

Doctor 2351

Chapter 2351: Ancient Tree of the Wasteland

Fang Bai, Qin Yaorao, and Xianyun Fairy flew tens of thousands of miles and landed in a small and very secretive valley.

Fang Bai swiftly formed a series of array pattern seals with his hands, sending them toward the surrounding mountain walls, then embedded several pieces of Immortal Stone into the walls, quickly setting up a Concealment Formation.

"Let me first give you some bad news... "

Fang Bai looked at Xianyun Fairy and said in a flat tone, "The five Golden Rainbow Sect disciples who were traveling with you have already perished!"

"Ah?"

Xianyun Fairy was stunned at first, then realized that Fang Bai was talking about Senior Brother Jin Jian and the others, and said discontentedly, "You... you're speaking nonsense! Senior Brother Jin Jian and the others went to chase an immortal who had taken the Chaos Lotus..."

The great battle that took place on the Holy Mountain Summit was known to all immortals, including Xianyun Fairy. When all the immortals went to chase the one who had taken the Chaos Lotus, Xianyun Fairy and Qin Yaorao wisely decided not to join the pursuit.

"Whether they are dead or alive, you'll know once you return to the Golden Rainbow Sect."

Fang Bai didn't bother to explain further. With a flip of his left hand, three petals appeared in his palm.

Instantly, a familiar floral fragrance spread throughout the formation space.

"This... this is..."

Xianyun Fairy stared wide-eyed at the petals in Fang Bai's hand, her face full of shock and disbelief.

When Fang Bai and Qin Yaorao met earlier, he had informed her about picking the Chaos Lotus using the Thread Condensation Sound Transmission Technique. So when Qin Yaorao saw the petals in Fang Bai's hands, she was not surprised. She merely smiled at Xianyun Fairy.

"Yes, these are the petals of the Chaos Lotus. Keep one for yourself, and take the other two back to the Golden Rainbow Sect to give to your Sect Master, the Golden Rainbow Immortal Emperor, as my thanks for taking care of Yaorao all these years!"

With a thought, Fang Bai sent the three petals of the Chaos Lotus floating in front of Xianyun Fairy.

Xianyun Fairy knew how difficult it was to obtain the petals of the Chaos Lotus. So, she never dared to hope, only meditating around the Holy Mountain and cultivating in the fragrance released by the Chaos Lotus.

When the three petals floated in front of her, ready for her to take with just a reach, it felt like a dream.

"I..."

Due to her excitement, Xianyun Fairy's body trembled slightly, and her throat felt dry and hoarse, making it difficult for her to speak.

"Senior Sister Xianyun, take them!"

It wasn't until Qin Yaorao's voice reached her ears that Xianyun Fairy snapped back to reality.

Consuming a petal of the Chaos Lotus allows one to advance a minor realm in a short period, a truth proven by many immortals over the millennia.

For an Immortal King Realm expert like Xianyun Fairy, who doesn't have exceptional talent, advancing a minor realm would typically require decades of painstaking cultivation. Now, with this shortcut that can save her decades of hard work, how could she resist this temptation?

She glanced at Fang Bai and then at Qin Yaorao, and under their smiling gazes, finally reached out, catching the three petals floating in front of her.

"If you don't want the three petals to be taken away from you once you return, you should consume one now! Yaorao and I will protect you while you advance over the next few days!"

Fang Bai advised Xianyun Fairy.

Fang Bai could imagine that if Xianyun Fairy returned to the Golden Rainbow Sect with the three petals, the sect's higher-ups would see it as a waste for a disciple of ordinary talent to consume one petal. They would then find various reasons to confiscate all three petals, and Xianyun Fairy, being weak in influence, would have no choice but to comply.

Xianyun Fairy was not a fool and understood this reasoning, so she heeded Fang Bai's advice, consuming one petal on the spot. She then sat cross-legged, circulated the Immortal Law, and entered a Cultivation State.

