

Doctor 2171

Chapter 2171: Fame Achieved in a Single Battle

After advancing to the second-tier Immortal Venerable Realm, combined with the enhancement of various mystical arts and divine artifacts, Fang Bai's combat prowess was already far beyond what Leiyun Immortal Venerable, who possessed a fourth-tier Immortal Venerable Realm cultivation level, could withstand.

"Puh..."

The damage to his immortal artifact directly affected Leiyun Immortal Venerable, his body seemed to suffer a heavy blow, staggering and coughing up a mouthful of fresh blood.

"I concede, I'm not fighting anymore!"

Quickly retreating, Leiyun Immortal Venerable shouted loudly, fearing Fang Bai would press the advantage and continue attacking.

Fang Bai stood still, retracting his fist, looking at the terrified face of Leiyun Immortal Venerable. He sneered mockingly, "Are all disciples of the Thunder Palace so spineless? If the Thunder Immortal Emperor knew, I wonder what he'd think."

Leiyun Immortal Venerable was overwhelmed with shame and indignation, yet he didn't dare act too assertive, fearing it might provoke another attack from Fang Bai. With a sullen face, he said, "I've already conceded voluntarily, what else do you want? The rules of Sumeru Temple clearly state, no fatal injuries during a duel on the War Immortal Platform!"

Fang Bai, smiling blandly, said, "No fatal injuries, but nothing says you can't inflict serious harm!"

Leiyun Immortal Venerable was taken aback and immediately responded angrily, "I've already conceded voluntarily, you can't..."

"There's nothing I can't do!"

Fang Bai's expression turned cold, then he punched out.

The fist, condensed with Immortal Qi, rapidly enlarged in front of Leiyun Immortal Venerable, as powerful Immortal Might surged intensely.

"I'll fight you to the end!"

Leiyun Immortal Venerable roared furiously, putting away the Purple Gold Immortal Hammer, bravely using his fists to gather immortal power and counter Fang Bai's strike.

At this moment, with Fang Bai's advancement and Leiyun Immortal Venerable being injured, how could Leiyun Immortal Venerable possibly compete against Fang Bai with such a disparity in strength?

Fang Bai's casual punch was unbearable for him; in his screams, he was sent tumbling, flying backward.

His body hit the Defense Qi Shield of the War Immortal Platform and bounced back. Before he could steady himself, Fang Bai's next fist swung out once more...

Every punch from Fang Bai was more ferocious and formidable than the last.

Leiyun Immortal Venerable's defense weakened with each punch.

After a dozen punches, Leiyun Immortal Venerable's entire body was left in shambles, lying prostrate like a dog, barely conscious.

He bled from all seven orifices, struggling several times to get up, but couldn't.

"You're humiliating me in this way, Thunder Palace will not forgive..."

Though Leiyun Immortal Venerable lost his combat ability, he glared viciously at Fang Bai, intending to utter harsh words, but before he could finish saying “You...”, Fang Bai kicked him flying.

The force of Fang Bai’s kick permeated through Leiyun Immortal Venerable’s entire body, and amidst cracking sounds, his bones were shattered under this kick, causing him to immediately lose consciousness.

At this moment, Fang Bai’s injuries had mostly recovered, appearing as if unharmed.

Leiyun Immortal Venerable was unconscious, meaning he had completely lost this duel.

Therefore, the defensive formations around the War Immortal Platform disappeared, revealing the proud, standing Fang Bai and the unconscious, curled-up Leiyun Immortal Venerable before all the immortals present.

“What? The one defeated is actually Leiyun Immortal Venerable?”

“Am I seeing things?”

“Isn’t Leiyun Immortal Venerable not only a fourth-tier Immortal Venerable Realm cultivation level, but also possessing an Innate Thunder Spirit Root, and his combat power can suppress fifth-tier Immortal Venerable Realm, yet he was defeated by a mere first-tier Immortal Venerable from Jade Bamboo Mountain?”

“Unheard of Jade Bamboo Mountain, today’s breakout event!”

“First, an Immortal Beast at the second-tier Immortal Venerable Realm defeated a fourth-tier Immortal Venerable opponent, then a female immortal at the third-tier Heavenly Immortal Realm defeated a fourth-tier Immortal Venerable expert, now a little immortal at the first-tier Immortal Venerable defeated a fourth-tier Immortal Venerable expert from Thunder Palace... There’s strange happenings every year, but this year’s especially strange!”

“Jade Bamboo Mountain has earned its renown in one battle, from today forward, none will dare underestimate it!”

“Jade Bamboo Mountain seized three Buddha Fruits this time, once consumed, their overall strength will rise another level.”

“The Bingyun Fairy among Ice Valley’s five immortals seems to have an excellent relationship with Jade Bamboo Mountain, she also obtained an Immortal Fruit, which is as good as being won by Jade Bamboo Mountain!”

“That white-robed little immortal from Jade Bamboo Mountain boldly claimed they’d secure four Buddha Fruits, I even mocked it, never thought...”

...

Around them, the immortals, exchanging whispers while watching Fang Bai walk off the War Immortal Platform, couldn’t hide their astonishment.

In this Buddha Fruit festival, the immortals vied for the ownership of six Buddha Fruits, resulting in Jade Bamboo Mountain and Ice Valley’s five immortals seizing four, with the remaining two falling into the hands of other Immortal Sects.

And Thunder Palace, renowned across the Immortal Realm’s nine Heavenly Domains, ended up empty-handed, which was hard to believe.

As Fang Bai left the War Immortal Platform, a disciple from Sumeru Temple immediately came up to take the unconscious Leiyun Immortal Venerable back to Thunder Palace.

A disciple from Thunder Palace hastily approached, fed Leiyun Immortal Venerable an Immortal Pill, then stepped back to await his recovery.

Moments later, Leiyun Immortal Venerable opened his eyes, seeing faces filled with either pity, regret, indifference, or anger.

Those faces belonged to his fellow disciples.

“You can’t even deal with a little immortal from the first-tier Immortal Venerable Realm! Useless! What use does Thunder Palace have for you?”

An Immortal King Realm expert, with a livid face and eyes glaring like copper bells, harshly scolded.

This Immortal King Realm expert was a steward from Thunder Palace, who had brought a group of Thunder Palace disciples to join the Buddha Fruit festivity.

Initially, Thunder Palace disciples had confidence in securing at least one Buddha Fruit, but never expected a few dark horses from Jade Bamboo Mountain would shatter their dreams.

Thus the Immortal King Realm expert from Thunder Palace unleashed his anger upon Leiyun Immortal Venerable.

“Lei Yi Immortal King, please allow me to explain: that little immortal from Jade Bamboo Mountain, although possessing a cultivation level of the first-tier Immortal Venerable Realm, he has an Extraordinary Holy Body and broke through during the battle, reaching the second-tier Immortal Venerable Realm... Moreover, he wields a Blood Blade, a Supreme Immortal Artifact far superior to my Purple Gold Immortal Hammer... Despite my full efforts, I was still defeated by him!”

Leiyun Immortal Venerable, knowing he’d face severe punishment when returning, defended himself with a resentful expression.

“Extraordinary Holy Body... advancement to second-tier Immortal Venerable Realm during battle... an immortal artifact far more powerful than the Purple Gold Immortal Hammer...”

Lei Yi Immortal King’s brows furrowed, suddenly turning to gaze at Fang Bai in the distance, a flicker of intrigue in his eyes.

Fang Bai, who was celebrating the victory alongside Great Sage Sun, Tu Mo, Jade Bamboo Mountain, and Ice Valley's five immortals, immediately sensed Lei Yi Immortal King's somewhat hostile gaze and met it without avoiding.

"A mere little immortal at the second-tier Immortal Venerable Realm dares face me? Interesting... However, having offended Thunder Palace, you're destined for trouble. The four Buddha Fruits you've obtained will likely not be enjoyed peacefully..."

Lei Yi Immortal King exchanged a few glances with Fang Bai before withdrawing his gaze, a sneer forming at the corner of his lips.

"We've caught the attention of powerful enemies, once the Buddha Fruits are distributed, they should be kept with me first!"

Fang Bai immediately transmitted to Great Sage Sun, Qingzhu Fairy, and Bingyun.

Great Sage Sun, Qingzhu Fairy, and Bingyun, upon hearing this, felt a chill in their hearts, scanning around to discover many unfriendly gazes indeed.

Chapter 2172: Praise That Kills

A moment later, among the five Buddhas publicly revealed by Sumeru Temple, the short and thin Buddha, the one with the strongest strength, personally delivered six Buddha Fruits to Fang Bai and the other five Immortals.

Besides Fang Bai who continued to maintain a calm expression, the other five Immortals reddened with excitement as they received the Buddha Fruits with trembling hands.

No wonder, obtaining a Buddha Fruit meant advancing one small realm, which was equivalent to decades or even hundreds of years of hard cultivation for them, how could they not be thrilled?

Fang Bai's indifferent reaction stemmed from having consumed Buddha Fruit in his previous life, and while it could help him advance, it was far from sufficient.

Now, Fang Bai wished nothing more than to immediately regain his previous life's peak combat power, gather his hidden friends, disciples, and Hongyan throughout the Immortal Realm, and confront the eight Immortal Emperors that surrounded him.

"Four Buddha Fruits harvested in this battle at Jade Bamboo Mountain, truly unexpected! Even this Master is deeply impressed!"

After delivering four Buddha Fruits, the short and thin Buddha's gaze swept over Fang Bai, Great Sage Sun, Qingzhu Fairy, and Bingyun, a hint of smile appearing on his dry, bark-like face.

