

Doctor 1991

Chapter 1991: Refusing to Fall Behind

Fang Bai used his Divine Sense to explore the summit of Burial Artifact Peak, where he indeed discovered a lightning shield spanning about a hundred zhang.

The massive shield was formed by tens of thousands of intertwining purple Lightning Snakes, producing a sizzling sound and casting a purple hue over the surrounding space.

Occasionally, a blinding flash of lightning fell from the sky, illuminating the entire Burial Artifact Peak as if it were daytime. In that moment, under the great lightning shield, a fist-sized purple bottle could be seen. The bottle was enveloped in arcs of electric light, and the Essence Energy of Thunder and Lightning was so dense that it seemed tangible, clearly indicating that the bottle contained the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill.

When Fang Bai traversed the Leiyun Mountain Range tens of thousands of years ago, although Burial Artifact Peak already existed, there was no lightning shield on the summit, let alone the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill. Otherwise, how could Fang Bai have missed such an opportunity back then?

This indicates that the massive lightning shield formed over the tens of thousands of years after Fang Bai's ascension, and that the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill was also created during that time.

It was uncertain who placed or left the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill here.

"Could it be that, over the tens of thousands of years, an Immortal from the Nine Heavenly Domains broke open the Boundary Gate between the Immortal Realm and the three thousand worlds with immense immortal power and came here? Impossible! Absolutely impossible! The Boundary Gate between the Immortal Realm and the three thousand worlds was sealed by powerful figures in ancient times. Even the combined power of ten thousand Immortals cannot break it; a single Immortal could never do it!"

Fang Bai frowned, pondering over the origin of the Immortal Pill, but couldn't figure it out, so he decided not to think about it anymore.

"Someone has climbed Burial Artifact Peak! Let's hurry or we'll fall behind!"

Flood Dragon Venerable's Divine Sense covered Burial Artifact Peak, noticing many powerful figures unable to restrain themselves, already starting to move towards the summit. Being worried that the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill would fall into their hands, he grew anxious.

Fairy Xuanbing sneered and said, "If the Immortal Pill were so easily obtained, would it be their turn? Just watch, whoever touches that Immortal Pill first will suffer greatly!"

Fang Bai nodded and said, "Fairy is correct. The Immortal Pill is an elixir refined by Immortals and has its own intelligence; it won't be easily obtained."

As soon as he finished speaking, there was a "crack" sound, and a flash of lightning as thick as an arm illuminated the earth, crashing down from the pitch-black clouds above, striking the cultivator closest to the lightning shield.

This cultivator, possessing a cultivation level of Thunder Tribulation seventh level, was ecstatic seeing that he was only about a hundred zhang away from the Immortal Pill and accelerated forward. But suddenly, a flash of lightning descended from the sky before he could even touch it.

Lightning, being a force of the heavens and earth, possesses unimaginable power. Caught off guard, the cultivator with a Thunder Tribulation seventh level cultivation was unable to withstand it and was instantly reduced to charcoal, with wisps of white smoke rising from his corpse, his life extinguished.

The death of this Thunder Tribulation seventh level cultivator deterred other cultivators who were approaching the summit, and they did not dare to rush forward for a while.

However, they were unwilling to retreat, so they gathered around the lightning shield to discuss countermeasures.

"Don't panic! Although the lightning is powerful, according to my observations over the years, it only strikes once at a time. It means that if we all rush forward simultaneously, only one person will be struck by lightning. The one hit will be unfortunate; those who aren't will have a chance to get the Immortal Pill!"

One of the strong cultivators shouted out loud.

"What are we waiting for? Charge together!"

"If we wait any longer, more strong figures will arrive!"

"Indeed, once other strong figures arrive, the competition will be fiercer, and our chances of getting the Immortal Pill will become smaller!"

"If over a hundred of us work together, we can surely break through the lightning shield! After getting the Immortal Pill, we can distribute it according to strength! Those who don't get the Immortal Pill can be compensated with some cultivation resources from other cultivators!"

"Exactly! This way, everyone will benefit!"

"Let's do it!"

...

Under the encouragement of a few companions, the first group of over a hundred cultivators surged with excitement again, their eyes emitting a fervent glow as they stared at the purple jade bottle a hundred zhang away, possibly containing the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill.

"Charge!"

The first cultivator who spoke, the strongest among the hundred, possessing a Thunder Tribulation eighth-level cultivation, shouted loudly. Following his call, over a hundred cultivators dashed forward like lightning, simultaneously launching a full-force attack on the lightning shield.

"Crack!"

As predicted by the Thunder Tribulation eighth-level expert, when they neared the lightning shield, another bolt of lightning descended from the sky, killing an unlucky one instantly. Other strong figures were affected slightly, but none sustained severe injuries, nor was their combat power affected.

"Boom!"

The attack from over a hundred Thunder Tribulation realm Great Calamity Period cultivators landed on the lightning shield, creating an earth-shaking explosion. The lightning shield fluctuated violently, seemingly showing signs of collapsing.

At this moment, the purple bottle containing the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill emitted thousands of purple beams, which infused into the surrounding lightning shield, restoring its stability.

"Attack again!"

The Thunder Tribulation eighth-level cultivator shouted, leading over a hundred cultivators to launch a second strike.

This second strike was more potent and forceful than the first; each of them was confident, feeling hopeful to break it with one blow.

But beyond their expectation, when their second strike landed on the lightning shield, a force stronger than their attack surged back from the shield.

"Bang!"

The rebounding force, carrying the power of lightning, swept out like a furious storm, clearing the debris off the summit and sending over a hundred cultivators flying, making them lose control as they fell towards the bottom of Burial Artifact Peak.

"Ah..."

The hundred cultivators, thrown into the air, spewed blood, their internal organs shattered, crying and wailing in agony.

Among them, the stronger ones suffered severe injuries, mostly losing their combat strength; the slightly weaker ones died on the spot, their lives extinguished.

However, despite such heavy casualties, the fervor of these battle-hardened cultivators, accustomed to life and death, remained undeterred. They continued to charge up the summit, trying to break the lightning shield and seize the Immortal Pill.

Yet, without exception, all of them failed.

Consequently, Burial Artifact Peak, now dubbed "Burial Corpse Peak", amassed hundreds more corpses, both at its top and bottom.

"If things go on like this, Burial Artifact Peak could be called the 'Burial Corpse Peak'!"

Flood Dragon Venerable shook his head and sighed, realizing that Fairy Xuanbing and Fang Bai were right: obtaining the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill wouldn't be easy for anyone.

"There are Thunder Tribulation ninth-level experts who can't hold back and wish to climb the peak!"

Spotting several familiar figures flying towards the summit of Burial Artifact Peak, Flood Dragon Venerable's eyes widened with eagerness.

These figures were friends of Flood Dragon Venerable, and he believed that, combined with Fang Bai and Fairy Xuanbing, they might succeed with the Thunder Tribulation ninth-level experts in breaking the lightning shield and obtaining the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill.

"Hold on, wait for a bit!"

Fang Bai stopped Flood Dragon Venerable, whispering to him.

Chapter 1992: You Couldn't Do It, Let Us Try!

Eight Thunder Tribulation Experts moved like lightning, approaching the peak of Burial Artifact Peak from different directions, and stared fiercely at the bottle of Thunder Essence Immortal Pill within the lightning barrier.

The purple electric glow illuminated their faces, each showing excitement and eagerness.

"There should be ten Thunder Essence Immortal Pills in that jade bottle, enough for the eight of us to share! So, everyone, there's no need to rush or fight!"

A white-haired, white-bearded Thunder Tribulation Expert glanced at the other seven experts and spoke in a deep voice: "What we need to do now is unite and work together to break through this lightning barrier. Otherwise, as wonderful as the Immortal Pill is, none of us will be able to obtain it!"

The other seven Thunder Tribulation Experts nodded in agreement with his words.

A moment ago, a hundred Great Calamity Period Experts of the Thunder Tribulation Realm worked together, yet failed to break through the lightning barrier around the Thunder Essence; instead, they suffered heavy casualties from the barrier's counterattack. These eight had seen it with their own eyes and were deeply disturbed.

The combined strength of the eight of them was indeed much stronger than those hundred together, but they dared not be careless.

"Attack!"

The eight Thunder Tribulation Experts, led by the white-haired, white-bearded elder, launched their assault simultaneously at his command.

Eight Thunder Tribulation Experts gathered all their strength and attacked a single target simultaneously with such intensity that even a Half-Immortal Rank expert would not dare to take it head-on and could only evade.

Eight streams of Spiritual Energy, carrying the force of splitting mountains, collided with the lightning barrier dozens of meters away.

Tens of thousands of experts watching from below the peak saw the eight streams of Spiritual Energy crashing forward like a great tidal wave, knowing that this collision would produce a sensational impact.

Although it was the first time these eight Thunder Tribulation Experts joined forces, they coordinated seamlessly. The eight streams of Spiritual Energy shot out simultaneously, fiercely striking the crisscrossing layer of the lightning barrier.

