cultivators of wind and thunder techniques are quite rare.

Especially those practicing thunder-based cultivation techniques, even fewer exist.

In the universe of three thousand worlds, resources that can aid thunder cultivators are exceedingly rare. Due to the lack of related cultivation resources, some thunder cultivators must endure lightning to temper their bodies and challenge the might of heaven and earth to advance in their cultivation.

The benefit of this method is that it can attract a large amount of Thunder Spirit Qi, which is very beneficial for cultivation.

The downside is that inducing lightning to temper the body is akin to crossing a Heavenly Tribulation; it's very dangerous. With the slightest carelessness, one's physical body could be destroyed, turning to ashes.

However, among cultivators of the same realm, thunder cultivators have the most formidable attack power and the most astonishing destructive capacity.

Among Fang Bai's disciples and beloved confidantes, only Dongfang Ruhua possesses an Innate Thunder Spirit Root. Because of this, Fang Bai taught her the Immortal Rank cultivation technique, Nine Heavens Divine Thunder Mantra.

Although Dongfang Ruhua is intelligent and diligent in her cultivation, due to the lack of thunder cultivation resources, her progress in strength isn't rapid. Otherwise, she might have already surpassed the other beloved confidantes around Fang Bai.

Fang Bai thought if the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill truly appeared within the Leiyun Mountain Range, he couldn't let it slip away no matter what.

If he could obtain the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill and had spares, he'd keep a few for himself; if there was only one, he would give it to Dongfang Ruhua.

Flood Dragon Venerable, Fairy Xuanbing, and others were also using their Divine Sense to probe the surrounding movements, gathering plenty of information.

"Palace Master, let's go over and take a look together! No matter what type of Immortal Pill, it's a treasure!"

Flood Dragon Venerable rubbed his hands together excitedly.

Even the usually aloof and reserved Fairy Xuanbing seemed tempted upon hearing an Immortal Pill might appear.

Immortal Pills are legendary elixirs from the Immortal Realm, containing supreme immortal power, refined with immortal herbs, flowers, and fruits from the Immortal Realm. Consuming them not only extends life but also enhances cultivation. Who among the cultivators of the three thousand worlds can resist such temptation?

Qin Yaorao, Liu Qingqing, Xiao Ying, Shao Qingyun, and Lin Feng, lacking the experience of Fang Bai, Flood Dragon Venerable, and Fairy Xuanbing, widened their eyes in excitement at the mention of "Immortal Pill".

To them, securing an Immortal Pill might be beyond hope, but getting to see it would be satisfaction enough.

"Great! Let's go have a look!"

Xiao Ying, who loves excitement, clapped her hands and jumped in agreement.

Fang Bai glanced toward the Leiyun Mountain Range and said, "With an Immortal Pill appearing, there will certainly be a large gathering of strong cultivators, and the possibility of fierce battles breaking out is high. Let's stay low-profile and not pick fights. But there's no need to fear trouble either!"

He paused, then said to Qin Yaorao, Liu Qingqing, Xiao Ying, Shao Qingyun, and Lin Feng, "If we encounter any dangerous situations in the Thunder Mountain Range, you five must enter the Five Elements Space Ring. That way, we three won't get distracted."

Fang Bai, Fairy Xuanbing, and Flood Dragon Venerable are all experts at the ninth level of the Thunder Tribulation Realm, capable of handling any dangerous situations. However, the five individuals, including Qin Yaorao, are too weak. If any danger arises, the three of them might not be able to take care of everyone, so they can only put them in the Five Elements Space Ring for safety.

Xiao Ying pouted, seeming somewhat reluctant, and murmured softly, "Brother Fang Bai, can we not go inside? Those two Spirit Beasts in there... they're a bit annoying!"

Fang Bai knew she was referring to the Bixie Immortal Beast and the Lightning Mink and asked with a smile, "Why do you say they're annoying?"