Though his stature was short and thin, appearing inconspicuous at first glance, he was in fact a long-famous Immortal King Realm expert, naturally exuding a mighty presence that, when his gaze swept over the crowd from Jade Bamboo Mountain, Ice Valley, Great Sage Sun, and Tu Mo, exerted an invisible pressure that caused their backs to involuntarily bend slightly.

Faced with an Immortal King Realm expert, Fang Bai did not wish to stand out and chose not to deliberately circulate Immortal Law to counteract the short and thin Buddha's pressure, thus slightly bending his back like the others around him.

The former peak Immortal Emperor, bowing down to an Immortal King Realm expert, was indeed a type of humiliation.

In his previous life, Fang Bai wouldn't have tolerated or needed to tolerate such a thing.

But in this life, reborn through seizing, having come step by step from the mundane world, Fang Bai's temperament had been refined quite a bit, realizing that only by being low-key and patient could he hope to reclaim his peak strength and exact revenge upon the eight Immortal Emperors.

As for this short and thin Buddha, known as Master Kumu, Fang Bai had encountered him during the Buddha Fruit ceremony in his previous life, though back then Master Kumu was only an Immortal Venerable Realm expert, his advancement to the peak of Immortal King Realm over a millennium was indeed a considerable feat.

As the nominal “leader” of Fang Bai and the other Immortals, faced with Master Kumu, the Immortal King Realm expert, Haoyue Fairy forced herself to stand upright, responding with composure: “Upper Immortal, you’re too kind! To obtain four Buddha Fruits, perhaps we were just luckier!”

Master Kumu shook his head and said, “Luck is just a small part, strength is key! These four junior Immortal friends possess Innate Spiritual Roots, their immortal paths are limitless! If given another thousand years, their achievements will be remarkable!”

To receive praise from an Immortal King Realm expert is an unparalleled honor, which would likely leave other Immortals floating with pride.

However, in Fang Bai’s view, when Master Kumu spoke these words, he raised his voice somewhat, seemingly intending for it to be heard by the tens of thousands of surrounding Immortals.

“This is clearly an attempt to kill with praise, which would bring disaster upon us!”

Thinking this in his heart, Fang Bai glanced around and indeed saw thousands of malicious gazes directed at him and the other Immortals.

“It seems leaving Mount Sumeru will be far more eventful!”

Fang Bai smiled wryly, then his gaze turned cold.

“If anyone wishes to seize the Buddha Fruit, just come! My Blood-Drinking Mad Blade hasn’t tasted much blood lately and is starving!”

Haoyue Fairy also found Master Kumu’s words problematic, furrowing her brows at him but daring not to speak.

“Buddha Fruit is a supreme treasure of the Immortal Realm, gazed upon by many, you should be extra careful upon leaving Mount Sumeru!”

After Master Kumu gave this “kind” admonition, he left Fang Bai and the Immortals with a profound smile and then departed, Lotus Step by Step.

“This old fellow is up to no good!”

Once Master Kumu had walked away, Fang Bai transmitted his voice to Haoyue Fairy.

Haoyue Fairy showed a surprised expression: “Senior, you mean...”

Fang Bai transmitted his voice with a cold smile: “That old fellow spoke of many coveters... but in truth, Sumeru Temple itself is the greatest coveter!”

Considering Fang Bai’s words momentarily, Haoyue Fairy exhibited an enlightened expression, exclaiming: “Would Sumeru Temple really do such a thing? Aren’t they afraid of inciting the wrath of all Immortals?”

Fang Bai snorted and said: “They act without revealing themselves, without concrete evidence, what can other Immortals do? I’ve learned that the Buddha Fruit ceremonies have been held numerous times, with many Buddha Fruits seized by various Immortals, yet a considerable portion of those Immortals have fallen, and the Buddha Fruits went missing... Heh, I’ve specifically investigated these matters and discovered that those Buddha Fruits have returned to Sumeru Temple...”

Given Fang Bai’s past as the Invincible War Emperor and Emperor’s Palace Master, Haoyue Fairy naturally had no reason to doubt his words.

“Unexpectedly, Sumeru Temple is so despicable and shameless... With this in mind, how can we keep those four Buddha Fruits safe? Senior... do we have a way to handle this?”

Haoyue Fairy showed a dejected expression, reluctantly looking at Fang Bai.

Initially, she had pinned her hopes on Fang Bai, but upon second thought, Fang Bai now only had Immortal Technique Secrets, yet due to his insufficient cultivation level, he could not exert his powers as

expected. If Sumeru Temple's Buddhas truly come to seize the Buddha Fruits, they could only watch helplessly, and retaining their lives would be fortune enough.

Fang Bai smiled and said, "Those coveting our Buddha Fruits are not limited to one faction. And given Sumeru Temple's strength, they certainly won't be the first to act, but rather the last yellow bird... Just watch, when we leave Mount Sumeru, it will be quite lively... Let them turn upon each other! As for our ways to counteract, I've already devised a plan..."

Fang Bai continued transmitting his voice, sharing his plan with Haoyue Fairy.

Haoyue Fairy, upon hearing, her eyes widened, nearly crying out in surprise, but eventually restrained herself, pondering: "If it's truly as Senior Fang says, those Immortals preparing to seize Buddha Fruits, including Sumeru Temple's Buddhas, will face misfortune..."

Though no other Immortal knew what Fang Bai and Haoyue Fairy discussed, apart from the two of them.

Great Sage Sun, Tu Mo, countless Immortals from Jade Bamboo Mountain, and the Five Immortals of Ice Valley plunged fully into excitement and anticipation after receiving their Buddha Fruits, yearning for cultivation improvements and power boosts, entirely oblivious to the imminent dangers ahead.

Those Immortals who failed to obtain Buddha Fruits watched the celebrating Great Sage Sun and others, their expressions complex, some envious, some jealous, some indifferent, some sneering...

Sumeru Temple, known for its hospitality, after the Buddha Fruit ceremony concluded, set up a grand Immortal banquet on a massive square, with Immortal Fruits and Immortal Brew for those Immortals who participated in the Buddha Fruit battle to savor.

Meanwhile, disciples of various Immortal Sects and Immortal Gates accompanying them had no part in the affair, left to patiently wait at the foot of Mount Sumeru.

Chapter 2173: Ice Fire Island

The immortal feast ended, and immortals from all walks of life gradually dispersed.

After Fang Bai and Haoyue Fairy, along with other immortals, descended Mount Sumeru, they waited for something at the foot of the mountain.

A moment later, a plump, white-clad immortal stepped through the air and landed in front of them. It was Heshan Venerable, who had reconciled with Fang Bai on the War Immortal Platform and provided news of the Fiery Emperor's fall from the Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace.

"Immortal Friend Heshan, this journey will be quite dangerous; are you sure you want to accompany us?"

Fang Bai looked at Heshan Venerable and asked with a smile.

Previously on the War Immortal Platform, Fang Bai had learned from Heshan Venerable about the location of Fiery Emperor's fall. He initially planned to lead Haoyue Fairy and other immortals there alone, but Heshan Venerable suggested joining them, expressing a wish to pay respects to Fiery Emperor's immortal body once more.

Fang Bai thought that since Heshan Venerable was also an Immortal Venerable Realm Expert, having additional support would be beneficial, so he agreed.

At present, Heshan Venerable only knew Fang Bai and Fiery Emperor were immortals of the Emperor's Palace, unaware of Fang Bai's true identity, which Fang Bai did not intend to disclose.

After all, Heshan Venerable was merely an admirer of the Emperor's Palace, not a disciple, and Fang Bai didn't know him well enough to reveal his identity easily.

"Is the danger you mention about immortals trying to seize your Buddha Fruit?"

Heshan Venerable, known for his astuteness in the Immortal Realm, had long noticed the interest some immortals had in the Buddha Fruit obtained by Fang Bai and others at the festival, and he asked back with a smile, not waiting for Fang Bai to respond. "What am I afraid of? Anyway, the Buddha Fruit is with you; if any immortals want to steal it, they'll be after you!"

Fang Bai replied, "What if the immortals trying to seize the Buddha Fruit don't want their identities exposed and decide to silence you?"

Heshan Venerable was taken aback and said, "This... I hadn't thought about it... It shouldn't be... if I wanted from the Buddha Fruit, I'd seize it openly. There's no need to be sneaky. Once we leave Mount Sumeru, the life and death of any immortal has nothing to do with Sumeru Temple."

Though Heshan Venerable had never seen an immortal capturing Buddha Fruit, he had heard other immortals mention it, uncertain of its truth.

But given the law of the strong preying on the weak in the Immortal Realm, such incidents are likely not false.

Fang Bai didn't mention anything about Sumeru Temple or Thunder Palace and said with a smile, "If you're willing, then come along! Just don't regret it later!"

Heshan Venerable boastfully replied, "No regrets! I've never done anything in my life to regret!"

"In that case, let's go!"

With that, Fang Bai formed a mass of Auspicious Clouds beneath his feet, lifted off the ground, and headed northeast.

During the flight, Fang Bai disclosed the purpose of this journey to Haoyue Fairy and Bingyun Fairy.

Among their group, only Haoyue Fairy and Bingyun knew Fang Bai's true identity, so Fang Bai informed them about Fiery Emperor.

Though Haoyue Fairy and Bingyun had never seen Fiery Emperor, they knew he was an elder of immense power in the Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace eons ago, unexpected that he fell to the forces of eight Immortal Emperors.