Seven days later, a powerful shockwave spread through the valley as Xianyun Fairy successfully advanced.

While rejoicing for her closest senior sister's success, Qin Yaorao couldn't help but be eager to ask Fang Bai, "If I consume a petal of the Chaos Lotus, can I also advance as quickly as Senior Sister Xianyun?"

Fang Bai nodded, then shook his head, saying sternly, "Yes, you can, but I'd prefer you not rush it! You just entered the Immortal King Realm, and your realm has only recently stabilized. With a little more time, you can advance naturally, which will be more beneficial for your future cultivation."

Knowing Fang Bai had her best interests at heart, Qin Yaorao abandoned the idea of immediately consuming a petal to break through a realm.

Remembering Xianyun Fairy's care for Qin Yaorao, Fang Bai then passed on a set of Immortal Technique Secrets to Xianyun Fairy, suggesting that if all went well, Xianyun Fairy, with her ordinary talent, could eventually become an Immortal Emperor Realm expert, joining the Golden Rainbow Sect's higher ranks.

Studying the Immortal Technique Secrets passed to her by Fang Bai, Xianyun Fairy found them more profound and mysterious than those taught by her master, knowing she had received a great opportunity, she was overjoyed.

Afterward, Qin Yaorao and Xianyun Fairy bade each other farewell, then rode the Auspicious Clouds with Fang Bai, flying away.

Watching Fang Bai and Qin Yaorao leave, Xianyun Fairy thought that Fang Bai might be the white-clad immortal who picked the Chaos Lotus and was chased by many immortals. With concern for the safety of Senior Brother Jin Jian and a few fellow disciples, she flew to the Endless Ocean to investigate.

When she arrived above the Endless Ocean, she found many immortals still waiting there, hoping for Fang Bai's appearance, which amused her.

She diffused her Divine Sense among the many immortals, searching for a long time but failing to find any trace of her fellow disciples, realizing that Fang Bai's message about their deaths might be true. She returned to the sect, feeling melancholic.

...

"Ah? You say you've found Rushi and Ruhua? I can't wait to see them!"

After parting with Xianyun Fairy, during their flight, Fang Bai and Qin Yaorao discussed Dongfang Rushi, Dongfang Ruhua, Baili Mingyue, Su Linglong, Tang Wenrou, Ye Wumei, and others. Qin Yaorao was delighted to learn that Fang Bai had met them in the Immortal Realm and had settled them properly.

Yet, since Fang Bai still needed to find other immortals who had ascended from the lower realms, Qin Yaorao would not see them anytime soon.

Because they did not know where the ascended immortals resided in the Immortal Realm, Fang Bai and Qin Yaorao could only drift aimlessly on the Auspicious Clouds as they traveled.

One day, they crossed an endless wasteland and saw a massive ancient tree over a hundred feet high, its branches and leaves covering miles around. Beneath it, many immortals were meditating in cultivation.

"This is a Bodhi Tree. It is said that cultivating under it yields unexpected results."

Fang Bai pointed to the gigantic Bodhi Ancient Tree.

He held Qin Yaorao's hand as they descended beside the Bodhi Ancient Tree, finding a vacant spot where they planned to sit.

After landing, Qin Yaorao noticed two gazes focusing on her and frowned, looking over to see faces turn a bit unfriendly.

Chapter 2352: Xinghe Immortal King

Fang Bai followed Qin Yaorao's gaze and saw a handsome, poised young Immortal in a purple robe striding towards them.

The purple-robed Immortal wore a smile, but it froze when he saw Fang Bai and Qin Yaorao holding hands. A fleeting shadow of malice flickered in the depths of his eyes.

Qin Yaorao keenly caught that fleeting expression and moved closer to Fang Bai, holding his hand even tighter to show her closeness to him.

The purple-robed Immortal's eye twitched a few times, he stopped in his tracks, took a deep breath, and then his face regained its smile as he continued to walk towards them.