"Boom!"

A loud explosion echoed as the eight streams of Spiritual Energy collided with the lightning barrier, generating a powerful shockwave in an instant.

The shockwave rippled outward from the Burial Artifact Peak as its center, causing a violent disturbance in the space within a hundred meters, as if it might collapse at any moment.

Countless experts fixed their gazes on the peak of Burial Artifact Peak, eager to see if the combined power of eight Thunder Tribulation Experts could break through that layer of the lightning barrier.

"Still not working!"

After the shockwave dissipated, the lightning barrier remained, causing the watching experts to be greatly disappointed. They hadn't expected the barrier to be so sturdy that even the combined force of eight Thunder Tribulation Experts couldn't break it. It seemed that getting the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill was no easy task.

Yet, amidst their disappointment, the experts also felt a sense of relief.

If the lightning barrier were broken by those eight Thunder Tribulation Experts, they would have divided up the bottle of Thunder Essence Immortal Pill, leaving no opportunity for others.

Their failure meant there was still hope for everyone to obtain the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill.

The eight Thunder Tribulation Experts, with their robust physiques, were only pushed back dozens of meters by the barrier's powerful counterforce and weren't injured.

Nevertheless, each of the eight Thunder Tribulation Experts was deeply alarmed, not daring to launch another attack for the moment.

"If you can't do it, then let us have a try!"

The Star-Picking Scholar proclaimed loudly, transforming into a stream of light and flying up to Burial Artifact Peak, casting a scornful and disdainful glance at the eight Thunder Tribulation Experts.

The power of a Half-Immortal Rank expert is several times stronger than a Thunder Tribulation Expert. As the Star-Picking Scholar's gaze swept over them, they felt an overwhelming pressure, causing them to tremble involuntarily.

Although these eight were top experts of the three thousand worlds, they were far behind a super expert like the Star-Picking Scholar. Thus, despite his scorn and disdain, they dared not show any anger.

Moreover, the Star-Picking Scholar was known for his arrogance and combative nature. Anyone who provoked him would find themselves in a life-or-death struggle, so everyone feared him somewhat. How could the eight Thunder Tribulation Experts dare to oppose him?

Among the eight Thunder Tribulation Experts, the leading white-haired, white-bearded elder spoke solemnly: "Senior, though your power is formidable, the lightning barrier is exceptionally sturdy. Why not join forces with us and..."

"Did you not hear what I said earlier? I said 'let us have a try,' not 'let me try'. Get it?"

The Star-Picking Scholar rolled his eyes, responding in a disgruntled tone.

The white-haired, white-bearded elder recalled that the Star-Picking Scholar did indeed say that, feeling greatly embarrassed, and replied awkwardly: "When you refer to 'us,' do you mean Chan Master Lei Yin, the Wind Pursuit Taoist, the One-Armed Divine Nun, and yourself?"

The Star-Picking Scholar said, "That's right! Since you eight can't do it, let us four Half-Immortal Rank experts give it a try! If we also fail, then no one may get that Thunder Essence Immortal Pill!"

What he said was true. Four Half-Immortal Rank experts working together had unimaginable strength. If they couldn't break through the lightning barrier, even more experts joining forces would be useless.

"In that case, we wish the four seniors success!"

After leaving those words, the white-haired, white-bearded elder and the other eight leaped down from Burial Artifact Peak one after another.

"Baldie, sneaky old Taoist, old nun, if you three want the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill, come over quickly! You've seen the might of this lightning barrier; if we four don't unite, we might not be able to break it!"

The Star-Picking Scholar waved to Chan Master Lei Yin, the Wind Pursuit Taoist, and the One-Armed Divine Nun, the three Half-Immortal Rank experts, speaking loudly.

The other experts were secretly astonished to hear him refer to the other three Half-Immortal Rank experts as "Baldie," "Sneaky Old Taoist," and "Old Nun," thinking that such disrespectful addresses could only come from the Star-Picking Scholar in the vast three thousand worlds.

Chan Master Lei Yin and the other three strong figures had known the Star-Picking Scholar for hundreds of years, understanding his temperament, and didn't bother getting mad. Upon hearing his call, they exchanged glances from dozens of miles apart, then seamlessly transformed into streams of light, landing on Burial Artifact Peak.

The Thunder Essence Immortal Pill was immensely tempting to all experts across the three thousand worlds, and Half-Immortal Rank experts were no exception. They were even more eager than others to

obtain the pill's support to break through their cultivation shackles and reach the Immortal Realm, ascending to the Immortal Realm sooner.

Thus, they came to the Leiyun Mountain Range determined to succeed.

As the Star-Picking Scholar said, they all saw the barrier's sturdiness. None of them were confident of breaking it alone; only by collaborating could they have hope.

"Let's make it clear first! If we obtain the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill, each of us takes two pills. The remaining two pills will be given to the tens of thousands watching below the peak to compete for; whoever has the ability to get them should have them! Agreed?"

The Star-Picking Scholar proposed.

Chapter 1993: The Immortal Pill Escaped!

A bottle of Immortal Pill typically contains ten pills; if the four Star-Picking Scholars each take two, eight will be taken.

As for the remaining two pills, the four of them found it hard to distribute, thus Star-Picking Scholars suggested letting the tens of thousands of warriors at the mountain's base compete for them.

The other three demigod-level masters, all seasoned and shrewd, heard the suggestion and had no objections.

The tens of thousands of experts below the mountain were no ordinary characters. For the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill, they traveled a long way, and if they got nothing, they might become enraged and launch a collective attack against the four Star-Picking Scholars.

Though demigod-level masters are formidable, tens of thousands of Thunder Tribulation Experts attacking together would be no small matter. Even deploying a strategy of relay attacks could exhaust the four demigod-level masters.

Rather than facing such a situation, it's better to give them some hope, encouraging them to abandon thoughts of a desperate battle.

Therefore, the extra two Thunder Essence Immortal Pills could help the four easily avert a big problem, why not do it?

After reaching a consensus on the distribution of the Immortal Pills, the four positioned themselves in the east, south, west, and north of Burial Artifact Peak, gathering spiritual energy and preparing to attack the thunder shield a few dozen feet away.

Their conversation was heard clearly by the tens of thousands of Thunder Tribulation Experts below Burial Artifact Peak, and excitement and thrill were evident on every face.

They originally thought that the four demigod-level masters would devour the entire bottle of Thunder Essence Immortal Pills, yet they didn't expect to actually get two pills for themselves to compete over, which caught everyone off guard.

Though two Immortal Pills are far from enough for tens of thousands of experts, each one of them felt their strength was superior and had confidence in obtaining one.

As for the four Star-Picking Scholars, unless the tens of thousands of experts united against them, no one dared to covet the Immortal Pills in their hands.

The two Thunder Essence Immortal Pills given up by the four easily divided them, making it impossible for them to unite.

"Brother Fang, can the four of them break through that thunder shield?"

Xiao Ying asked softly behind Fang Bai.

Fang Bai, with blazing eyes, looked at the four Star-Picking Scholars, and nodded without hesitation, "Yes!"

Xiao Ying gasped, "Won't they obtain the Thunder Essence Immortal Pills then? Are we really to compete with tens of thousands of experts for the remaining two?"

"Using two Immortal Pills to dissolve the threat of a mass attack. Those old foxes are cunning enough!"

The Flood Dragon Venerable murmured to himself.

Fairy Xuanbing did not speak, but her face showed contempt, clearly sharing the same sentiment as the Flood Dragon Venerable, thinking the four Star-Picking Scholars were indeed cunning.

Fang Bai laughed, "Want to get the Immortal Pills? Hehe, it might not be that easy!"

Qin Yaorao, who knew Fang Bai the longest and understood him deeply, saw his mischievous smile and knew he had plans for the Immortal Pills. She asked, "Fang Bai, with all your tricks, can you get those two Thunder Essence Immortal Pills? It seems both you and Ruhua could make use of them!"

Dongfang Ruhua possesses the Innate Thunder Spirit Root, and the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill could help her enhance her strength.

Fang Bai has the Chaos True Body; not to mention the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill, any attribute elixir would be beneficial to him.

Fang Bai said, "Why only think of two? My target is an entire bottle!"

Liu Qingqing exclaimed, "A whole bottle... Brother Fang, we have to face off against the four demigod-level masters!"

Fang Bai mysteriously pointed to the top of Burial Artifact Peak and said, "Keep your eyes wide and watch closely, there will be a good show soon!"

Thus, Xiao Ying and others directed their gaze once again to the peak of Burial Artifact Peak.

"Gentlemen, whether we can obtain the Thunder Essence Immortal Pills is at this moment!"

At the peak of Burial Artifact Peak, Star-Picking Scholars' eyes gleamed with brilliance and, with a roar, his fists launched out, two spiritual energies like Twin Dragons Emerge from the Sea, clawing towards the thunder shield ahead.