The two, one a descendant of the Emperor's Palace, the other deeply connected with it, both felt a wave of sorrow upon hearing this news from Fang Bai.

"The place where Fiery Emperor fell isn't far from your Ice Valley."

Fang Bai told Bingyun Fairy.

Bingyun Fairy thought for a while, bright-eyed, and said, "Could it be on Ice Fire Island?"

Fang Bai replied, "Yes, that's the place! Fiery Emperor cultivated Fire System Immortal Law, with a cluster of Ice Cold Profound Fire within him. After his fall, the Ice Cold Profound Fire remained, unable to be suppressed, and began to spread, forming white flames like ice and snow across the island, eventually creating Ice Fire Island, which ordinary immortals cannot approach."

Bingyun Fairy said, "No wonder some immortals say Ice Fire Island only formed a thousand years ago... alas, we've lived in the Ice Valley near it for hundreds of years, yet never knew it was where Fiery Emperor fell..."

Fang Bai replied, "Even if you knew, you wouldn't be able to visit. Although Ice Cold Profound Fire differs from other Immortal Fire, its power surpasses ordinary immortals. With your current cultivation level, you couldn't approach within hundreds of Baili of Fiery Emperor's remains, or it'd be courting death!"

Regarding Fang Bai's words, Bingyun Fairy deeply agreed.

Initially curious about Ice Fire Island, the Five Immortals of Ice Valley attempted to investigate. But when one of them, Profound Fire Venerable, inadvertently touched a white flame, it clung like maggots, refusing to detach or extinguish, rapidly engulfing him, devouring his flesh and bones to ash.

Profound Fire Venerable was terrified and, to save his life, had to sever his left arm.

Later, he consumed many healing pills, and after a hundred years, his severed arm regrew but was never as nimble or free as before, significantly impairing his combat prowess.

From then on, the Five Immortals of Ice Valley dared not set foot on Ice Fire Island.

Fortunately, Profound Fire Venerable encountered only a trace of Ice Cold Profound Fire's outer flames. If he'd encountered the cluster within Fiery Emperor, he'd likely have perished.

Bingyun Fairy knew Fang Bai's trip to Ice Fire Island aimed to see Fiery Emperor's remains but wondered if Fang Bai's current cultivation level could withstand Ice Cold Profound Fire.

Fang Bai and the other immortals, after flying thousands of miles on Auspicious Clouds, were intercepted by a group of immortals.

Heshan Venerable, well-traveled across the Immortal Realm with extensive connections, instantly recognized the group as hailing from the Blissful Immortal Sect.

The Blissful Immortal Sect in the Immortal Realm is a second-tier immortal sect, its Sect Leader is a peak Immortal Venerable Realm expert.

Blissful Immortal Sect was among the sects participating in the Buddha Fruit festival, led by a steward of six-grade Immortal Venerable Realm.

At this moment, fifty disciples from Blissful Immortal Sect blocked Fang Bai's group's path, overwhelming them in numbers and overall combat power.

"This battle won't be easy!"

The Divine Sense of Heshan Venerable swept over the Blissful Immortal Sect disciples, revealing a frown.

"I've met that steward of Blissful Immortal Sect; let me speak to them first! If it doesn't work, we'll have to fight! With unified efforts, we won't be far weaker than them!"

After quickly speaking with Fang Bai, Heshan Venerable stepped forward alone to face the Blissful Immortal Sect disciples.

“Flowing Cloud Immortal Venerable, greetings from a junior! May I ask why you block our path?”

Heshan Venerable respectfully clasped his fists.

The Blissful Immortal Sect steward, titled “Flowing Cloud Immortal Venerable,” possessed much greater cultivation than Heshan Venerable, so Heshan Venerable showed proper respect, honoring him appropriately.

“Who is this? Oh, it’s Heshan Venerable!”

Flowing Cloud Immortal Venerable glanced at Heshan Venerable with a neutral expression. “How did you end up with Jade Bamboo Mountain’s immortals? If you’re not involved, step aside!”

Chapter 2174: Three Immortals Battle Liu Yun

The target of the Blissful Immortal Sect is naturally the four Buddha Fruits in the hands of Fang Bai and the other immortals.

In the previous Buddha Fruit Ceremony, although the Blissful Immortal Sect had a disciple participating, he was eliminated early and gained nothing.

After Fang Bai and the other four immortals claimed four Buddha Fruits, the Blissful Immortal Sect, like many other immortal sects, developed covetous desires and planned to seize the four Buddha Fruits for themselves while Fang Bai and the others were far from the Sumeru Temple.

The immortals of the Blissful Immortal Sect were worried that the Buddha Fruits would be taken by other immortals, so they swiftly intercepted Fang Bai and the others ahead of any other sect.

In the eyes of the Blissful Immortal Sect immortals, Fang Bai’s side has only about a dozen immortals, and their strongest is merely a second-grade Immortal Venerable Realm Expert. Although Fang Bai, Great Sage Sun, Qingzhu Fairy, and Bingyun have the power to defeat a fourth-grade Immortal Venerable Realm Expert, the Blissful Immortal Sect side has Liu Yun Immortal Venerable, a sixth-grade Immortal Venerable Realm Expert.

A fourth-grade Immortal Venerable Realm Expert is no match for a sixth-grade Immortal Venerable Realm Expert.

Liu Yun Immortal Venerable is confident that as long as he takes action, he can single-handedly slaughter all the immortals on Fang Bai's side.

However, Liu Yun Immortal Venerable has concerns because he knows many immortals are watching around, thus if he acts, he must act swiftly and decisively, seize the Buddha Fruits, and leave quickly. Otherwise, if entangled by other immortals, he'll be mired in a difficult battle.

Liu Yun Immortal Venerable recognizes Heshan Venerable but doesn't think highly of such a tiny immortal, speaking rudely, thinking it's best if Heshan Venerable scrams; otherwise, he will slaughter him too.

Heshan Venerable laughed dryly and asked, "Liu Yun Immortal Venerable, could it be you're here for those four Buddha Fruits?"

Liu Yun Immortal Venerable sneered, "Nonsense! Anyone with half a brain would know why we Blissful Immortal Sect are here!"

Heshan Venerable glanced at Fang Bai and the others and sighed, "Those four Buddha Fruits now belong to the immortals of Jade Bamboo Mountain and the five immortals of Ice Valley. If you forcibly seize them, a great battle is inevitably going to occur, with mutual casualties which will benefit other immortals."

Liu Yun Immortal Venerable laughed disdainfully and said mockingly, "A great battle? Mutual casualties? You really think you tiny immortals are worthy? What a joke! I'm enough to deal with all of you single-handedly!"

Realizing his resolve, Heshan Venerable dropped his courteous demeanor, gloomily saying, "Liu Yun Immortal Venerable, I acknowledge your prowess, but do not underestimate our determination to protect the Buddha Fruits!"

Although Heshan Venerable is known for his "kindness," he's by no means weak. Moreover, upon learning Fang Bai's true identity, he was even less likely to fear a second-rate sect like the Blissful Immortal Sect.

Heshan Venerable was once a superfan of the Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace, greatly admiring the Emperor's Palace Master. He thought that although the Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace had perished and the Emperor's Palace Master had reincarnated with diminished cultivation, a starved camel is still bigger than a horse, and many of the ten thousand disciples of the Emperor's Palace had escaped the disaster and scattered across the Immortal Realm. This is a force that no immortal sect or sect dares to ignore.

If today the Blissful Immortal Sect dares to attack Fang Bai and the other immortals, letting the scattered disciples of the Emperor's Palace know, the Blissful Immortal Sect would inevitably face annihilation.

Therefore, when confronted by the Blissful Immortal Sect, Heshan Venerable decided to stand in solidarity with Fang Bai and his group, advancing and retreating together.

Not only now, but in the future as well.

Heshan Venerable knew that binding himself with Fang Bai's immortals was a gamble.

The immortals who want to seize the Buddha Fruits are not limited to the Blissful Immortal Sect; there are stronger forces too. If indeed Fang Bai and the others fall, he himself would also die.

But if Fang Bai and his group could overcome the crisis successfully, there should be a portion of the Buddha Fruits for him too, and his future prospects would be immeasurable.

"Heshan Venerable, please step back! Let Great Sage Sun and the others handle this immortal!"

With Fang Bai's words, Great Sage Sun, Qingzhu Fairy, and Bingyun stepped forward, battle intents rising and their spirits high.

Seeing this, Heshan Venerable realized Fang Bai was planning to clear the path with sheer power, and he retreated accordingly.

Great Sage Sun and the three immortals each have the strength to defeat fourth-grade Immortal Venerable Realm experts. If they join forces, they might contend against fifth-grade Immortal Venerable Realm experts, but it seems still insufficient to handle Liu Yun Immortal Venerable with six Immortal Venerable Realm.

Yet Heshan Venerable knew that Fang Bai harbors myriad strategies and knows many Immortal Technique Secrets, surely possessing various means. Without confidence, he wouldn't let the three face Liu Yun Immortal Venerable in battle.

Great Sage Sun, Qingzhu Fairy, and Bingyun stood positioned around Liu Yun Immortal Venerable. They were separated by dozens of feet, their auras connected and aligned, moving in perfect harmony.

Liu Yun Immortal Venerable, experienced and keen-eyed, seeing the positions Great Sage Sun and the three immortals stood and their synchronized collaboration, knew silently, they set up a small formation.