Fang Bai glanced at the attire of the young Immortal in the purple robe and the look of disdain on Qin Yaorao's face when she saw him, roughly guessing his identity.

"The Xinghe Immortal King from the Starshine Sect?"

Fang Bai used Voice Transmission to ask Qin Yaorao.

Qin Yaorao made an "mm" sound, then looked at Fang Bai with curiosity, wondering how he recognized Xinghe Immortal King.

"Just a guess."

Fang Bai chuckled and continued using Voice Transmission: "Your senior sister Xianyue mentioned there's someone from the Starshine Sect who wants to become your Immortal partner. I also recall that the disciples from the Starshine Sect all wear purple robes, just like this style... Plus, you both seem to know each other, so I figured it out."

Qin Yaorao responded helplessly: "It was about a year ago. Xinghe Immortal King visited the Golden Rainbow Sect with his Sect Master as a guest. The Golden Rainbow Immortal Emperor asked me to meet them. Later, I found out that the Golden Rainbow Immortal Emperor wanted to arrange a union between me and Xinghe Immortal King... Although I am grateful for the Golden Rainbow Immortal Emperor's care over the years, this action made me unhappy!"

After Fang Bai gifted Xianyue Fairy with three petals of the Chaos Lotus, Qin Yaorao felt she no longer owed any favors to the Golden Rainbow Immortal Emperor, severing her ties with the Golden Rainbow Sect. Thus, in her mouth, the former "Master" had become the "Golden Rainbow Immortal Emperor."

Seeing the approaching Xinghe Immortal King, Fang Bai curled his lips disdainfully and said, "A show-off... He looks good, but he's far inferior to me! Hmph, does this guy think he can become your Immortal partner? A toad lusting after swan meat!"

Qin Yaorao couldn't help but "pfft" laugh at his self-praise.

Qin Yaorao, already alluring and peerlessly beautiful, her laughter was like roses in bloom, incredibly enchanting. The Xinghe Immortal King, who was walking towards them, was momentarily stunned upon seeing this, and his heart itched, yearning to hold and cherish this extraordinary, charming Female Immortal.

Fang Bai didn't use Thread Condensation Sound Transmission for those last few words, so Xinghe Immortal King heard them. Though he didn't understand the meaning of "show-off" and "toad lusting after swan meat," from Fang Bai's contemptuous attitude, he knew they weren't kind words.

However, he desperately wanted to leave a good impression on Qin Yaorao, so he suppressed his urge to react.

"Yaorao, I didn't expect to meet you here!"

Xinghe Immortal King ignored Fang Bai and walked directly to Qin Yaorao, smiling as he said, "I visited your Golden Rainbow Sect a few days ago, hoping to see you, but was told you were out training. The Immortal Realm is so vast, yet we meet here. It must be fate!"

Fang Bai stepped forward, standing in front of Qin Yaorao to block Xinghe Immortal King's view, and grumbled, "Who are you to call her Yaorao?"

On hearing the words "little Immortal," Xinghe Immortal King's face darkened.

As the prodigy of the Starshine Sect and the leading disciple among the younger generation, Xinghe Immortal King was highly valued in the Starshine Sect. Although his cultivation level was only in the Third Order of the Immortal King Realm, a tier lower than Fang Bai, he saw himself as extraordinarily gifted with limitless potential, and with the sect's full support, he hoped to become an Immortal Emperor Realm Expert one day.

So, being called a "little Immortal" by this young white-robed Immortal in front of him was unacceptable to him.

Qin Yaorao saw Xinghe Immortal King's furious expression and noticed Fang Bai winking at her, knowing he was deliberately teasing Xinghe Immortal King, and couldn't help but "giggle" charmingly.

"Yaorao, who is this Immortal?"

Xinghe Immortal King suppressed his anger, let out a cold snort, and took half a step sideways, his gaze bypassing Fang Bai's shoulder to land on Qin Yaorao's face behind him, asking expressionlessly.