Xiao Ying snorted, "That giant Spirit Beast... uh, I don't know what kind of Spirit Beast it is, but it looks fierce and scary. I feel suffocated in front of it..."

She seemed to recall the fierce appearance of the giant Spirit Beast inside the Five Elements Space Ring and frowned, looking a bit scared.

"And that little mink, at first, it seemed cute, but when I wanted to hold it, not only did it refuse, it growled fiercely at me. It even spoke human words, saying I'm just a little girl new to the Thunder Tribulation stage, unworthy of holding it... so infuriating!"

Xiao Ying recounted with grievance, her mouth pouting high.

Chapter 1989: Four Half-Immortal Rank Powerhouses

After Xiao Ying complained for a while, she finally agreed with Fang Bai that, in case of danger, she would enter the Five Elements Space Ring with Qin Yaorao and the others.

This was because Fang Bai promised her that she could hold the Lightning Mink within the Five Elements Space Ring.

As for whether the Lightning Mink was willing or not... Fang Bai had his own ways to make it willing.

Despite the Lightning Mink's arrogance, it had long submitted to the "overwhelming power" of the Bixie Immortal Beast. As long as Fang Bai let the Bixie Immortal Beast exert pressure, the Lightning Mink wouldn't dare to oppose.

As for whether the Bixie Immortal Beast would listen to Fang Bai... Fang Bai was quite confident about it.

This was because the Bixie Immortal Beast needed Fang Bai to lift the seal within its body and help it return to the Immortal Realm.

It had a favor to ask of Fang Bai, so it naturally wouldn't refuse this small request of his.

"Let's go! Let's join in the fun!"

Fang Bai waved his hand and led the way, followed closely by Flood Dragon Venerable, Fairy Xuanbing, and others, speeding towards the Leiyun Mountain Range.

The closer they got to the Leiyun Mountain Range, the more powerful cultivators gathered from all directions. Fang Bai and his group merged into the surging crowd and continued forward.

In Fang Bai's group of eight, there was Fang Bai, a young cultivator already at the seventh level of the Thunder Tribulation Realm; two strong cultivators at the ninth level of the Thunder Tribulation Realm, Flood Dragon Venerable and Fairy Xuanbing; and three beautiful young ladies, Qin Yaorao, Liu Qingqing, and Xiao Ying.

Therefore, in the crowd, these eight were very conspicuous, drawing the attention of many cultivators.

As they approached the Leiyun Mountain Range, suddenly a powerful pressure surged from behind the powerful cultivators. When they turned to look, it was a Half-Immortal Rank cultivator leading dozens of disciples in the Great Calamity Period of the Thunder Tribulation Realm, speeding towards them.

All hundred of them were wearing yellow Buddhist robes, with bald heads. As they flew, each clasped their hands together solemnly, with dignified expressions.

As they flew, their feet almost touched the ground, and with each step, watery ripples formed beneath them and quickly spread in all directions, as if Lotus flowers were blossoming one after another.

"This movement technique... it looks like the Buddhist Sect's Lotus Step by Step!"

"I know now, they are the Buddhas from Lei jue Temple!"

"Could that leading old Buddha be Chan Master Lei Yin of Lei jue Temple?"

"It should be him! It's said that Chan Master Lei Yin is nearing five hundred years old and is already a Half-Immortal Rank cultivator!"

"Who would have thought! Chan Master Lei Yin, who has always avoided worldly affairs, focusing on cultivation, would come to this excitement!"

"Did Chan Master Lei Yin come down the mountain this time for the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill?"

"With a Half-Immortal Rank expert making a move, what chance do we have?"

...

Upon seeing the leading old Buddha, the expressions of many powerful cultivators changed slightly, and they exclaimed in surprise.

That old Buddha was none other than Chan Master Lei Yin from Lei jue Temple, one of the Super Sects in the Three Thousand Great Worlds.