"Trying to use an Immortal Array to fight me? Overestimating yourselves!"

Liu Yun Immortal Venerable sneered aloud, confident that even if the array's power was multiplied several times beyond their combined efforts, he alone could break it.

"Master, can Junior Sister Qingzhu win?"

Asked a female immortal of Jade Bamboo Mountain softly.

This female immortal of Jade Bamboo Mountain was unaware of Fang Bai's real identity. To her, the Blissful Immortal Sect's overall strength vastly surpassed Jade Bamboo Mountain's, and since they sent out a sixth-grade expert, instinctively she thought Great Sage Sun, Qingzhu Fairy, and Bingyun might not be opponents, feeling some worry.

Haoyue Fairy glared at that disciple and snorted, "You lass, have some faith in Junior Sister Qingzhu! Let me tell you, that formation was taught by Senior Fang, known as Tri Cauldron Lock Immortal Formation, capable of suppressing immortals mightier than Liu Yun Immortal Venerable!"

The female immortal of Jade Bamboo Mountain let out a breath of relief, knowing her master wouldn't be mad at her, laughed cheekily, saying, "Master, don't be mad, I was just asking... Since you say this, I feel assured!"

Tri Cauldron Lock Immortal Formation centers around Great Sage Sun, and when Great Sage Sun moves, the entire formation moves accordingly.

"Enough chatter, whether it's an overestimate or not will be shown in battle afterward!"

Great Sage Sun ceased to speak further, eyes gleaming, iron rod in hand, activating the formation, proactively launching an attack toward Liu Yun Immortal Venerable.

Liu Yun Immortal Venerable, within the formation, suddenly saw the scenery change, the figures of Great Sage Sun and the three immortals vanished, replaced by wisps of thin smoke and mist. Amidst the mist, three massive cauldrons formed from Immortal Qi appeared.

The three towering cauldrons stood like small mountains, emitting immense Immortal Might, exerting powerful pressure even upon Liu Yun Immortal Venerable.

"Boom!"

A muffled sound rang out, as if something powerfully hit the bodies of the three cauldrons, creating sound waves that shook, distorted the void, and then surged against Liu Yun Immortal Venerable like a tidal wave.

Chapter 2175: Do As You Wish!

Three sonic waves, forming three invisible impact forces, in an unstoppable manner, tore apart the Immortal Domain formed around Flowing Cloud Immortal Venerable, striking his body.

As a Sixth Grade Immortal Venerable Realm Expert, Flowing Cloud Immortal Venerable's physique was quite formidable, yet under the impact of those three sonic waves, his body inevitably shook, with blood slowly dripping from the corners of his mouth.

"That formation is terrifying..."

Immortals far away, even hundreds of miles away, who were using Divine Sense to observe the battle here, were greatly shocked to see Flowing Cloud Immortal Venerable injured under the attack of the formation formed by the three Immortals led by Great Sage Sun.

They had originally thought that the formation composed of Great Sage Sun and the other two Immortals would be easily defeated by Flowing Cloud Immortal Venerable, never expecting the outcome to be completely opposite to their imaginations.

Injured with one strike, and moreover during Flowing Cloud Immortal Venerable's full defense, which shows how powerful the formation formed by the three Immortals was.

Many Immortals having seen this, began to reevaluate the overall combat power of Fang Bai's Immortals, discussing whether to deploy stronger forces to contend for the Buddha Fruit.

"I knew... I knew..."

Heshan Venerable watched Flowing Cloud Immortal Venerable, who was charging left and right within the Tri Cauldron Lock Immortal Formation, yet unable to break the formation, mumbling to himself, with his expression full of joy.

He didn't expect that the formation Fang Bai taught Great Sage Sun and the other two Immortals would be so formidable; worthy of being the invincible Battle Immortal and Emperor's Palace Master in a past life!

Several dozen disciples from Blissful Immortal Sect watching the battle, seeing Flowing Cloud Immortal Venerable trapped in the formation and unable to break through, after watching for a moment, accordingly shouted, approaching the Tri Cauldron Lock Immortal Formation, initiating attacks from the outside to try and break the formation and rescue Flowing Cloud Immortal Venerable.

But the Tri Cauldron Lock Immortal Formation was extremely wondrous, as the attacks launched from the outside by the Blissful Immortal Sect disciples against the Immortal Array were actually converted into targeted attacks against Flowing Cloud Immortal Venerable.

So Flowing Cloud Immortal Venerable was mournful.

Several dozen Blissful Immortal Sect disciples, most of them had the Heavenly Immortal Realm cultivation level, but also included twenty Immortal Venerable Realm Experts, their joint attack power was extraordinary; even for an expert like Flowing Cloud Immortal Venerable of the Sixth Grade Immortal Venerable Realm, it was unbearable.

"Boom!"

Three powerful sonic waves mixed with the combined attack force of several dozen Blissful Immortal Sect disciples simultaneously crashed into Flowing Cloud Immortal Venerable.

Flowing Cloud Immortal Venerable cried out, his body, under the simultaneous impact of several forces, suddenly caved in, his internal organs shattered instantaneously, blood flowed out of his seven orifices, he fell to the ground, barely alive.

However, Flowing Cloud Immortal Venerable, being a Sixth Grade Immortal Venerable Realm Expert, as long as his Sea of Consciousness and Qi Sea aren't subjected to fatal attacks, he wouldn't die, relying on the inherent self-healing ability of an Immortal, he could slowly recover.

Flowing Cloud Immortal Venerable was severely injured this time, both his Sea of Consciousness and Qi Sea were severely shaken, without ten or eight years, it would be hard for his heavily injured body to fully recover, and the restoration of his combat power to the peak state would take at least several decades.

"Spare... spare me!"

The severely injured Flowing Cloud Immortal Venerable no longer had his previous arrogance, struggling as he knelt down in mid-air, pleading with Great Sage Sun, Qingzhu Fairy, and Bingyun Immortal.

In just dozens of breaths, severely injuring the Sixth Grade Immortal Venerable Realm Expert Flowing Cloud Immortal Venerable and making him kneel and beg for mercy, this excited and exhilarated Great Sage Sun, Qingzhu Fairy, and Bingyun Immortal.

This Tri Cauldron Lock Immortal Formation was taught to them by Fang Bai during the Buddha Fruit Omen event for dealing with unforeseen events after obtaining the Buddha Fruit.

And this time, they used this formation in battle for the first time, never expecting its power to be so formidable, essentially elevating their individual Immortal combat power by more than tenfold.

"With this formation, even encountering a Seventh Grade Immortal Venerable Realm Expert, we can battle and win; can contend against an Eighth Grade Immortal Venerable Realm Expert."

Great Sage Sun, Qingzhu Fairy, Bingyun Immortal thought confidently.

The Tri Cauldron Lock Immortal Formation, formed by three Immortals, was only a small Immortal Array,

yet more formidable formations like the Four-Point Infinity Formation, Five Elements Immortal Extermination Formation, Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation, Nine Bends Soul Loss Formation, etc., Great Sage Sun and other Immortals learned from Fang Bai, thinking that these formations involving more Immortals, once deployed, wouldn't the power be even stronger?

For instance, the Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation formed by eight Immortals, once formed, wouldn't it be able to contend with the Immortal King Realm Expert?

The formations taught by Fang Bai provided strong protection for the four Buddha Fruits they guarded against being taken by other Immortals.

In the minds of Great Sage Sun and other Immortals, unless an Immortal King Realm Expert descended, there would be no threat to their Buddha Fruits, Immortal Venerable Realm Experts like Flowing Cloud Immortal Venerable coming would simply be asking for humiliation.

"Master, what should we do?"

Seeing Flowing Cloud Immortal Venerable kneeling and begging for mercy, Great Sage Sun asked Fang Bai aloud.

"Whatever you want to do, then do it!"

Fang Bai gave the decision to Great Sage Sun.

Great Sage Sun rejoiced, and without a word, with fierce light in his eyes, he swung his iron staff, and amidst the cries of dozens of Blissful Immortal Sect disciples, smashed it down towards Flowing Cloud Immortal Venerable.

Flowing Cloud Immortal Venerable, severely injured, had no power to fight back, could only watch helplessly as the iron staff weighing thousands of pounds, with infinite force, smashed down on his head.

"Bang!"

Flowing Cloud Immortal Venerable received a heavy blow, turning into a cloud of blood mist and dissipating.

The scene fell into a deathly silence, with dozens of Blissful Immortal Sect disciples, their faces pale, their bodies trembling.

"You... you killed our Blissful Immortal Sect Steward, the Sect Leader will never let you go! You're finished... finished..."

A Second Grade Immortal Venerable Realm disciple from Blissful Immortal Sect looked at Great Sage Sun, speaking with veiled threat.

The Sect Leader of Blissful Immortal Sect, with a Ninth Grade Immortal Venerable Realm cultivation level, just a step away from progressing to the Immortal King Realm, thus the Blissful Immortal Sect disciple spoke with some confidence.

Great Sage Sun, like a fierce deity, his figure flickered, appearing in front of Blissful Immortal Sect disciple who spoke, and the iron staff swung again, sending him also to the Blissful Realm.

Both being Second Grade Immortal Venerable Realm Experts, yet that Blissful Immortal Sect disciple could not resist even one move from Great Sage Sun, other Blissful Immortal Sect disciples were intimidated, none dared to speak further.

"If you don't want to die, leave your Space Immortal Ring, then scram!"

Great Sage Sun's gaze swept over the Blissful Immortal Sect disciples, exuding Evil Qi and Killing Qi to the skies as he spoke.