Although he could see Qin Yaorao and the white-robed Immortal's close relationship, until he clarified Fang Bai's identity, he wouldn't act rashly.

He could also sense that the aura emanating from this white-robed Immortal was more potent than his, indicating Fang Bai's cultivation was greater than his. Although angry, he didn't dare call Fang Bai a "little Immortal," as it would only insult himself.

Fang Bai took half a step to the left again, blocking Xinghe Immortal King's sight, and coldly said, "Listen, I'm Yaorao's Immortal partner! I don't care who you are or what connections you have. In the future, when you see Yaorao, best stay far away! The farther, the better!"

Although Xinghe Immortal King had some suspicions, hearing Fang Bai's confirmation, and with Qin Yaorao not objecting, his heart burst into flames of jealousy, grinding his teeth as he said, "Such arrogance! And what if I refuse?"

Fang Bai's eyes flashed with a fierce light and coldly said, "Refuse? Ha, does this mean... you don't care about your life anymore?"

Xinghe Immortal King pointed at his nose, anger turning to laughter, "Do you know who I am? Have you heard of the Starshine Sect? I am Xinghe Immortal King, the Sect Master's direct disciple! Your cultivation may be stronger, but you are just a Loose Cultivator. What can you do to me?"

His voice grew louder, his eyes bloodshot, looking somewhat unhinged.

Ever since meeting Qin Yaorao once, Xinghe Immortal King deemed her as his destined Immortal partner. The Golden Rainbow Sect's Sect Master had also promised to matchmake them, so he always hoped to one day cultivate alongside her, reaching ultimate bliss.

Yet unexpectedly, she already had an Immortal partner. His hope dashed, abject joy turned to jealousy and hatred, a rush of blood overwhelmed him, losing his senses.

The many Immortals meditating under the Bodhi Tree, surprised by Xinghe Immortal King's voice, paused their cultivation state, looking at him with displeasure.

"Hey little Immortal, why are you causing such a racket? Disturb my cultivation again, and I'll smash you with a single punch!"

A Fifth Order Immortal King Realm Expert, deep in cultivation, irked by Xinghe Immortal King's disturbance, shot up and pointed at him furiously.

Ignoring the Immortal, Xinghe Immortal King pointed at Fang Bai, laughing maniacally, "You want my life, do you? Ha-ha, if you have the guts, come and take it then! Come on, come..."

"Boom!"

Before he could finish, a huge fist slammed into his face.

Chapter 2353: A Way to Cope

The body of the Xinghe Immortal King flew backwards like a cannonball, gliding above the ground, and before it touched the ground, he had already lost consciousness and passed out.

The one who struck was Fang Bai.

His punch landed hard on the face of the Xinghe Immortal King, penetrating immortal power into his body, injuring his internal organs and causing him to pass out due to the heavy injury.

There was no real enmity between Fang Bai and the Xinghe Immortal King, it was simply that the latter harbored intentions toward Qin Yaorao, which Fang Bai could not tolerate, thus he decided to teach him a lesson.

Although Fang Bai's strike was heavy, it didn't inflict a fatal injury on the Xinghe Immortal King; otherwise, that punch could have directly destroyed Xinghe Immortal King's Qi Sea, reducing him to a worthless invalid.

Even so, Xinghe Immortal King would find it difficult to wake from unconsciousness within ten days to half a month, and even if he did wake, it would take at least three to five months for his injuries to fully recover.

As for Xinghe Immortal King's backer, the Starshine Sect, it was merely a first-rate Immortal Sect with an Immortal Emperor Realm expert overseeing it, far inferior to those super sects with an Immortal Emperor's presence, therefore Fang Bai did not take it to heart nor feared any retaliation from the Starshine Sect.

The immortals sitting cross-legged under the Bodhi Tree cultivating were all formidable, dodging the Xinghe Immortal King's flying body easily without any immortal being injured.

"You all heard, he insisted on challenging me for his life, so I couldn't refuse... Hmm, not sure if he's dead already..."