Chan Master Lei Yin had white beard and brows, cloudy eyes, a slightly hunched back, and a petite, frail figure, looking like an ordinary old Buddha with no outstanding features, as if a gust of wind could blow him over.

But those who had heard of the old Buddha's reputation knew that within that petite and frail body lay extremely terrifying power.

Chan Master Lei Yin had been famous for hundreds of years, and it is said he reached the Half-Immortal Rank Realm a hundred years ago.

Some strong cultivators had seen Chan Master Lei Yin in combat, where a single punch could collapse a hundred-zhang tall sturdy mountain, an astonishing display of might.

The Buddhas from Lei jue Temple carried overwhelming pressure and moved with great speed, arriving in an instant. Tens of thousands of powerful cultivators didn't want to provoke them, and upon seeing them, they quickly moved aside, giving them a passage through.

"Chan Master Lei Yin has also come to join the excitement... It seems getting the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill this time won't be easy!"

Flood Dragon Venerable looked at the swiftly retreating figures of the Buddhas from Lei jue Temple with a complex expression and murmured.

Fairy Xuanbing said calmly, "There is more than one Half-Immortal Rank cultivator this time! Look over at that peak over there..."

She pointed with her lips towards a distant peak.

Flood Dragon Venerable looked in the indicated direction and found, sure enough, standing proudly on the peak a dozen or so li away was a middle-aged man with large sleeves fluttering.

The middle-aged man appeared to be just over fifty, fair-faced without a beard, with handsome features, and seemed quite charismatic. In his left hand, he held a two-foot-long jade flute made from an unknown material.

"Star-Picking Scholars! He's here too..."

Upon seeing the middle-aged man's handsome features, Flood Dragon Venerable couldn't help but gasp.

Star-Picking Scholars was a loose cultivator known for his great fortune, which allowed him to advance to the Half-Immortal Rank Realm, making him famous in the Three Thousand Great Worlds, with strength equal to Chan Master Lei Yin.

The jade flute in his hand was the top piece among the Royal Grade Superior Spiritual Artifacts; when its sound resonated, it could captivate souls and confuse minds, similar in effect to Fang Bai's Soul Loss Bell.

"Over there is also a Half-Immortal Rank elder and a One-Armed Divine Nun... Haha, the four Half-Immortal Rank cultivators from Buddhist, Confucian, Taoist, and Nun factions are all here... Looks like there'll be a good show to watch at the Leiyun Mountain Range..."

Fang Bai's Divine Sense Diffusion expanded in all directions and detected two Half-Immortal Rank cultivators within a hundred li.

Although unfamiliar with the four Half-Immortal Rank cultivators in the Leiyun Mountain Range, Fairy Xuanbing and Flood Dragon Venerable, who had traveled extensively across the Three Thousand Worlds and had broad experiences, had heard of them, knowing none of the four were individuals to be trifled with.

Among the four, Chan Master Lei Yin and the One-Armed Immortal Nun were reclusive, rarely interfering in worldly affairs; Star-Picking Scholars and Wind Pursuit Taoist, however, wandered the world freely, often meddling in others' business.

The four had comparable strength but different personalities and ways of doing things.

Of the four, the most feared was Chan Master Lei Yin, the most liked was Wind Pursuit Taoist, the most disliked was Star-Picking Scholars, and the most respected was One-Armed Divine Nun.

Chan Master Lei Yin's profound and unpredictable strength, with emotions not easily visible, made him the most intimidating.

Wind Pursuit Taoist was known for his sense of justice, often stepping in against injustice, and was warm and amiable, thus the most liked.

Star-Picking Scholars, with his eccentric, both righteous and wicked personality, and arrogance, was the most disliked.

Despite having only one arm, One-Armed Divine Nun's relentless cultivation allowed her to match the three other Half-Immortal Rank cultivators, earning the respect of the Three Thousand World's powerhouses who saw her as an exemplar for dedicated cultivation.

This occurrence marked the first time the four Half-Immortal Rank cultivators from these factions had appeared together in one place.