At the same time, Chan Master Lei Yin, Wind Pursuit Taoist, and One-Armed Divine Nun, the other three demigod-level masters, also simultaneously launched their own attacks.

This strike used up all their accumulated strength, leaving no stone unturned in attempting a one-hit success.

The tens of thousands of experts below raised their heads, gazing unblinkingly, their eyes filled with anticipation.

For them, if the four demigod-level masters got the Immortal Pills, it meant they had a chance to compete for the remaining two pills; otherwise, no one would get any.

"Crack!"

Just as the attack of the four Star-Picking Scholars was unleashed, a lightning bolt slashed down from the dark clouds above, directly targeting Wind Pursuit Taoist.

Fortunately, Wind Pursuit Taoist, being a wind-type cultivator, excelled in speed and barely dodged the lightning strike, though it startled him into a cold sweat, it didn't injure him, and he was immensely relieved.

"Boom!"

Immediately, after a deafening roar, the full-force strike of the four demigod-level masters collided with the thunder shield before them.

The thunder shield vibrated violently, emitting a "sizzle" sound, and after several breaths, it collapsed and vanished.

"Bravo!"

The tens of thousands of experts on and below the peak, upon seeing the almost indestructible thunder shield finally broken, erupted in cheers and excitement.

"Oh, Brother Fang was right, that thunder shield really got broken by them!"

Xiao Ying exclaimed with wide eyes.

"Star-Picking Scholars, that crafty old fox, is going for the Immortal Pills!"

The Flood Dragon Venerable noticed Star-Picking Scholars leaping forward to obtain the bottle of Immortal Pill surrounded by purple electric serpents and couldn't help but feel anxious, worried that if the four demigod-level masters reneged and flew away with the entire bottle of Thunder Essence Immortal Pill, the tens of thousands of experts might find it hard to stop them.

Many Peak Thunder Tribulation Experts shared the same thought as the Flood Dragon Venerable, with several already taking to the air, surrounding Burial Artifact Peak and blocking the four demigod-level masters' escape route.

Chan Master Lei Yin, Wind Pursuit Taoist, and One-Armed Divine Nun, however, did not worry about Star-Picking Scholars fleeing with the bottle of Thunder Essence Immortal Pill.

They'd dealt with Star-Picking Scholars for hundreds of years and knew that although the person was arrogant, they kept their word, and their character was trustworthy, unlikely to escape with the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill.

Furthermore, even if Star-Picking Scholars wanted to escape with the elixir, breaking through the triangle formed by them would be difficult. Besides, all around Burial Artifact Peak were tens of thousands of Thunder Tribulation Experts, keeping a close watch on his every move.

After the four demigod-level masters broke the thunder shield, Star-Picking Scholars darted forward like lightning and reached out to grab the bottle of Thunder Essence Immortal Pill.

Assuming the Immortal Pill was in hand, he didn't expect to find the bottle spontaneously flying when his hand was still a few feet away, turning into a purple light, shooting up into the sky, disappearing far into the distance at a speed too fast for the eye to follow, past the barrier formed by the tens of thousands of Thunder Tribulation Experts.

"The Immortal Pill escaped! Chase it!"

Tens of thousands of experts shouted and ran, each driving their spiritual artifact, giving chase with all their might.

The Thunder Essence Immortal Pill has now become ownerless, whoever catches it will own it.

Chapter 1994: Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation

"It is said that the Immortal Pill has spirituality. Seeing it today, it is indeed true! The Immortal Pill sensed the approaching danger and escaped on its own! Haha... Interesting! Interesting!"

The Star-Picking Scholar did not manage to catch the pill bottle, yet instead of being frustrated, he appeared thrilled and excited. Amidst laughter, his figure turned into a stream of light, pursuing the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill.

Chan Master Lei Yin, Wind Pursuit Taoist, and One-Armed Divine Nun were not willing to lag behind and almost simultaneously chased after the faint trace left by the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill.

The four Half-Immortal Rank powerhouses, unleashing their speed, surpassed the tens of thousands of others within a few breaths, rushing to the front.

With the "escape" of the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill, and the chase of tens of thousands of powerhouses, the area around Burial Artifact Peak instantly became desolate.

"Now the Immortal Pill is an ownerless object, everyone has a chance to get it, let's go after it too!"

The Flood Dragon Venerable rubbed his hands and said eagerly.

Fang Bai's Divine Sense enveloped Burial Artifact Peak, observing silently for a moment, then looked at the pitch-black, lightning-filled sky, his gaze revealing a trace of peculiarity. He shook his head and said, "No, we'll just wait here!"

"Wait here? This..."

The Flood Dragon Venerable said anxiously, "The Thunder Essence Immortal Pill has already slipped away, if we keep waiting, there'll be nothing left for us!"

Qin Yaorao, knowing Fang Bai well, understood that he would never let go of the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill, but since he said so, he must have his reasons. Feeling a hunch in her heart, she asked, "You mean... the Immortal Pill will come back?"

The moment Qin Yaorao said this, everyone present focused their eyes on Fang Bai's face.

Fang Bai laughed and said, "Those who know me, it's indeed Yaorao! That's right, this Burial Artifact Peak is like water to a fish for the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill..."

Xiao Ying's eyes turned and she clapped her hands, exclaiming, "I understand... I understand..."

Seeing everyone looking at her, Xiao Ying felt a bit shy, and began to twiddle her sleeves.

"Xiao Ying, what did you understand?"

Fang Bai asked with a smile.

Xiao Ying replied, "The Thunder Essence Immortal Pill needs the lightning-filled environment of Burial Artifact Peak to maintain its spirituality and Immortal Power for a long time. If it stays away for too long, its spirituality and Immortal Power will gradually decay and disappear, eventually becoming an ordinary Spirit Pill."

Fang Bai nodded and said, "Yes, that's roughly the idea! If it were in the Immortal Realm, filled with Immortal Qi, the Immortal Pill would be fine anywhere. But in the Three Thousand Great Worlds, the Immortal Pill can only 'survive' in certain specific environments. Just watch, before long, the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill will slip back..."

At this point, he wanted to voice the slight unease he had felt earlier but decided to keep it to himself for now, hoping that his suspicions were wrong.

"So, we'll just wait patiently here?"

Fairy Xuanbing asked lightly.

Fang Bai nodded, "Exactly."

The Flood Dragon Venerable, seeing Fang Bai's confident demeanor, scratched his head and said, "Alright, we'll wait then! Haha, if that Immortal Pill returns, no one else will be here to compete with us, right?"

Fairy Xuanbing gave him a sidelong glance and said coldly, "You're imagining things! There will always be powerful cultivators who will trace the flight path of the Immortal Pill back. It still won't be easy for us to get the Immortal Pill!"

"I have a powerful Formation here, called the 'Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation', perfect for the eight of us to practice together. Once we master it, we can contend with at least one Half-Immortal Rank powerhouse. Then our chances of obtaining the Immortal Pill will be greatly increased!"

Fang Bai predicted that with the Immortal Pill having flown away, it wouldn't return for at least a thousand breaths. So, during this time, he explained the "Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation" to Fairy Xuanbing and the other seven.

The Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation is an Immortal Rank Formation, integrating both offense and defense, with immense power. Fang Bai explained it simply and quickly twice, then began practicing it with the seven.

All eight of them were outstanding cultivators. After Fang Bai's explanation, they already had a good understanding, and with several practice sessions under Fang Bai's guidance, the formation began to take shape.

"This Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation, although hastily practiced, its power far exceeds my expectations! I believe resisting one Half-Immortal Rank powerhouse is already more than enough! No wonder the Palace Master was so confident earlier, carrying such formidable Formation within!"

The Flood Dragon Venerable clucked his tongue in admiration, growing more respectful of Fang Bai.

He knew Fang Bai had significant fortune, possessing Immortal Artifacts and even the Five Elements Space Ring, treasures unheard of. And this formidable Formation they just practiced was surely no ordinary one.

Perhaps only an Immortal Rank Formation could have such power even when formed so hastily?

"Perhaps the Immortal Pill has returned!"

Sensing something, Fang Bai muttered, his gaze looking towards the distant peak.

Then, the Divine Senses of Fairy Xuanbing and the Flood Dragon Venerable also captured a streak of purple light flying from the horizon.

Fang Bai, despite only being at the Seventh Level of Heavenly Tribulation in terms of cultivation, sensed the presence of the Immortal Pill before Fairy Xuanbing and the Flood Dragon Venerable, which secretly astonished them. They thought to themselves that their Palace Master was truly profound and unfathomable, defying common sense.

Afterwards, the relatively weaker Qin Yaorao, Liu Qingqing, Shao Qingyun, Lin Feng, and Xiao Ying detected the streak of purple light as the pill bottle streaked across the sky.

The speed of the pill bottle was beyond comprehension, landing back at the original point at the peak of Burial Artifact Peak within a few breaths, standing still.