"It's too much bullying..."

The Blissful Immortal Sect disciples thought this in their hearts, showing humiliation in their expressions.

They really wanted to fight desperately with Great Sage Sun and the other Immortals, but thinking of the Steward in their sect and the demise of that fellow disciple just now, their courage faded.

To force combat now could only lead to meaningless death; rather, it would be better to return to the Immortal Sect and report this matter to their master, then follow the master to Jade Bamboo Mountain and Ice Valley's five Immortals to demand justice.

Then, the humiliation suffered today would be returned with interest!

Thus, dozens of Blissful Immortal Sect disciples reluctantly left their Space Immortal Rings, then swiftly flew away.

Great Sage Sun, smiling from ear to ear, collected dozens of Space Immortal Rings, intending to hand them over to Fang Bai, but Fang Bai instructed him to distribute them to Qingzhu Fairy, Bingyun, and other Immortals.

"This battle intimidated many restless Immortals, the road ahead should be peaceful for a while."

Fang Bai spread Divine Sense for miles, observing that many Immortals probing their situation showed hesitation in their expressions, knowing that for some time no more Immortals would try to snatch the Buddha Fruit, yet he dared not be complacent.

The brief calm didn't mean there was no danger; instead, it might be a precursor to the storm coming.

In the future, stronger opponents will inevitably appear, at that time they will undoubtedly face more intense battles.

Chapter 2176: Immortal King Interception

Although Fang Bai and the other immortals repelled the Blissful Immortal Sect and deterred many immortals coveting the Buddha Fruit, the temptation of the four Buddha Fruits was too great, and many Immortal Sect disciples still followed them all the way, waiting for an opportunity to strike.

On the journey of hundreds of thousands of miles to the Ice Fire Island, Fang Bai and the other immortals encountered several forces blocking their way, including an Immortal Sect led by a Ninth Grade Immortal Venerable Realm expert.

The preceding forces were relatively weaker in overall strength, so Fang Bai did not personally take action, instead letting Great Sage Sun and other immortals confront them, setting up different formations based on the opponent's strength.

During the Buddha Fruit Festival, Fang Bai taught Great Sage Sun and other immortals formations, precisely to prepare for unexpected situations afterward, which indeed proved useful now.

The formations Fang Bai taught became more powerful the more immortals joined to form them.

When intercepted by an Immortal Sect disciple led by a Ninth Grade Immortal Venerable Realm expert, Great Sage Sun, Qingzhu Fairy, Tu Mo, and the Five Immortals of Ice Valley formed the Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation to confront them.

The Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation was mysterious and ever-changing, becoming stronger when met with strength. Once the formation circulated, it caught the Ninth Grade Immortal Venerable Realm expert off guard, who, unable to defend, exhausted his immortal power in less than a hundred breaths and was slain by a single strike from Great Sage Sun's rod.

For immortals daring to take the Buddha Fruit, there was no mercy, only absolute suppression, as this was Fang Bai's intention.

Fang Bai knew that even if they spared those immortals, they wouldn't receive any goodwill in return and might invite greater troubles instead. It was better to suppress them directly, thus intimidating other immortals more effectively.

The Ninth Grade Immortal Venerable Realm expert thought that taking action would easily secure the four Buddha Fruits, but he didn't expect that attempting to secure them would lead to losing everything.

The immortals who came with the Ninth Grade Immortal Venerable Realm expert were frightened out of their wits, fleeing in all directions to avoid being smashed to death by Great Sage Sun and meeting a tragic end.

Fang Bai and the other immortals didn't pursue the fleeing immortals, continuing to ride the auspicious clouds.

The news that Fang Bai and eight other immortals jointly killed a Ninth Grade Immortal Venerable Realm expert reached other immortals, causing many to become apprehensive, and they quietly dispersed, making the journey to Ice Fire Island much quieter for a time.

"Having killed a Ninth Grade Immortal Venerable expert, the immortals coveting our Buddha Fruits should be scared away, right?"

Great Sage Sun, full of fighting spirit, was eager for battle, but the immortals coveting the Buddha Fruit seemed to have all disappeared suddenly, leaving him bored.

"Before the storm arrives, there is always a period of calm! Do not let down your guard!"

Fang Bai said solemnly.

At this moment, his divine sense diffused, and although he didn't detect any immortals around, he vaguely sensed multiple dangers lurking in the shadows, knowing that somewhere distant, powerful immortals were watching him and his group, ready to appear as soon as they deemed the opportunity ripe.

Seeing Fang Bai's serious expression, Great Sage Sun and the other immortals knew he wasn't just being alarmist, and they all heightened their vigilance.

After flying for more than ten days, they were already close to Ice Fire Island, and all the immortals except Fang Bai secretly breathed a sigh of relief, thinking no more immortals would intercept them now.

But just then, a figure suddenly shot out from a mass of black clouds, appearing abruptly in the air right in front of Fang Bai and other immortals, blocking their path.

The immortal was shrouded from head to toe in a black robe, revealing only a pair of cold eyes that glared at Fang Bai and the others.

"This immortal is very dangerous!"

Although they didn't know who was blocking their way, everyone except Fang Bai felt a terrifying pressure from the black-robed figure.

"Leave the four Buddha Fruits behind, and I'll spare your lives!"

The black-robed immortal spoke slowly, the tone low and hoarse, allowing no room for objection.

Within a ten-foot radius around him, a golden ocean slowly appeared, waves rising without wind, roaring and surging, containing terrifying power.

That golden ocean was the Immortal Domain.

Within this Immortal Domain, any attack launched by immortals whose cultivation level was weaker than his would be ineffective; any Immortal Artifacts they summoned would be ground to dust.

"An expert in the First Level of Immortal King Realm!"

Fang Bai squinted as he looked at the Immortal Domain surrounding the black-robed figure, speaking slowly.

His words clearly surprised the Immortal King Realm expert, who hadn't expected that a mere Second Level Immortal Venerable Realm expert could see through his cultivation level.

Great Sage Sun and the other immortals, however, looked tense, summoning Immortal Artifacts while their bodies were enveloped in immortal qi, entering a state of heightened alertness.

Although they had defeated a Ninth Grade Immortal Venerable expert before, the strength of a First Level Immortal King expert was more than ten times greater, and they weren't sure they could withstand it.

Despite knowing the opponent was powerful and formidable, Fang Bai and the other immortals wouldn't submit.

"Want the Buddha Fruit? Don't even think about it!"

Great Sage Sun gripped his iron rod tightly, moving forward to stand like a giant mountain in front of Fang Bai and the immortals.

"You ignorant Immortal Beast! I'll crush you with one hand!"

The black-robed immortal sneered, raising his hand and striking downward toward Great Sage Sun.

Above Great Sage Sun's head, immortal qi surged, and a massive golden palm, spanning over ten feet, instantly formed and descended with immense immortal might. The space around it twisted and deformed under the powerful pressure.

Great Sage Sun looked up, a serious expression in his eyes, roared, and thrust his iron rod upwards, attempting to pierce through the giant palm.

"Great Sage, you are no match for him! Form the Nine Bends Soul Loss Formation to engage him!"

Fang Bai shouted softly, leaping together with Qingzhu Fairy, Tu Mo, and the Five Immortals of Ice Valley to positions surrounding Great Sage Sun, instantly forming a large formation.

Great Sage Sun put away his iron rod, swiftly integrating himself into the Nine Bends Soul Loss Formation.

With Fang Bai leading it, the Nine Bends Soul Loss Formation quickly circulated, and when the descending golden giant palm fell, it generated a force to counter it.

With Fang Bai's participation and direct activation, the Nine Bends Soul Loss Formation was far more formidable than the Eight Desolations Qiankun Formation that had previously suppressed the Ninth Grade Immortal Venerable expert, and Fang Bai believed it more than sufficient to face an Immortal King expert.

The golden giant palm fell onto the defense qi shield formed by the Nine Bends Soul Loss Formation, causing only slight ripples without any sign of collapse, while the golden palm exploded into shockwaves and dissipated into nothingness.

"Huh?"

Realizing his strike was ineffective, the black-robed Immortal King expert was slightly surprised and knew that the formation was formidable, retracting his contemptuous expression.

"Interesting! But do you think you can stop me with just a mere formation?"

The black-robed immortal chuckled, pressing his palms together and chanting immortal mantras. The golden ocean around him gathered and formed a giant golden bell, crashing toward the Nine Bends Soul Loss Formation.

Chapter 2177: Withering and Flourishing

"Boom!"

The golden giant bell, several times more powerful than the previous giant golden palm, fiercely crashed against the defense qi shield formed by the Nine Bends Soul Loss Formation, emitting a muffled roar.

Intense shockwaves scattered outward, causing ripples in the space within a thousand yards around, like water surface stirred violently.

When the Nine Bends Soul Loss Formation encounters strength, it gains strength; though the golden giant bell was formidable, it still could not breach the formation, only increasing the vibration slightly.

The Nine Bends Soul Loss Formation, adept in both offense and defense, after withstanding several attacks from the Black-Robed Immortal King, suddenly shifted its formation, enveloping the Black-Robed Immortal King within.

Having failed multiple attacks, knowing the formation could not be broken by his strength alone, he summoned his immortal artifact, preparing to attempt again with the greatest force. Yet he found Fang Bai and the other nine Immortals shifting positions, encircling him from nine directions.

Immediately, the scenery around him began to change rapidly, terrifying illusions of corpses, blood seas, conquest, and slaughter emerged continuously.