It seemed the emergence of the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill not only attracted tens of thousands of powerful cultivators but also caught the attention of numerous Half-Immortal Rank powerhouses.

The four Half-Immortal Rank cultivators, traveling tens or even hundreds of thousands of li, were determined to acquire the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill at all costs.

After witnessing the appearance of the four Half-Immortal Rank cultivators, many powerful cultivators on the scene gave up unrealistic ideas and instead turned their attention to seeking some benefits from Burial Artifact Peak.

Chapter 1990: Show Your True Strength

Chan Master Lei Yin, Star-Picking Scholar, Wind Pursuit Taoist, and One-Armed Divine Nun, these four Half-Immortal Rank experts all appeared simultaneously, undoubtedly for the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill.

For ordinary cultivators, an Immortal Pill is a treasured dream, but for a Half-Immortal Rank expert like Chan Master Lei Yin, who is just a step away from ascending to the Immortal Realm, it is an indispensable treasure.

Therefore, when news spread that the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill was emerging from the Leiyun Mountain Range, these Half-Immortal Rank experts who usually kept to themselves and rarely meddled in worldly affairs could not resist the allure of the Immortal Pill, and they rushed to this Leiyun Mountain Range.

Apart from the four Half-Immortal Rank experts, Fang Bai and others also noticed many powerful practitioners at the ninth stage of the Heavenly Tribulation present, the majority being leaders of various sects, with a few being loose cultivators.

Among those powerful practitioners at the ninth stage of the Heavenly Tribulation, Fairy Xuanbing and Flood Dragon Venerable recognized some, even exchanging a few pleasantries with some acquaintances.

Although Fang Bai's combat strength could now be ranked among the top-tier powerhouses of the world, he had not returned to the three thousand worlds for tens of thousands of years, and time had changed everything. The powerful practitioners before him were unfamiliar faces, and he recognized none of them.

"Dragon Flame Venerable, this is our Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace's Palace Master, Fang Bai..."

"Fairy Zixiao, this is our Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace's Palace Master, Fang Bai..."

Flood Dragon Venerable and Fairy Xuanbing continuously introduced Fang Bai to the powerful practitioners at the ninth stage of the Heavenly Tribulation they were acquainted with.

Now they were part of the Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace, and naturally hoped that the palace could establish friendly relations with more powerful sects, which would be beneficial to the rising Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace.

Fang Bai understood their feelings and cooperated well, maintaining a humble smile, constantly greeting with the words "I've long admired you."

The powerful practitioners at the ninth stage of the Heavenly Tribulation who were exchanging pleasantries with Flood Dragon Venerable and Fairy Xuanbing found it hard to understand why they joined a little-known sect led by a practitioner at the seventh stage of the Heavenly Tribulation.

"Palace Master, in this world, strength is respected. It seems that if you don't show some real skill, people look down on you!"

Flood Dragon Venerable saw that those at the ninth stage of the Heavenly Tribulation looked down on Fang Bai and the Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace, and secretly communicated with Fang Bai.

Fairy Xuanbing also looked at Fang Bai, hoping he could showcase his power to boost the reputation of the Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace.

Fang Bai knew that the current strength of the Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace was not inferior to any strong sect in the world. If they wanted to attract more powerful practitioners, there was no need to keep a low profile.

"Alright..."

Fang Bai pursed his lips, stopped hiding his strength, and began to release his aura outward.

"Huh?"

Those who initially looked down on Fang Bai, feeling the increasingly potent aura emanating from him, were surprised. They didn't expect this young seventh stage Heavenly Tribulation practitioner to possess combat strength not weaker than these top-tier powerhouses.

This made them reevaluate Fang Bai, no longer daring to show the slightest disrespect.

Fang Bai, at such a young age, possessed astonishing combat strength, proving how remarkable his talent and qualifications were, and predestining his boundless potential in the path of cultivation.