After the pill bottle landed, it once again emitted a layer of Thunder Essence Shield, protecting the pill bottle within a ten-zhang radius.

However, the Thunder Essence Shield was much smaller and seemingly weaker than before.

"The four Half-Immortal Rank powerhouses have also returned!"

Fang Bai muttered again.

A few dozen breaths later, four streams of light fell onto the peak of Burial Artifact Peak. Indeed, they were the four Half-Immortal Rank powerhouses: Chan Master Lei Yin, Star-Picking Scholar, Wind Pursuit Taoist, and One-Armed Divine Nun.

It seemed that the four Half-Immortal Rank powerhouses, in their chase after the pill bottle holding the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill, had expended a great deal of Spiritual Energy. Each was panting, having consumed a significant amount of Spiritual Energy.

After landing on the peak, the four Half-Immortal Rank powerhouses immediately sat cross-legged to adjust their breath, but their gaze never left the pill bottle, wary of it slipping away again.

They also realized that after flying a thousand breaths, the pill bottle was also at its limit, making another escape unlikely. They guessed that the reason the pill bottle returned was to absorb the lightning nourishment around Burial Artifact Peak to restore its abilities.

"Oh? Those eight actually didn't go after the Immortal Pill earlier? Could it be they foresaw that the Immortal Pill would fly back again?"

The Star-Picking Scholars and the other three quickly noticed Fang Bai and his group's presence, thoroughly astonished.

They were the only ones who hadn't gone after the Immortal Pill earlier. To think they were capable of such patience.

Chapter 1995: We Want Them All!

"Palace Master, should we continue waiting, or should we head up to the peak and join the action?"

Seeing the four Half-Immortal Rank experts sitting cross-legged around the pill bottle, seemingly protecting the Immortal Pill, the Flood Dragon Venerable instinctively asked Fang Bai.

Fairy Xuanbing and the others also showed expressions of inquiry.

Fang Bai was not only their Palace Master, but also had convinced them with his previously displayed power, so whenever something arose, they did not dare to make decisions on their own but would first seek guidance from Fang Bai.

They initially feared the four Half-Immortal Rank experts, but after practicing the Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation, their confidence soared, believing they could formally join the battle for the Immortal Pill.

"Head up to the peak!"

Without any hesitation, Fang Bai decisively said, "Cultivators can restore the spiritual energy they expend, but the Immortal Pill's power cannot. I'm afraid that Immortal Pill won't be able to escape again, and we can't just sit by and watch it be taken by others!"

"Haha, Palace Master's words are just what I had in mind!"

The Flood Dragon Venerable, already unable to hold back, laughed as he took to the sky first, heading towards the Burial Artifact Peak.

"Let's go!"

With a light call, Fang Bai led Fairy Xuanbing and the others to also fly towards the Burial Artifact Peak.

Upon reaching the peak, the eight promptly stood in the positions of the Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation, preparing for potential attacks from the four Half-Immortal Rank experts.

The four Half-Immortal Rank experts, including the Star-Picking Scholars, did not expect Fang Bai and the others to have the courage to ascend the peak, and were momentarily stunned.

"You young ones, what are you doing up here making a scene? Go, go, go! Leave at once!"

The Star-Picking Scholars gestured to shoo them away.

All four of the Star-Picking Scholars were over five hundred years old, and in their eyes, regardless of their size, the Flood Dragon Venerable and the others were naturally just kids. Their tone was hegemonic and left no room for refusal.

With a smiling face, Fang Bai replied, "The emergence of an Immortal Pill is destined for the fated. Who's to say that among the eight of us, we aren't the fated ones?"

The Star-Picking Scholars laughed and said, "Fate requires strength too! Without strength, you can't keep the Immortal Pill even if you get it! Young man, do you think you all are capable?"

Nodding, Fang Bai answered, "Indeed, I think we are capable!"

Noticing that only Fang Bai was speaking among the eight, while the others remained silent, clearly deferring to him, the Star-Picking Scholars were inwardly surprised.

"Among them are two experts at the ninth level of Heavenly Tribulation, yet they let this young man take the lead; this young man must be extraordinary!"

The Star-Picking Scholars' disdain for Fang Bai dissipated, carefully scrutinizing him.

The more he observed, the more astonished he became, discovering that although this young man was at the seventh level of Heavenly Tribulation, his aura pressure was comparable to the ninth level, a rarity in his lifetime.

While the Star-Picking Scholars focused on Fang Bai, Chan Master Lei Yin, the Wind Pursuit Taoist, and the One-Armed Divine Nun shifted their gaze toward the formation composed of Fang Bai and the others.

With extensive knowledge and unrivaled insight, they knew quite a bit about formations and realized that the positions of Fang Bai and his group, although appearing chaotic, actually formed a profoundly intricate formation they had never encountered before.

"Friends, meeting is a fateful event! Should there be ten Immortal Pills in that bottle, how about our five groups dividing them evenly, two per group?"

Chan Master Lei Yin raised an eyebrow, a glint flashed momentarily in his eyes as he extended an invitation to Fang Bai and the others.

He observed the extraordinary formation of Fang Bai's group, recognizing them as strong adversaries, especially as his own group was still recovering their spiritual energy. Forcing them down the mountain might provoke a robust response.

If a battle erupted between them, it might be difficult to determine a victor quickly, and should tens of thousands of powerful beings return to the Leiyun Mountain Range, it would be another big problem.

Rather than that, it would be better to involve them. The bottle of Immortal Pills could conveniently be split among the five parties.

As for the tens of thousands of powerful beings, who knows when they might return? By that time, they would have already obtained their share and dispersed with the pills.

Chan Master Lei Yin believed that by extending an olive branch as a dignified Half-Immortal Rank expert, Fang Bai would likely joyfully accept, resulting in a win-win situation.

The Star-Picking Scholars saw Chan Master Lei Yin extend the invitation without consulting the rest of the group, opened his mouth to voice opposition, but stayed silent seeing that neither the Wind Pursuit Taoist nor the One-Armed Divine Nun objected.

Although arrogant, the Star-Picking Scholars weren't foolish; if the other three didn't want to provoke a strong enemy, he wouldn't take the lead either.

After all, his goal was to acquire two Thunder Essence Immortal Pills, and Fang Bai's inclusion did not threaten this, so he chose not to fuss over anything else.

"No, we want that entire bottle of Immortal Pills!"

Shaking his head, Fang Bai firmly stated.

"Did he just refuse?"

Now, not just Chan Master Lei Yin, but even the Wind Pursuit Taoist and the One-Armed Divine Nun found it unbelievable.

They looked at Fang Bai, perceiving this youngster must be either mad or foolish; otherwise, how could he reject Chan Master Lei Yin's goodwill?

Before four Half-Immortal Rank experts, Fang Bai aspired to claim the entire bottle of Thunder Essence Immortal Pills. Did he perceive himself as a mighty Immortal from the Immortal Realm, capable of overturning mountains and seas?

"Young friend, are you joking?"

Chan Master Lei Yin furrowed his brows and asked.

While Chan Master Lei Yin was usually not one to anger easily, Fang Bai's words, "we want it all," sparked a slight ire in him.

Shrugging, Fang Bai said, "Do I look like I'm joking?"

"Hahaha..."

Seeing Chan Master Lei Yin's face darken gradually, the Star-Picking Scholars couldn't help but laugh aloud, "Old Monk, you're offering warmth to someone who doesn't appreciate it! They don't value your kindness at all!"

The One-Armed Divine Nun snorted lightly and said to Fang Bai, "Child, don't be ungrateful! Even if the entire bottle of Immortal Pills is given to you, would you dare take it?"

Fang Bai replied, "Why wouldn't I?"

Playing with his beard, the Wind Pursuit Taoist grinned and said, "I thought the Star-Picking Scholars were already quite arrogant, but didn't expect you, young man, to be even more so! Alright, if you have the ability to defeat us four old timers, the bottle is yours!"

"Palace Master, how confident are we?"

The Flood Dragon Venerable asked loudly.

Fang Bai's sudden declaration of "we want it all" surprised even the seven with him. But, having practiced the Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation, their confidence was at its peak, and they figured if the Palace Master declared it, then preparing for a battle it is.

The Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation provided both offense and defense. If they could defeat the four Half-Immortal Rank experts, that would be ideal, and if they failed, their opponents wouldn't be able to detain them, allowing for a comfortable retreat.

The eight took Fang Bai as their center, each brandishing their Spiritual Artifacts, preparing for combat.

Chapter 1996: If You're So Capable, You Do It!

"Elder Flood Dragon, if you ask me how confident I am in defeating these four demi-immortal level strongmen before us, I can't say; but if you ask how confident I am in obtaining that bottle of Thunder Essence Immortal Pill, I can tell you: more than fifty percent!"

In response to the Flood Dragon Venerable's inquiry, Fang Bai answered solemnly.

Upon hearing this, the Flood Dragon Venerable's spirits lifted immediately, and he said loudly, "The purpose of our journey is for the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill! Haha, having a fifty percent chance of obtaining it is enough!"