The Black-Robed Immortal King, experienced and knowledgeable, recognized this as an illusionary formation capable of confusing an Immortal's mind. Slight negligence could lead him to exhaust his immortal power, providing the enemy an opportunity, and his face grew increasingly solemn.

He steadied his mind, closed his eyes, and wielded his immortal artifact, launching full attacks towards the ethereal void, hoping to break the formation.

He knew that locating the formation's array eye would allow an easy break, but if his force reached a certain level, he could equally break through.

Once the formation was broken, the mind-confusing illusions would naturally disappear.

The full force attack of an Immortal King Realm expert demonstrated immense power; even mountains blocking him could be collapsed by successive attacks.

Yet at this moment, the Black-Robed Immortal King's attempts felt like hitting air, lacking purchase and merely consuming strength, showing no hope of breaking the formation.

Feeling the depletion of immortal power, the Black-Robed Immortal King lost his composure and grew somewhat anxious.

"First pretending to generously distribute six Buddha Fruits to us, then secretly snatching them back... Ha, Sumeru Temple truly makes a good deal! I wonder how many Immortals have fallen at your Sumeru Temple Buddha's hands until now!"

Fang Bai's voice suddenly echoed within the Nine Bends Soul Loss Formation.

The Black-Robed Immortal King's body lightly trembled, his tightly shut eyes suddenly opened wide, and he shouted into the void surrounding him, "What do you mean by this? I don't understand!"

Fang Bai sneered, his voice continuing, "Master Kurong, no need to cloak yourself any longer. No matter how well you hide, I can still recognize you! But this time, Sumeru Temple is destined to fail!"

The Black-Robed Immortal King, honored as Master Kurong, was one of the five Buddhas publicly displayed by Sumeru Temple during the Buddha Fruit ceremony and the weakest among them.

Though the weakest, Master Kurong was still an expert in the Immortal King Realm. He was dispatched by Master Kumu, the Great Elder of the temple, to seize the Buddha Fruit, believing his strength could easily suppress Fang Bai and the other Immortals, reclaim the four Buddha Fruits. But he hadn't expected the current situation to unfold.

The secret seizing of Buddha Fruits by Sumeru Temple was always done discreetly, and had never failed before, but unexpectedly, it was recognized by a mere second-grade Immortal Venerable Realm Immortal, shocking Master Kurong.

"How did you recognize me?"

Master Kurong grew more anxious, knowing that once this matter was leaked, it would greatly damage Sumeru Temple's reputation, and there might never be Immortals participating in the Buddha Fruit ceremony again.

More terrifying, the sects of those Immortals who had encountered misfortune returning after gaining Buddha Fruits at the ceremony, upon discovering this matter, would direct their reproach towards Sumeru Temple, demanding accountability.

Though Sumeru Temple was strong, facing simultaneous retribution from numerous Immortal Sects would be a tough menace.

Fang Bai had already disclosed to Great Sage Sun, Haoyue Fairy, and other Immortals the possibility of Sumeru Temple seizing back the Buddha Fruits. Thus, upon recognizing Master Kurong, while Great Sage Sun and others were enraged, they were not surprised, only making remarks like "despicable" and "shameless" which began resounding.

Master Kurong understood that if he could not suppress Fang Bai and the other Immortals this time, there would be endless repercussions. Yet trapped within the Nine Bends Soul Loss Formation, unable to find a way to break it, anxious and furious, he heard the scolding voice beside his ear, mixing rage and despair.

Being inside the Nine Bends Soul Loss Formation, a formation capable of bewildering mind, impulsiveness and negative emotions were most taboo.

Agitated and enraged, Master Kurong's mind inevitably scattered, causing the Nine Bends Soul Loss Formation to unleash its power, with phantasms emerging endlessly around him.

Master Kurong, powerful as he was, fell deeply into the illusion, unable to extricate himself.

Fang Bai and the other nine Immortals fully activated the Nine Bends Soul Loss Formation to its strongest state.

"Ah!"

Entrapped within the illusion, Master Kurong's eyes turned blood red, appearing insane, battling against the innumerable non-existent enemies around him, using all his might.

"Master Kurong is finished!"

Fang Bai and the other nine Immortals all thought this, revealing joy on their faces.

The combat power of an Immortal King Realm expert was exceptionally formidable, and several hours later, Master Kurong's immortal power was finally exhausted, and in a state of weakness, his body plummeted downward.

"Kill!"

Without waiting for Fang Bai to speak, Great Sage Sun released his iron rod, chasing the falling Master Kurong, smashing downward.

"Boom!"

As Master Kurong's body hit the ground, one end of the iron rod also smashed onto him.

The ground collapsed, dust surged, and the iron rod pushed Master Kurong's body into the ground, several dozen yards deep.

How could the exhausted Master Kurong withstand such a formidable strike from Great Sage Sun? His body beneath the earth disintegrated into a mist of blood, devoid of life.

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"Kurong... fallen? How... how is it possible?"

As Master Kurong fell, several Buddhas far away at Sumeru Temple tens of thousands of miles away felt it simultaneously, each showing expressions of shock.

Soon, the high-ranking members of Sumeru Temple gathered, discussing the matter with solemn expressions.

"Kurong went to seize the Buddha Fruit, the Jade Bamboo Mountain Immortals and Ice Valley Five Immortals couldn't possibly pose a threat... Could he have encountered other strong enemies interfering?"

The Great Elder of Sumeru Temple, Master Kumu, analyzed with a frown.

Kurong was a top figure in Sumeru Temple, and his fall brought heartache and anger to the temple's leaders, including Master Kumu.

"Could it be Immortals from Thunder Palace intervening, leading to Kurong's downfall?"

Another high-ranking member of Sumeru Temple suggested.

In this Buddha Fruit ceremony, Thunder Palace also had disciples participating but gained nothing, they might not be content and could potentially seize Buddha Fruits.

Master Kumu pondered and said, "The Thunder Palace Immortals attending the Buddha Fruit ceremony this time were led by Lei Yi Immortal King, whose might rivals Kurong. If he intervened, it's truly possible... Thunder Palace is detestable!"

Chapter 2178: Pursuit

After a round of secret discussions, two masters from Sumeru Temple with Immortal King Cultivation Realm, rode auspicious clouds and broke through the sky, following the aura of Kurong Monk, swiftly flying towards the direction of Ice Fire Island, preparing to investigate the true cause of Kurong Monk's fall.

If it is confirmed that Kurong Monk's fall was the doing of Thunder Palace's Lei Yi Immortal King, then even with the Thunder Immortal Emperor, a top powerhouse of the current age, behind him, Sumeru Temple would not remain silent and would certainly seek an explanation from Thunder Palace.

Nowadays, although there is no Immortal Emperor level powerhouse in Sumeru Temple, its deep foundation and overall strength are still not to be underestimated. Additionally, with the Immortal Realm's treasure, the Buddha Fruit Tree, in its possession, many Immortal Sects have good relations with it, making its prestige not much lower than that of Thunder Palace.

Once Sumeru Temple obtains evidence that Lei Yi Immortal King killed Kurong Monk, and seeks redress from Thunder Palace, unless Thunder Palace is willing to wage a great war with Sumeru Temple, it will have no choice but to apologize and offer compensation.

Of course, if the matter of Sumeru Temple ambushing and seizing the Immortal Fruits of various immortals after the Buddha Fruit Festival were to be leaked, everything would be reversed. Not only would Sumeru Temple's good reputation accumulated over the years collapse instantly, but those Immortal Sects and Immortal Schools that had good relations with Sumeru Temple would also turn against it without mercy.

At that time, Sumeru Temple's act of seeking redress from Thunder Palace would become a joke.

This time, Sumeru Temple dispatching two Immortal King Realm masters to explore the area around Ice Fire Island is also a preventative measure. If they discover that the matter of Kurong Monk ambushing

the immortals of Jade Bamboo Mountain might be exposed, they would simultaneously act with thunderous means, sparing no cost to kill all immortals who know of this news.

Even if they are immortals of Thunder Palace, they won't be spared.

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While the two Immortal King Realm masters from Sumeru Temple were flying towards Ice Fire Island, Fang Bai and other immortals, who had killed Kurong Monk, had already arrived at the Ice Valley near Ice Fire Island.

After killing Kurong Monk, there were no other immortals obstructing Fang Bai and the others, not even the Thunder Palace immortals Fang Bai anticipated.

However, Fang Bai understood that with the strength of Thunder Palace, they would not be deterred by Kurong Monk's fall. The reason they had not appeared yet was only because they were searching for a more suitable opportunity to act.

Therefore, Fang Bai never let his guard down and warned Great Sage Sun and the others to remain highly vigilant as well.

After the immortals arrived at Ice Valley, they did not immediately head to Ice Fire Island but temporarily rested inside the great hall within Ice Valley.

The entrance of Ice Valley originally had a Concealment Formation set up. Upon arrival, Fang Bai re-established the Concealment Formation, enhancing Ice Valley's secrecy, making it difficult for typical immortals to discover its location.

Afterwards, Fang Bai also set up a double layer of Offensive and Defensive Great Formation around the great halls of Ice Valley to strengthen their ability to resist external attacks.

Fang Bai knew that Thunder Palace's immortals must be spying on their movements from some distant corner, ready to seize the Buddha Fruit if they showed any lapse. Thus, constant vigilance was necessary.

Fortunately, the Thunder Palace immortals were there just to seize the Buddha Fruits, unaware of Fang Bai and the others' connections to the Emperor's Palace, otherwise, it would be a major problem.