Perhaps it wouldn't be long before these proud ninth stage Heavenly Tribulation practitioners were surpassed by him.

In the three thousand worlds, the weak have no dignity, and the strong are revered.

After Fang Bai displayed his formidable combat power, he drew the attention of numerous powerhouses around him. Those at the ninth stage of the Heavenly Tribulation, friends with Fairy Xuanbing and Flood Dragon Venerable, scrambled to converse with Fang Bai, hoping to build a rapport with this promising young powerhouse.

Chan Master Lei Yin, Star-Picking Scholar, Wind Pursuit Taoist, and One-Armed Divine Nun, though distanced from Fang Bai and others, had their Divine Sense spreading over hundreds of miles, and any subtle movement within that range was within their detection.

When Fang Bai unleashed an aura comparable to a ninth stage Heavenly Tribulation practitioner, they sensed it immediately and were surprised and intrigued by this unfamiliar yet powerful young practitioner.

"That young man's age, on the surface, looks merely eighteen or nineteen, and his real age surely doesn't exceed thirty, yet he's cultivated to the seventh stage of the Heavenly Tribulation. There is none like him across the three thousand worlds."

Wind Pursuit Taoist's Divine Sense lingered on Fang Bai, his eyes flashing with a strange light, murmuring to himself.

"Every millennium, prodigious talents emerge in the three thousand worlds. But this young man, he's a genius among geniuses, a once-in-ten-thousand-years marvel!"

Star-Picking Scholar stroked his beard, musing to himself.

Both being loose cultivators with no affiliations, upon encountering such a prodigious talent as Fang Bai, they were filled with admiration and wondered if the young one had a master. If not, he could inherit their teachings.

Although Fang Bai was at the seventh stage of the Heavenly Tribulation, there was still a considerable gap to reach their Half-Immortal Rank realm. They believed that if they sincerely took him as a disciple, he would be moved.

As for Chan Master Lei Yin and One-Armed Divine Nun, one came from Lei jue Temple, the other from Ruyi Hermitage, both had their sects, and they were more committed to contemplative pursuits and not very enthusiastic about accepting disciples from the mortal world.

After exchanging brief pleasantries with those at the ninth stage of the Heavenly Tribulation, Fang Bai further confirmed from their conversation the rumor that the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill had emerged within the Thunder Tribulation Mountain Range.

It is said that there was a whole bottle of ten Thunder Essence Immortal Pills on the summit of Burial Artifact Peak.

The initial powerful practitioners who discovered the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill revealed that the bottle could naturally summon lightning, creating a great shield of lightning within a hundred feet, which even the strongest at the ninth stage of the Heavenly Tribulation could not breach to approach the Immortal Pill.

Subsequently, a few practitioners at the ninth stage of the Heavenly Tribulation, unwilling to believe it, went together to Burial Artifact Peak in the Thunder Mountain Range, attempting to break the lightning shield and obtain the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill.

Ultimately, these ninth stage practitioners were repelled by the lightning shield, suffering severe injuries, failing to get the Immortal Pill, and nearly losing their lives at Burial Artifact Peak.

After this news spread, many powerful practitioners across the three thousand worlds rapidly moved towards the Leiyun Mountain Range.

Most of those powerhouses came with the mindset of trying their luck, hoping to reap unexpected benefits.

To them, not obtaining the Immortal Pill is not a regret, but if they could get it, it would be a tremendous opportunity, potentially altering their fate.

"Burial Artifact Peak is near!"

After Fang Bai and others ventured deeper into the Leiyun Mountain Range, Flood Dragon Venerable suddenly raised his hand and pointed forward. In the sky tens of miles away, dark clouds gathered, thunder rumbled, and lightning coiled, presenting a terrifying sight.

Beneath the vast dark clouds lay the highest peak, littered with countless diverse Spiritual Artifacts—it was the most famous Burial Artifact Peak in the Leiyun Mountain Range.