In the eyes of the Flood Dragon Venerable, Fang Bai never fought battles without assurance; since he said there's a fifty percent chance of obtaining a whole bottle of the pill, it indicates a significant hope.

"If you want to obtain the Immortal Pill, you must defeat us four! Well then, let me first test the power of your Formation!"

The Star-Picking Scholar said, raising a palm to strike.

Amidst thunderous roars, a vast Spirit Qi Big Palm several meters wide instantly formed in the air, descending with immense force towards Fang Bai's head.

As the Spirit Qi Big Palm descended, it felt as if the air under the palm was instantly evacuated, causing those on the edge of the palm's wind, such as the Flood Dragon Venerable, to find it hard to breathe.

The Star-Picking Scholar perceived Fang Bai as the backbone of the eight and the Array Eye of the Formation, thinking that if he could incapacitate him, the great array would collapse on its own.

He also understood that the reason Fang Bai and the others could contend against these demi-immortal level strongmen was because of this Formation.

As long as one of them is severely injured or killed, preventing them from forming up, then the rest of the seven would be easily overwhelmed, and their talk of obtaining a whole bottle of Immortal Pill would become a joke and empty words.

"Fang Bai, be careful!"

"Brother Fang, watch out!"

Qin Yaorao and Liu Qingqing exclaimed almost simultaneously.

Though they had full confidence in the Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation, the reputation of the demi-immortal strongmen was so great that when the Star-Picking Scholar suddenly attacked Fang Bai, with frightening power, they couldn't help but cry out a warning out of concern.

As the Star-Picking Scholar made his move, Fang Bai stepped left and threw his fists like hammers, striking upwards with all his might.

As the Array Eye of the entire Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation, as soon as he moved, the other seven in the formation also moved in concert, each putting forth their full strength to strike upwards.

The sixteen strands of Spirit Qi struck upwards like sixteen enormous pillars, crashing against the descending Spirit Qi Big Palm, causing it to shatter and disappear.

As the Spirit Qi Big Palm disappeared, which felt like a mountain pressing down, Fang Bai and others let out a sigh of relief, feeling suddenly lightened all over.

"It's a success!"

Xiao Ying jumped up in excitement.

Before this, she couldn't have imagined participating in such a confrontation with a demi-immortal level strongman.

Before the Flood Dragon Venerable and others made their move, there was a bit of apprehension in their hearts, unsure if the Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation could withstand the Star-Picking Scholar's full-force strike.

Now, such a result undoubtedly gave them reassurance, delighting everyone and significantly boosting their confidence.

In contrast, the Star-Picking Scholar and others had a look of shock and disbelief.

In a showdown between strongmen, the outcome is often decided between a move or two.

The Star-Picking Scholar's strike was not at full force, but Fang Bai and others responded hastily, and being on the defensive, the Star-Picking Scholar felt his chances of ultimate victory were less than fifty percent in a real battle.

In other words, fighting against the Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation assembled by Fang Bai and eight others, the likelihood of the Star-Picking Scholar's defeat was greater.

This thought was shared not only by the Star-Picking Scholar but also by the three other half-immortal strongmen observing the battle: Chan Master Lei Yin, Wind Pursuit Taoist, and the One-Armed Divine Nun.

"This Formation is exquisitely marvelous, the likes of which I've never seen! Star-Picking Old Man, there's no need to continue; if you keep fighting, defeat is inevitable! Haha, to see you defeated once in my lifetime is a delight!"

Wind Pursuit Taoist laughed heartily at the Star-Picking Scholar.

The strength of the four demi-immortal level strongmen was evenly matched, one unable to surpass the other; at this moment, seeing the Star-Picking Scholar thwarted, the other three felt a sense of schadenfreude.

Although the Star-Picking Scholar was arrogant, he was no fool. Though full of reluctance, he had to admit that what Wind Pursuit Taoist said was true.

"You wily old Taoist, if you can, then you should give it a try!"

The Star-Picking Scholar rolled his eyes and said crossly.

Wind Pursuit Taoist shook his head and said, "I won't try! I'll admit that I'm not a match for this Formation either! In my whole life, I've seen many Formations, but this one formed by the eight of them is quite uncanny! I can't break it!"

The One-Armed Divine Nun's gaze was fixed on the Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation, observing carefully, trying to find a flaw, but to no avail, she sighed and said, "This Formation is seamlessly perfect, with no flaw, extremely formidable. I truly don't know how these eight trained it!"

She only thought about how extraordinary this Formation was, never imagining it to be an Immortal Rank Formation.

Chan Master Lei Yin clasped his hands together, and from his turbid eyes burst out two sharp beams; he said in a deep voice, "In single combat, none of us four can defeat their Formation; perhaps we should join forces to first break through their Formation and then drive them away?"

He considered himself compassionate and merciful, concerned with driving Fang Bai and the others away without mentioning a word about killing.

As for whether the Star-Picking Scholar and the others had any intention of killing Fang Bai and his team, he wouldn't inquire.

Moreover, he was unclear about the identities and backgrounds of Fang Bai and the others, thinking that someone able to teach such an amazing Formation to the eight must be a rather peculiar individual, thus harboring a bit of apprehension.

Chan Master Lei Yin was a "sly old fox," and the other three had survived in the vast world for centuries; couldn't they be the same?

Thus, none of the four mentioned the word "kill," to avoid attracting trouble, but very tacitly agreed to join forces to drive Fang Bai and the others away.

To make even the four demi-immortal level strongmen apprehensive, Fang Bai and his group were indeed rare in the world.

So the four demi-immortal level strongmen released their own auras, with overpowering pressure slowly bearing down on Fang Bai and the others.

"If you eight agree to retreat now, we will not make it difficult for you. Otherwise, we will have no choice but to use forceful methods to drive you away!"

Chan Master Lei Yin said word by word.

Though his voice was not loud, when it reached Fang Bai and the others, it resonated like thunder, causing dizziness and earache.

Thankfully, the Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation could resist all external forces, including sonic waves, neutralizing most of the sonic wave strikes; otherwise, the force from these two sentences alone could collapse the eight of them completely.

"To battle against four demi-immortal level strongmen, it's an honor even in defeat!"

Facing the demonstration by Chan Master Lei Yin and others, those on the side of Flood Dragon Venerable not only weren't fearful but instead appeared excited.

Chapter 1997: What the Hell Is Going On?

Under usual circumstances, even a powerful figure like Flood Dragon Venerable and Fairy Xuanbing, both having faced Heavenly Tribulation nine times, would not qualify to battle a Half-Immortal rank expert like Chan Master Lei Yin.

If Flood Dragon Venerable and others join forces to confront the four Half-Immortal rank experts, even if the outcome is defeat or even death, they would have no regrets and could still hold their heads high.

Fang Bai aims to obtain an entire bottle of Thunder Essence Immortal Pill, while Chan Master Lei Yin and the other three view the eight of Fang Bai as the greatest threat to acquiring the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill, leading to the battle between the two sides officially beginning at the next moment.

Fang Bai taught Flood Dragon Venerable and others the Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation, originally intending to create a five-way confrontation against the four Half-Immortal rank experts, thereby increasing their chances during the five-party struggle over the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill.

Unexpectedly, the four led by Chan Master Lei Yin regarded them as formidable enemies, intending to drive them away from Burial Artifact Peak.

Fang Bai was aware that if they were driven away, securing even a single Thunder Essence Immortal Pill would become extremely difficult.

Therefore, Fang Bai decided not to yield an inch.

Fortunately, when the eight of them used the Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation, although they lacked the ability to defeat their adversaries, they could still hold out for a period of time.

Fang Bai's plan was to delay and await changes, sitting in anticipation of the right moment.

As for what that moment might be, only Fang Bai could speculate to some extent.

The battle between both sides resembled an attack by the five Half-Immortal rank experts, and the clash of Spiritual Energy generated powerful shockwaves that swept away everything at the peak of Burial Artifact Peak, except for the pill bottle, causing enormous boulders to tumble down and echoing through the mountains.

Belonging to a special existence and having endured countless lightning strikes over the millennia, Burial Artifact Peak was exceptionally resilient; otherwise, during the confrontation of these Half-Immortal rank experts, the entire mountaintop would likely have collapsed.

"This formation is extraordinary!"

Chan Master Lei Yin and others occasionally exchanged glances filled with shock and helplessness.

Initially, they believed that by joining forces, they could quickly dismantle the Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation of their opponents, but unexpectedly, the eight-person formation grew stronger with resistance, enduring their relentless assaults and even occasionally launching counterattacks.

Individually, Fang Bai's group of eight was far weaker than any of the four Star-Picking Scholars. However, relying on the Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation, they held out for a full half-day. Only when Xiao Ying, Shao Qingyun, and Lin Feng exhausted their Spiritual Energy, causing significant turbulence in the formation, did signs of collapse begin to appear.