With the previous lessons from Kurong Elder of Sumeru Temple, Thunder Palace, for the sake of caution, would definitely come with a more formidable lineup to seize the Buddha Fruits. Fang Bai set up multiple formations as a precaution.

After all arrangements were made, Fang Bai led Great Sage Sun and other immortals into a great hall within Ice Valley to start teaching them more powerful formations to deal with any potential strong enemies.

Not long after Fang Bai and the other immortals entered Ice Valley, on a mountain peak a thousand miles away from Ice Valley, several immortals appeared.

The leader of those immortals was Thunder Palace's steward, Lei Yi Immortal King. Behind Lei Yi Immortal King were four other immortals, all Ninth Grade Immortal Venerable Realm Experts and also disciples of Thunder Palace.

With a lineup consisting of a First Grade Immortal King Realm Expert and four Ninth Grade Immortal Venerable Realm Experts, their strength was formidable enough that even the Nine Bends Soul Loss Formation led by Fang Bai would struggle to suppress them.

"I didn't expect that little immortal to be so proficient in the Array Path. Alas, I intended to make a move in this Ice Valley to seize the Buddha Fruits, but now it seems there's some trouble."

Lei Yi Immortal King's divine sense diffused across a thousand miles, observing the movements in Ice Valley. Upon discovering that the formations set up by Fang Bai were extraordinarily intricate and he could not break them, he could not help but feel a headache.

Along the way, Lei Yi Immortal King continuously used divine sense to probe Fang Bai and the other immortals, learning that their formations had killed many powerful enemies, including Kurong Monk of Sumeru Temple. He was astonished and developed a newfound respect for the overall strength of Fang Bai and the others, no longer daring to underestimate them.

This was also the fundamental reason why they had been tracking them to this point without making a move.

Lei Yi Immortal King was naturally cautious and would not act without absolute certainty of overpowering Fang Bai and the others, to avoid repeating the same mistake as Kurong Monk.

After tracking them to Ice Valley and seeing Fang Bai quickly setting up formations, Lei Yi Immortal King couldn't help but hold Fang Bai in higher regard, realizing this little immortal of only Second Grade Immortal Venerable Realm was indeed the core figure among Great Sage Sun, Haoyue Fairy, and the other immortals.

"That little white-clad immortal is not simple. The formations he's set up, we can't break! Lei Yi Immortal King, what do you suggest we do?"

Another Thunder Palace immortal frowned and said.

Lei Yi Immortal King thought for a moment and said, "We wait! Sooner or later, the immortals of Jade Bamboo Mountain and the five immortals of Ice Valley will come out! As soon as they leave Ice Valley, the five of us will strike them with a thunderous blow and kill them."

The other four immortals nodded in agreement, and under Lei Yi Immortal King's lead, they accelerated their flight to conceal themselves outside the entrance of Ice Valley.

As soon as Fang Bai and the others leave Ice Valley, losing the protection of formations, the five powerful immortals would suddenly appear and deliver a fatal blow to Fang Bai and the others.

Just like that, ten days passed in the blink of an eye. During these ten days, there was no movement whatsoever, causing the five immortals of Thunder Palace, led by Lei Yi Immortal King, to become somewhat anxious.

"Those little immortals aren't in seclusion in the valley, are they? If that's the case, they probably won't come out for a while!"

A Thunder Palace immortal, waiting impatiently, murmured softly.

Typically, when immortals enter seclusion, it could last one to two years at least, or ten to twenty years at most. Some even go into seclusion for several decades at a time, making it uncertain when the wait would end.

Lei Yi Immortal King swept his icy gaze over him and said, "Do you know how many Immortal Venerable Realm disciples in our palace could advance with those four Buddha Fruits? For them, what does it matter if we wait ten to twenty years?"

The Thunder Palace immortal who had murmured softly realized he had misspoken, his face suddenly turned red, and he bowed his head, "I was impatient!"

Lei Yi Immortal King snorted lightly, sweeping his gaze over the other immortals, and said, "Don't be impatient, wait patiently! Once we seize those four Buddha Fruits, I will commend you all to the Palace Master when we return!"

Upon hearing this, the other four Thunder Palace immortals showed expressions of delight.

Chapter 2179: Trapped by the Formation, Powerful Foe

Thunder Immortal Emperor, the Palace Master of Thunder Palace, is as elusive as the Divine Dragon, not often seen by anyone. Even Lei Yi Immortal King and other high-level officials of Thunder Palace rarely get the chance to see him, let alone those Immortal Venerable Realm experts with lesser power.

Thunder Immortal Emperor commands the immensely powerful force of thunder, able to unleash earth-shattering might with a mere gesture. Listening to his teachings or receiving cultivation resources such as Immortal Pills from him would be infinitely beneficial.

For this reason, what's the harm in waiting here for ten or eight years?

So, the five powerful beings of Thunder Palace held their breath, eyes fixed on the Ice Valley entrance, continuing to wait patiently.

At this moment, within a great hall inside Ice Valley, the immortals led by Fang Bai sat cross-legged.

"The Nine-Nine to One Formation, everyone has practiced it to proficiency. Using this formation against Thunder Palace's Lei Yi Immortal King and his immortals, while we cannot kill them, we can certainly hold them for a while."

Fang Bai's gaze swept across the faces of immortals like Great Sage Sun, Tu Mo, Haoyue Fairy, Qingzhu Fairy, and the Five Immortals of Ice Valley. He continued: "The task of trapping Lei Yi Immortal King and his cohort is entrusted to you. I will go ahead to Icefire Island to make arrangements. If you can't hold them here, lead them to Icefire Island. Then we'll join forces and keep them all on the island!"

At this point, he clenched his fist, cold light emanating from his eyes, exuding killing qi, and said hatefully: "Among the eight Immortal Emperors who destroyed the Emperor's Palace years ago, there was a Thunder Immortal Emperor. I didn't intend to clash with Thunder Palace at this time, but their disciples came to us willingly. So, let's make sure they don't return!"

He was certain that at this time, Lei Yi Immortal King and others from Thunder Palace had already tracked their aura to near Ice Valley, hence his statement.

"Slay all the immortals of Thunder Palace! Avenge our fallen comrades of the Emperor's Palace!"

The Five Immortals of Ice Valley, emotions surging, were eager to act.

They are rightful descendants of the Emperor's Palace and disciples of Fang Bai. They experienced firsthand the change at the Emperor's Palace, witnessing the brutal pursuit of its disciples, and have been living in hiding ever since, making them harbor great hatred toward Thunder Palace.

Great Sage Sun and Tu Mo are currently Fang Bai's disciples and members of the Emperor's Palace. Since Thunder Palace is their master's enemy, naturally, they share his hatred, waving their fists and saying: "Master, why don't we attack Thunder Palace directly and destroy them all!"

Fang Bai rolled his eyes, both angry and amused, and said: "Attack Thunder Palace? Just with us immortals? You all haven't witnessed the power of an Immortal Emperor level expert and don't know how strong Thunder Immortal Emperor is! I'll tell you, an Immortal Emperor level expert can destroy a thousand-foot mountain with a flick, and sever a river with a single strike. Us immortals, including myself, can't withstand a wisp of his immortal might!"

"So powerful?"

Tu Mo gasped, laughing dryly, no longer mentioning the attack on Thunder Palace.

Great Sage Sun, however, wasn't convinced, saying: "If we can't kill the Thunder Immortal Emperor, we can lie in ambush around Thunder Palace, and seize the opportunity to strike against their Immortal Venerable Realm disciples, making them uneasy!"

Fang Bai waved his hand and said: "Enough! Unless our combat power can match Thunder Palace, mentioning an attack on Thunder Palace is pointless! For now, let's focus on dealing with Lei Yi Immortal King and other immortals from Thunder Palace!"

After making all arrangements, he led Great Sage Sun and the other immortals to the exit of Ice Valley, then exited the formation.

At the moment they left the formation, the five immortals of Thunder Palace, who had been waiting outside, discovered them, and were overjoyed, swiftly closing in.

After emerging from Ice Valley, Fang Bai separated from Great Sage Sun and the group and flew alone toward Icefire Island. Meanwhile, Great Sage Sun led Tu Mo, Haoyue Fairy, Qingzhu Fairy, and the other nine immortals to confront Lei Yi Immortal King and the five powerful beings of Thunder Palace, encircling them.

"Nine-Nine to One Formation!"

With Fang Bai absent, Great Sage Sun took charge of the Nine-Nine to One Formation, shouting and instantly arranging the formation with Haoyue Fairy, Qingzhu Fairy, and the other eight immortals.

"The four Buddha Fruits are on that young immortal! Let's pursue!"

The five immortals of Thunder Palace, led by Lei Yi Immortal King, were primarily after the four Buddha Fruits. Seeing Fang Bai trying to escape, they weren't bothered about entangling with Great Sage Sun and the others, shifting their forms with the intent to chase Fang Bai.

Little did they know, as they moved, the Nine-Nine to One Formation began to activate, trapping them like a giant cage. Despite thrashing about, they found they couldn't break the formation for the moment.

"This formation is quite peculiar! Let's join forces and break it with brute strength!"

Lei Yi Immortal King shouted loudly, seeing Fang Bai's figure disappearing, and felt somewhat restless.

If under the pursuit of five formidable beings from Thunder Palace, the young Immortal Venerable level immortal managed to escape, it would be a huge embarrassment, laughed at by other immortals.