"Palace Master, what should we do?"

Seeing the formation barely sustaining, Flood Dragon Venerable couldn't help but feel anxious.

If the Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation broke, even if Star-Picking Scholars didn't kill them, they would be forced to leave Burial Artifact Peak, losing the chance to contend for the Immortal Pill.

"Retreat!"

Without a moment's hesitation, Fang Bai led Flood Dragon Venerable and the others away from Burial Artifact Peak, flying to another mountaintop dozens of miles away.

Seeing Fang Bai and his group suddenly retreat, the four Star-Picking Scholars felt bewildered, unclear why Fang Bai first chose to confront them strongly, only to retreat suddenly.

"What are those little brats up to? They wanted the fight, and now they're the ones retreating... Hmph, wasted a lot of our Spiritual Energy!"

One-Armed Divine Nun looked at Fang Bai and his group on the opposite mountain. After thinking about the half-day battle that consumed a lot of Spiritual Energy, requiring at least one or two more hours to recover, she felt indignant.

"Their withdrawal is the best outcome! Let's rest for a bit and prepare to strike the lightning shield around the Immortal Pill. This time, care must be taken not to let the Immortal Pill escape!"

Said Chan Master Lei Yin, sitting down cross-legged first, facing the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill to adjust his breath.

Seeing this, Star-Picking Scholars, Wind Pursuit Taoist, and One-Armed Divine Nun also took seats in the other three directions, closing their eyes to adjust their breath, seeking to quickly regain their strength.

"Palace Master, is that it? Even if we can't get a whole bottle of Immortal Pills, getting one or two pieces would be good!"

Flood Dragon Venerable clenched his fists, full of unwillingness.

"Why not adjust our breath a bit, restore our strength, and continue the battle with them?"

Fairy Xuanbing was also unwilling to sit back and do nothing.

Although they showed signs of defeat in the previous battle, it had dispelled their fears of the Half-Immortal rank experts, boosting their confidence.

They believed that after adjusting their breath and resuming the battle, their cooperation in the Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation would become more proficient, able to unleash greater power.

"Wait... let's wait a bit more..."

Fang Bai suddenly sensed something, instantly extending his Divine Sense over a hundred miles, perceiving tens of thousands of Spiritual Energies flying towards them, murmuring, "The tens of thousands of experts who previously chased the Immortal Pill now realize they've been played by the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill and are returning..."

Upon hearing this, Fairy Xuanbing and others released their Divine Senses to investigate.

Fairy Xuanbing and Flood Dragon Venerable almost simultaneously sensed tens of thousands of Spiritual Energies rapidly approaching, followed by Qin Yaorao and others.

"It's really them..."

Finally, Xiao Ying's Divine Sense detected tens of thousands of Spiritual Energies rapidly approaching Burial Artifact Peak, among which Xiao Ying found a few familiar, probably the nine-strength Thunder Tribulation experts who earlier exchanged words with Flood Dragon Venerable and Fang Bai.

"Let's sit down and adjust our breath, and continue to enjoy the show..."

In the previous battle, Fang Bai was the core maintaining the Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation, hence consuming more Spiritual Energy than others. Fortunately, his unique physique allowed for fast recovery, or else the formation wouldn't have held half a day.

The four Half-Immortal rank experts on Burial Artifact Peak seemed to sense the returning multitude of experts too, showing signs of anxiety and tension on their faces, hastening their breath adjustment.

In just the span of a thousand breaths, the vast group of experts who previously pursued the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill flew back and landed around Burial Artifact Peak.

"Haha, I guessed correctly, we were indeed fooled by that bottle of Immortal Pill!"

"Look, that Thunder Essence Immortal Pill has flown back to the peak of Burial Artifact Peak!"

"The four Half-Immortal rank experts of Star-Picking Scholars returned before us!"

"They're adjusting their breath, seems they expended quite a bit of Spiritual Energy earlier..."

"Doesn't this present a great chance for us to seize the Immortal Pill?"

"If you have the guts, go try! Heh, after all, they're Half-Immortal rank experts; even at half strength, they're not to be underestimated!"

"Let's observe a bit more..."

The returning tens of thousands of experts focused their full attention on the four Half-Immortal rank experts at Burial Artifact Peak and the bottle of Thunder Essence Immortal Pill, overlooking Fang Bai and his group on the opposite mountain.

They noticed that not only was the lightning shield around the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill less sturdy than before, but even the strength of the four Half-Immortal rank experts had notably weakened, leading to restlessness.

Especially among some nine-strength Thunder Tribulation experts, who were already eager to try.

For them, this was an excellent opportunity; once the four Half-Immortal rank experts of Star-Picking Scholars fully recovered their strength, attempting to seize the Immortal Pill would become increasingly difficult.

Chapter 1998: The Abnormalities of Burial Artifact Peak

The Star-Picking Scholars and other four Demi Immortal Rank experts had previously agreed to offer two Thunder Essence Immortal Pills for tens of thousands of strong contenders to fight over, at which time the many experts felt this was a favor, feeling somewhat grateful in their hearts.

But later, when they calmed down and thought about it, they found it extremely unfair.

Tens of thousands of experts had to fight fiercely for two Immortal Pills, regardless of the outcome, there would certainly be many casualties.

While the four from Star-Picking Scholars could easily acquire two Immortal Pills each.

Such distribution made the tens of thousands of experts uneasy, and resentment arose.

"Everyone, are you willing to accept such an unfair distribution?"

A Thunder Tribulation Ninefold expert hovered in the air, raising his arms and shouting.

"No, we are not willing!"

Tens of thousands of experts replied in unison, their voices shaking the skies.

"Then tell me, what should we do!"

The Thunder Tribulation Ninefold expert shouted loudly.

"We have hundreds to thousands of Great Calamity Period experts here in the Thunder Tribulation Realm. If we work together, we have the strength to stand against the four Demi Immortal Rank powerhouses! It isn't impossible to acquire all the Thunder Essence Immortal Pills!"

Another Thunder Tribulation Ninefold expert shouted loudly.

"That's just how it should be!"

"Join forces to resist the four Demi Immortal Rank experts!"

"If anyone doesn't agree, let them clear out early!"

"Anyone with ulterior motives, we'll erase them collectively!"

...

The emotions of tens of thousands of experts were quickly stirred up by the two Thunder Tribulation Ninefold experts, each person was full of boiling enthusiasm and excitement.

Although the four Demi Immortal Rank experts like the Star-Picking Scholars were formidable, they were ultimately only four people, whereas on their side, they had tens of thousands. Using a war of attrition could surely exhaust them to death.

Led by a dozen Thunder Tribulation Ninefold experts, nearly a thousand Great Calamity Period experts in the Thunder Tribulation Realm drove their Spiritual Artifacts, ascended into the air, and surrounded Burial Artifact Peak completely.

They unleashed their own aura openly, each filled with Killing Qi, targeting the four Demi Immortal Rank experts like the Star-Picking Scholars.

Nearly a thousand Thunder Tribulation experts' aura pervaded the skies, instantly filling the space within a thousand zhang radius around Burial Artifact Peak.

At the top of Burial Artifact Peak, the four Star-Picking Scholars felt immense pressure under the surging Spiritual Energy.

A Demi Immortal Rank expert might be able to defeat a dozen Great Calamity Period experts from the Thunder Tribulation Realm individually, but facing thousands is impossible to win.

However, as Demi Immortal Rank experts, the four Star-Picking Scholars were incredibly proud and wouldn't surrender easily, even when facing thousands or even tens of thousands.

The four adjusted their breath, rose side by side, and solemnly looked at nearly a thousand Thunder Tribulation experts surrounding them, releasing their own Demi Immortal aura to counteract the overwhelming pressure.

In the sky, thunder roared, lightning snakes intertwined, countless lightning snakes rolled endlessly between the dark clouds, gathering strength, ready to condense into a massive bolt at any moment.

"It's about to start..."

Fang Bai, stand atop a mountain several dozen miles away, observed both sides in confrontation with fierce momentum, ready to explode at any moment, and felt somewhat excited.

There was only one bottle of Thunder Essence Immortal Pill, yet tens of thousands contended for it, so both sides in the confrontation were their opponents. If they were to fight to mutual exhaustion, Fang Bai's party could profit from the situation.

"Fight... fight..."

Xiao Ying clenched her fists, eyes unblinking, and muttered excitedly.

After a moment of standoff, seeing the Star-Picking Scholars turn to bombard the lightning shield to seize the Thunder Essence Immortal Pills first, the side of tens of thousands finally couldn't bear it and launched an attack.

A rare war that had not been seen in the Three Thousand Great Worlds for thousands of years thus began.

From top to bottom of Burial Artifact Peak, the rumbling clash of Spiritual Energy and the deafening battle cries were incessant.

On the side of tens of thousands of experts, all who had reached the Thunder Tribulation Realm Great Calamity Period participated in the attack against the four Demi Immortal Rank experts.

Those Thunder Tribulation experts who didn't qualify to fight shouted from afar, boosting morale.

The four Demi Immortal Rank experts were not easy to deal with either; they stood back to back, cooperating seamlessly, and for a time didn't fall into disadvantage.

Burial Artifact Peak was surrounded from inside out by tens of thousands of experts, making it impossible for Fang Bai and others to fish in troubled waters, forcing them to wait patiently for an opportune moment.

Qin Yaorao, meticulous in thought and focused mostly on Fang Bai, noticed that while others' eyes were on the battle atop the peak, Fang Bai's gaze was fixed on observing Burial Artifact Peak's mountain body, with an apparent tension.

In Qin Yaorao's view, Fang Bai was usually carefree and unperturbed, but at this moment displayed such expression, which was unusual, prompting Qin Yaorao to tense up as well and couldn't help but ask, "Fang Bai, what's wrong?"

Liu Qingqing and others noticed Fang Bai's unusual behavior as well and looked at him with questioning expressions.

Fang Bai directed his gaze at Burial Artifact Peak, raised a hand pointing at the mountain body, and asked, "Have you ever wondered why this Burial Artifact Peak area can attract lightning?"

"This..."

Qin Yaorao and others looked at each other, their faces blank.

No one had ever pondered this question, instinctively believing that Burial Artifact Peak's ability to attract lightning was an inexplicable natural phenomenon.

"What insight does the Palace Master have?"

Fairy Xuanbing, intrigued, asked.

Fang Bai said, "If I'm not mistaken, there must be something abnormal inside Burial Artifact Peak's mountain body!"

"What abnormality could be inside the mountain body?"

Flood Dragon Venerable stroked his beard, frowning and asked.

"Could it be..."

Liu Qingqing's eyes glistened, blurting out, "Could there be a Thunder Spirit Stone Vein inside the mountain body?"

Upon her words, Qin Yaorao and others all showed a sudden realization and said, "That must be it! Thunder Spirit Stones contain Thunder Lightning Spirit Qi; there must be a large Thunder Spirit Stone Vein inside the mountain body of Burial Artifact Peak, causing the phenomenon where clouds accumulate and thunder roars endlessly!"

Fang Bai nodded and said, "It's basically certain now that there is a Thunder Spirit Stone Vein inside Burial Artifact Peak's mountain body and the reserves must be significant. But..."

He paused, showing concern in his eyes, murmuring, "I feel something's not right!"

Xiao Ying urged, "What's not right? Come on, Fang Bai brother, can't you say it all at once, you're making us anxious!"

"Xiao Ying, don't be impatient! Listen to what the Palace Master says."

Fairy Xuanbing shot a cold look at Xiao Ying, speaking sternly.

Xiao Ying held great respect towards Fairy Xuanbing and obediently replied "Oh", sticking her tongue out, not daring to speak again.

Fang Bai smiled at Xiao Ying, saying, "What I'm trying to say is, even if the mountain body of Burial Artifact Peak is entirely a Thunder Spirit Stone Vein, it shouldn't attract the thunder from the sky, causing such a grand scene..."

His voice had barely fallen when he first sensed an overwhelming pressure emanating from inside Burial Artifact Peak's mountain body, his face instantly changed dramatically, exclaiming, "This is bad!"

...

Chapter 1999: Ziyi Immortal

As Fang Bai's startled cry resounded, the thousand-foot-tall Burial Artifact Peak quaked violently as if an earthquake had occurred.

In an instant, countless boulders rolled down from the mountain's body, crashing into the abyss below.

The black clouds that gathered in the sky, and the restless lightning snakes, also turned wild and frenzied.

"Boom!"

"Crack!"

A few breaths later, peals of thunder and serpents of lightning fiercely struck down from the surging black clouds, their target the tens of thousands of Thunder Tribulation experts gathered around the Burial Artifact Peak.

Instantly, the tens of thousands of Thunder Tribulation experts seemed to be in a river of thunder and ocean of lightning.

The Thunder Tribulation encountered by experts in the Three Thousand Great Worlds while advancing in rank was nothing compared to the current river of thunder and ocean of lightning.

The thousands of lightning strikes suddenly descending from the sky were overwhelming for the tens of thousands of Thunder Tribulation experts around the Burial Artifact Peak, resulting in most of their bodies being destroyed, and their lifeforce extinguished, perishing on the spot.

And the nearly thousand experts in the Great Calamity Period at the Thunder Tribulation Realm were also heavily injured, their skin torn, bodies covered in blood, losing most of their combat power.

"Rumble..."

Before the fortunate surviving experts could react, the thousand-foot-tall, continuously trembling Burial Artifact Peak seemed to have been cleaved apart, collapsing to the sides.

A purple figure shot out from the crevice in the mountain like a flash of lightning, transforming into a purple light and soaring into the air.

The purple light was a purple-robed man, suspended in midair, his entire person shrouded in a mist-like purple aura, obscuring his facial features.

The immense and vast pressure just now radiated from the purple-robed man, spreading out to cover a thousand miles in all directions.

Burial Artifact Peak lay at the very center of this immense pressure, bearing the greatest load. The near thousand severely injured, fortunate-to-survive experts of the Thunder Tribulation Realm in the Great Calamity Period held on for less than ten breaths under this pressure before their meridians ruptured, their bones shattered, and they bled from their orifices, dying.

Even Chan Master Lei Yin, Star-Picking Scholars, Wind Pursuit Taoist, and the One-Armed Divine Nun, these four Half-Immortal Rank experts from the Three Thousand Great Worlds, were not spared under this incredible pressure.

The tens of thousands of experts who came to vie for the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill all perished within merely a dozen or so breaths from when pressure emerged within Burial Artifact Peak's body to when the purple-robed man appeared. Not a single one escaped.

Except for Fang Bai and the other seven.

Prior to the descent of that immense pressure, Fang Bai had already summoned and enlarged the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron from his Five Elements Space Ring, shielding it over everyone's heads, withstanding what seemed an all-crushing pressure.

"This is..."

Fairy Xuanbing, Flood Dragon Venerable, and others hiding under the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron stared at the surrounding tens of thousands of bodies and the splitting, collapsing Burial Artifact Peak in shock and horror.

Among them, Fairy Xuanbing and Flood Dragon Venerable, despite their extensive knowledge and experience, had never witnessed such a terrifying scene of mountain collapse and tens of thousands of experts falling instantly.

Under such pressure, tens of thousands lay dead. What kind of celestial being is this purple-robed man, possessing such heaven-penetrating abilities?

For a moment, Flood Dragon Venerable and others looked up at the suspended purple-robed man, feeling chilled to the bone and utterly vacant, unsure of what to do.

The purple-robed man noticed Fang Bai and others still alive, and expressed a surprised "Oh," seemingly quite astonished.

"This cauldron is peculiar! It seems not a mundane object!"

Upon seeing Fang Bai holding up the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron, the purple-robed man's eyes gleamed with interest as he muttered to himself, then extended his right arm, aiming across the thousand-foot distance at the cauldron in Fang Bai's hands.

His arm abruptly elongated, instantly piercing through the thousand-foot void. As it neared Fang Bai, his right hand expanded dozens of times, and with fingers spread like eagle talons, he reached for the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron.

The claw he extended was not formed of spiritual energy but a genuine hand of flesh and blood.

The flesh hand could expand and contract at will, capable of retrieving objects from afar. This was a mystical art only an immortal could possess!

"This purple-robed man is indeed not a cultivator of the Three Thousand Great Worlds, but an immortal from the Nine Heavenly Domains of the Immortal Realm! No wonder I sensed a wisp of immortal power earlier within the body of Burial Artifact Peak!"

Seeing the purple-robed man take action confirmed Fang Bai's earlier suspicions, leaving him astounded.

In his thought, after the great conflict among the realms millions of years ago, numerous powerful beings from the Immortal Realm had collaborated to seal the passages between the Immortal Realm and other realms. Even in his past life as a pinnacle Immortal Emperor, he couldn't break that seal.

Yet, how had this purple-robed immortal come to the Three Thousand Great Worlds?

Could it be that, like the Bixie Immortal Beast, he too was sealed within the Three Thousand Great Worlds during that cataclysmic battle millions of years ago?

Upon seeing the purple-robed immortal, Fang Bai instantly realized that much of the reason for Burial Artifact Peak's lightning convergence was due to him.

The purple-robed immortal practiced Thunder System immortal arts; thus, he inherently attracted lightning.

Sealed within Burial Artifact Peak, the purple-robed immortal used the mountain's Thunder Spirit Stone Veins to restore some of his immortal power, then absorbed the thunder and lightning forces from heaven and earth, expediting the unsealing process.

Finally, today, the seal within his body was undone, allowing him to burst through the mountain and emerge.

Judging by his current state, it seemed his seal was completely lifted, and over half of his immortal power was restored, otherwise, he couldn't have made tens of thousands of Thunder Tribulation experts fall just through coercion.