At Lei Yi Immortal King's shout, the Thunder Palace five immortals tacitly coordinated, simultaneously launching a storm-like attack on all sides.

The five powerful beings working together assumed they could instantly shatter the formation trapping them, yet didn't expect that after frenzied bombardment, the Nine-Nine to One Formation, though rocking like a small boat in a storm, remained unbroken.

"Unleash everything you have, attack with full force!"

Lei Yi Immortal King, realizing the unexpected sturdiness of the formation, became increasingly anxious, his eyes widening, his voice rising from a shout to a roar.

Lei Yi Immortal King knew that the white-robed young immortal understood formations well; if he got away and set up concealment formations to hide, it would be difficult for the five of them to locate him.

"Everyone, grit your teeth and hold on! The longer we sustain here, the more time Master has over there!"

Great Sage Sun also shouted, inspiring Tu Mo, Qingzhu Fairy, and the other immortals.

Though under the full-force attack of Lei Yi Immortal King and the five powerful beings, even with the enhanced battle power of the Nine-Nine to One Formation, they were feeling the strain, yet could endure for a while longer.

As Fang Bai instructed, when they couldn't hold on, they could give up the encirclement, and Lei Yi Immortal King and the five powerful beings, eager to chase Fang Bai, wouldn't have time to trouble them.

For now, they needed to stall Lei Yi Immortal King for more time, allowing Fang Bai to calmly set up on Icefire Island.

Though unaware of what Fang Bai was arranging on Icefire Island, it likely related to the fallen Fiery Emperor.

Both sides locked in battle, one side straining every nerve to break the formation, while the other desperately maintaining its integrity, thus entering a sort of stalemate.

Two hours later, Lei Yi Immortal King and the five powerful beings' offensives showed no sign of weakening, instead growing stronger.

Meanwhile, the Nine-Nine to One Formation set up by Great Sage Sun's side clearly struggled for strength, nearing its breaking point.

Chapter 2180: The Immortal Emperor's Remains · Ice Profound Fire

"Retreat!"

Seeing the formation about to break, Great Sage Sun remembered his master's orders and stopped forcing himself, immediately transmitting the command to Tu Mo and the other eight immortals. Thus, the nine immortals retreated in unison, with mutual understanding.

Even as they retreated, their formation remained intact. If Lei Yi Immortal King and other Thunder Palace immortals seized the opportunity to pursue, they would still be able to respond with the formation.

The Thunder Palace immortals possibly had concerns, or they were anxious to pursue Fang Bai. Seeing Great Sage Sun and the others voluntarily retreat, they did not seize the opportunity to hunt them down, but instead followed Fang Bai's aura, heading towards Ice Fire Island.

"Let's also head to Ice Fire Island! Hopefully, we can lend a hand to our master!"

At Great Sage Sun's rallying call, Tu Mo, Qingzhu Fairy, and other immortals rode the Auspicious Clouds, flying with all their might.

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Ice Fire Island is not large, only a thousand miles in circumference, surrounded by an oval-shaped large lake with a circumference of ten thousand miles.

The island is marked by towering peaks and interconnected caves, with thousands of tiny flames dotting it, emitting dazzling white light like snow, bright as stars in the night sky.

Unlike other immortal flames in the Immortal Realm, the flames on Ice Fire Island do not emit the blazing temperature that can burn the heavens and the earth. On the contrary, they release extreme cold.

Because of the severe cold, not a single blade of grass grows around each point of flame.

In the core area of Ice Fire Island, inside a vast cavern, a cluster of white flames, the size of a fist, flickered. It is the presence of these flames that make the temperature in the cavern the lowest on the entire island.

The flame hovers in mid-air within the cavern, and behind it is a kneeled immortal corpse, devoid of any life.

Though the immortal is seated, his robust and towering figure before death can still be discerned.

Although he has fallen, his body remains intact due to his immense power before death. His facial features and expression remain vivid.

Even the clothes on his body seem to be without the slightest damage.

His eyes are wide open, with a look of anger, evidently filled with endless fury and unwillingness before his death.

The cavern walls are etched with many strange and profound array patterns, embedded with numerous immortal stones, clearly set up as a formation.

If any immortal dares to desecrate this corpse, they would trigger the formation and be mercilessly shredded by it.

During the millennium since this immortal's fall, some immortals, driven by curiosity, have descended upon Ice Fire Island. However, most left because they couldn't bear the extreme cold, while some powerful immortals discovered this cavern and the corpse within, only to be shredded into a mist of blood by the formation when they tried to approach.

With more and more immortals falling, the Evil Qi on Ice Fire Island grew stronger, making it a notorious deadly place, deterring further curiosity from immortals.

But at this moment, a white shadow descended from the sky, arriving on Ice Fire Island.

The white shadow was none other than Fang Bai.

After leaving Ice Valley, he flew with all his might, hoping to arrive at Ice Fire Island ahead of time, to prepare everything before the Thunder Palace immortals arrived, planning to keep them on the island forever.

"This is the aura of the Ice Profound Fire!"

Upon landing on Ice Fire Island, Fang Bai immediately sensed the aura emanating from the cluster of white flames in the island's core area.

The white flame, known as Ice Profound Fire, was the signature treasure of Fiery Emperor, a mighty figure of the Emperor's Palace a thousand years ago. When summoned, it would transform the surrounding thousand miles into a white fire sea, reducing everything within to dust.

However, though Ice Profound Fire is astonishingly powerful, Fang Bai does not fear it.

This is because the Ice Profound Fire was a gift Fang Bai had bestowed upon Fiery Emperor after subduing it in the past, and he naturally has a means to counter its terrifying power.

Once Fang Bai circulates the Nine Revolutions True Fire Art, he fears no immortal fire, and they even generate a sense of closeness. As the extreme cold aura of the Ice Profound Fire envelops him, it's akin to a gentle spring breeze, causing him no discomfort.

Following the aura of the Ice Profound Fire, Fang Bai quickly entered the cavern where the immortal corpse resided.

Even though he had received advance notice, Fang Bai couldn't help but feel a stab of sorrow upon seeing the immortal corpse.

"Fiery Elder, rest assured here. Someday, I will personally defeat the eight Immortal Emperors, and with their heads in hand, pay my respects to you properly!"

Fang Bai mumbled to himself, stepping closer to Fiery Emperor's corpse.

The formation within the cavern was set up by Fiery Emperor before his death, but it posed no difficulty to Fang Bai. Each step he took was imbued with the mysteries of the formation, avoiding triggering it.

Fang Bai approached Fiery Emperor's corpse, observing the emperor's features up close, his face showing signs of grief and continuous sighs.

"I know you died at the hands of Thunder Immortal Emperor! The pain he inflicted upon you, I shall repay tenfold in the future!"

Fang Bai clenched his fists tightly, a powerful Evil Qi rising around him as if it could suppress the island's existing Evil Qi.

"Now that I am here, you can rest in peace!"

Saying this, Fang Bai raised his left palm, gently lowering it over Fiery Emperor's brow ridge, causing the emperor's eyes, wide open in anger even in death, to finally close.

"With Fiery Elder's fall, the Ice Profound Fire has become an unowned treasure again,..."

Fang Bai's gaze quickly swept through the cavern, finally landing on the cluster of white flames, reminiscing how Fiery Emperor had once wielded it with great power in the Immortal Realm, rarely meeting an opponent, leaving him feeling wistful.

He did not retrieve the Ice Profound Fire but allowed it to remain suspended, guarding Fiery Emperor's remains.

"To leave none of Thunder Palace's immortals behind, this alone isn't enough; it's time to prepare..."

Estimating the time, Fang Bai then left the cavern and began busily setting up around Ice Fire Island with swift movements.

After a thousand breaths, as Fang Bai sensed the aura of the five great Thunder Palace powerhouses, his preparations were nearly complete.

"If this still doesn't kill you, then consider yourselves lucky!"

Saying this, Fang Bai looked up towards the sky and then threw the final immortal stone, embedding it at a node of the array pattern.

Then, he sat cross-legged at the entrance of Fiery Emperor's cavern, closed his eyes to relax, quietly waiting for the arrival of Thunder Palace's five great powerhouses.

"That little immortal is indeed here!"

Even before Thunder Palace's five great powerhouses reached Ice Fire Island, they detected Fang Bai's presence with their divine sense, filled with joy.

In their minds, Fang Bai, a mere second-grade Immortal Venerable Realm little immortal, once caught by their divine sense, would find it difficult to escape.

"Ice Fire Island, known for its deadly reputation, is forbidden to immortals. What is that little immortal doing here?"

One Thunder Palace immortal asked, puzzled.

Lei Yi Immortal King frowned and said, "Judging by that little immortal's posture, it seems he's waiting for our arrival! He has an intriguing aura, we must not underestimate him!"

"He's just a second-grade Immortal Venerable Realm little immortal. Lei Yi Immortal King is overthinking!"

"Exactly! I could crush him with a single slap!"

"This time, he's trapped!"

"Judging by his posture, could it be he knows he can't escape, and is simply waiting there to meet his end?"

The other four Thunder Palace immortals observed Fang Bai, all showing disdainful looks, speaking mockingly.

They still had some concerns about the Nine Nine Returns One Formation formed by Great Sage Sun and the other immortals. However, now that Great Sage Sun and the others had been left far behind, they posed no threat whatsoever.

Now facing Fang Bai alone, the five powerhouses thought that failing to defeat Fang Bai and seize the Buddha Fruit would be utterly disgraceful.