Fang Bai didn't recognize who that purple-robed immortal was, nor did he care to know.

His current foremost desire was to swiftly escape from this place.

Upon the purple-robed immortal's emergence, tens of thousands of experts perished, indicating his exceedingly murderous nature. Even if he didn't intend to kill Fang Bai, his attempt to seize Fang Bai's Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron was something Fang Bai couldn't allow.

"Escape!"

Seeing the purple-robed immortal reaching out with his large hand, Fang Bai didn't hesitate, instantly drawing Fairy Xuanbing, Flood Dragon Venerable, and the other seven into his Five Elements Space Ring, and then hoisting the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron, fled towards the distance.

Fang Bai knew that as long as he held out for a hundred breaths, he could escape this calamity.

Due to being constrained by the rules of heaven and earth, any cultivator reaching the Immortal Realm, possessing a trace of immortal power within, would ascend to the Immortal Realm within a hundred breaths.

This ascension process was beyond the cultivator's control.

In other words, the purple-robed immortal would have to ascend to the Immortal Realm under the rules of heaven and earth after a hundred breaths, unable to harm Fang Bai further.

But Fang Bai also realized that the purple-robed immortal wouldn't easily let him go during this hundred breaths. Undoubtedly, he would deploy powerful immortal arts to seize the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron from him.

In short, the coming hundred breaths would not only determine Fang Bai's fate but also decide the fate of the seven like Flood Dragon Venerable.

If Fang Bai could escape, everything would be fine.

If Fang Bai couldn't escape, not only would he perish, but Flood Dragon Venerable and the seven would also be eternally trapped within the Five Elements Space Ring.

Chapter 2000: Perseverance Leads to Victory!

The Thunder Essence Immortal Pill, which had incited the scramble among tens of thousands of strong warriors, flew into the hands of the Immortal Ziyi when the Burial Artifact Peak collapsed and was stored into his Space Ring.

This showed that the Thunder Essence Immortal Pill originally belonged to the Immortal Ziyi and was possibly lost atop the Burial Artifact Peak when the Immortal Ziyi was sealed years ago. Now, returning to his hands could be considered returning to its rightful owner.

Poor those countless fallen strong ones, who came with the dream of obtaining the Immortal Pill, only to end up losing their lives instead.

Under the oppression of the Immortal Ziyi, tens of thousands of corpses lay everywhere, demonstrating his ruthless nature. In contrast, Fang Bai, even with such power, would never commit such acts.

Fang Bai knew that Immortal Ziyi saw the extraordinary nature of the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron and wanted to kill him to seize the Divine Cauldron. He also understood that his life or death depended on whether he could survive the next extremely dangerous hundred breaths of time.

Fang Bai, possessing a seventh level of Heavenly Tribulation cultivation, with a strong physique and fierce combat power, dared to fight against a Half-Immortal expert with the assistance of a Spiritual Artifact.

But facing a true Immortal with supreme mana and mystical arts, Fang Bai knew that even with the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron in hand, it was difficult to withstand a full-powered strike.

Therefore, when the large hand of the Immortal Ziyi reached out, he held nothing back, fully activating the spiritual energy within his body and stepping on the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade with one hand raising the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron. With a speed imperceptible to the naked eye, he shot into the sky, escaping toward the distant horizon.

The Artifact Spirit of the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade, highly intelligent, seemed aware of its master's life-and-death calamity, and transformed into a crimson light by itself, swiftly darting out tens of miles away.

"Heh... a mere mortal, dreaming of escaping from this Immortal's hands? Dream on!"

Seeing Fang Bai fleeing, the Immortal Ziyi sneered, and with a thought, a purple light flashed at his brow, from which a sword light burst forth.

This sword light was a three-foot sword, its entire body purple, entwined with lightning snakes and emitting faint thundering sounds.

"Go!"

With a light cry from the Immortal Ziyi, the purple sword shot forth like lightning, like a thunderbolt, tearing through the air, howling as it stabbed toward Fang Bai.

The purple sword was extremely fast, closing the distance of tens of miles between it and Fang Bai to just dozens of yards in the blink of an eye.

Fang Bai felt the mortal threat from behind, his scalp tingling, black hair standing up, and his mental tension tightening the string.

The Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron in his hand had to withstand the mountain-like oppression above him.

The Blood-Drinking Mad Blade under his feet was carrying him in high-speed flight to escape.

In desperation, Fang Bai could only summon the Soul Loss Bell to block the purple Immortal Sword charging with a trace of immortal power.

“Clang...”

The purple Immortal Sword stabbed into the Soul Loss Bell, sparks flying, energy surging, emitting a clear reverberating boom.

The attack of the purple Immortal Sword halted, its force was mostly dissipated.

And the Soul Loss Bell, under the enormous impact force carried by the Immortal Sword, rolled over and was knocked hundreds of yards away.

“Hmm?”

The Immortal Ziyi was surprised to see Fang Bai’s Soul Loss Bell capable of blocking his sword strike and thought to himself in a spark of thought, “The large cauldron and bell in that kid’s hands are extraordinary! What kind of fortune did he have to obtain these treasures!”

He speculated that Fang Bai’s Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron and Soul Loss Bell might be Immortal artifacts, each no less powerful than his Purple Lightning Sword, and he became greedy.

Taking the chance when the purple Immortal Sword's momentum was weak, Fang Bai spurred the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade beneath his feet to accelerate flight, covering tens of miles in just a few breaths.

While flying, he raised his hand toward the Soul Loss Bell that had been struck by the purple Immortal Sword and sent it back into the Five Elements Space Ring.

Fang Bai knew that the Immortal Ziyi would feel exceedingly disgraced having missed a strike. Enraged, his attacks would only become more ferocious.

"Heavenly thunder rolls! Thunder, blast for me!"

The Immortal Ziyi, failing to detain Fang Bai with the Immortal Sword, was surprised and slightly angry. He waved his right sleeve to the sky and shouted sternly.

Following his shout, dark clouds instantly accumulated within a hundred miles over Fang Bai's head, cracking thunder resonated continuously as if the sky was collapsing. Bolts of arm-thick lightning, like a rain of electric arrows, relentlessly struck toward Fang Bai.

The scene looked like the end of the world, eerily terrifying.

No matter how fast Fang Bai's figure was, it was not as fast as lightning.

The Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron in his hand kept being struck by the descending lightning, the man and cauldron, like leaves in a storm, tumbling incessantly in the air.

If not for his Chaos True Body, with an extremely tough physique, his internal organs would've long been shattered by the potent power carried by the lightning.

Even so, Fang Bai suffered, each bolt of lightning striking down in the air, although blocked by the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron and not directly hitting him, the force transmitted from the cauldron still

tore his tiger's mouth and displaced his internal organs, making blood continually gushing from his mouth and nose.

After finally gritting his teeth and rushing out of the thunder sea under the dark clouds, Fang Bai's garments were all shattered, his entire body dyed red with blood overflowing from his mouth and nose, making him appear terrifyingly hideous from afar.

Although the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron was a Divine Artifact, Fang Bai's current cultivation level was far from fully utilizing its power. Therefore, against the lightning attacks above, the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron could only act as a shield, unable to fully neutralize the force.

These forces harmed Fang Bai when applied to his body.

However, anyway, the fact that Fang Bai did not perish under the Immortal Ziyi's strike was itself a miracle.

The Immortal Ziyi had thought that by using lightning secret techniques, he could easily kill the ant Fang Bai, who had the seventh level of Heavenly Tribulation, in one shot. Yet, Fang Bai unexpectedly relied on the large cauldron and his tough body to withstand it without losing his fighting strength, leaving the Immortal Ziyi stunned.

"The robustness of that kid's physique is something I have never seen in my life!"

Immortal Ziyi muttered to himself.

As he was stunned, Fang Bai's figure had already flown several hundred miles away, widening the distance between them further.

"If I, a distinguished Immortal, let a little kid at the seventh level of Heavenly Tribulation from the three-thousand grand worlds escape, how could I have the face to return to the Immortal Realm!"

Immortal Ziyi's eyes gleamed sharply. He lightly tapped his feet in the void, a purple auspicious cloud emanating electric light appeared at his feet.

The purple auspicious cloud bore the form of the Immortal Ziyi, with a “whoosh” disappearing from its original location, reappearing dozens of miles away the next moment.

Although Fang Bai fled quickly, the Immortal Ziyi chased even faster, and in just over ten breaths, the distance between them was reduced to less than ten miles.

“Hundred breaths time has passed halfway! Persistence means victory!”

Fang Bai gritted his teeth, fleeing as he summoned the Houyi Bow, using both Red Silkworm Spirit Fire and Nether Spirit Fire to form arrows, then shot one backward.

The arrows formed from the two spirit fires were frighteningly powerful. When Fang Bai shot that arrow, the temperature within thousands of miles rose sharply, and the rolling heat waves swept across the sky, enveloping the pursuing Immortal Ziyi.