Noticing the multitude of eyes from immortals around him, Fang Bai shrugged his shoulders and spread his hands as he spoke.

The five-grade Immortal King who had previously been infuriated with Xinghe Immortal King glanced at the unconscious Xinghe Immortal King and then at Fang Bai, suddenly bursting into laughter: "You certainly have guts, dare to strike the Starshine Sect's pride! Looks like he still has a breath, why not go and give him another punch?"

Fang Bai said, "Still not dead? Lucky him, let's spare him!"

Saying no more to other immortals, Fang Bai took Qin Yaorao's hand and sat cross-legged under the Bodhi Ancient Tree to cultivate with closed eyes.

It is said the Bodhi Ancient Tree was a spiritual entity formed simultaneously with heaven and earth, possessing a trace of primordial power; cultivating under it purifies the immortal's mind and washes away the aura of bloodshed, leading to heart enlightenment.

According to Immortal Realm legends, a Great Emperor from ancient times achieved enlightenment under the Bodhi Ancient Tree, attaining supreme cultivation and long life.

However, whether one can gain insights under the Bodhi Ancient Tree depends on the immortal's chance. Some easily achieve enlightenment, ecstatic with joy, while others gain nothing and leave regretfully.

Not all immortals can cultivate under the Bodhi Ancient Tree, especially those with strong bloodlust and heavy hostility; instead of benefitting, they may suffer from its influence.

In other words, this spiritually endowed Bodhi Tree repels those with evil nature or poor character from cultivating beneath its branches.

Thus, self-aware immortals dare not approach the Bodhi Tree seeking enlightenment.

As for the Xinghe Immortal King, he was merely excessively covetous of Qin Yaorao's alluring figure and beautiful appearance, combined with heavy jealousy; his character wasn't too bad, otherwise he couldn't approach the Bodhi Tree.

After Fang Bai and Qin Yaorao entered their cultivation state, the two Starshine Sect disciples accompanying the Xinghe Immortal King hesitated but eventually stood up, rushed to the unconscious Xinghe Immortal King's side, and swiftly departed with him.

Fang Bai's Divine Sense detected the movements of the two Starshine Sect disciples, knowing they would return immediately to the sect to report the incident to their high-ranking officials, likely sparking retaliation from the Starshine Sect leaders.

Yet Fang Bai had no plans to stay here for long; he brought Qin Yaorao here to broaden her views, and if she could gain revelation under the Bodhi Tree and benefit from it, it would be ideal.

Fang Bai calculated that with the Starshine Sect tens of thousands of miles away, the round trip for the disciples would take at least ten days to half a month; by the time the sect leaders arrived, he and Qin Yaorao should already be gone.

Unexpectedly, a high-ranking Starshine Sect official with initial stage Immortal Emperor Realm power was residing in a nearby Immortal City.

When the two Starshine Sect disciples brought the unconscious Xinghe Immortal King to that official and relayed the details, that official flew into a rage and immediately charged towards the Bodhi Tree with the disciples.

By the time Fang Bai sensed the Starshine Sect Immortal Emperor Realm expert's murderous approach, it was too late to leave with Qin Yaorao; the expert descended upon the Bodhi Tree, his killing aura firmly locking onto them.

Though Fang Bai had advanced to the four-grade Immortal King Realm, his power was far inferior to an Immortal Emperor Realm expert.

"Those two immortals are doomed!"

Witnessing the Starshine Sect Immortal Emperor Realm expert's arrival, the immortals cultivating under the Bodhi Tree looked at Fang Bai and Qin Yaorao with sympathy, thinking they were unlikely to escape the wrath.

"Go!"

Seeing the Starshine Sect Immortal Emperor Realm expert approach fiercely, Fang Bai pulled Qin Yaorao's hand, moving closer to the Bodhi Tree trunk.

"What do we do?"

Having had dealings with the Starshine Sect, Qin Yaorao recognized the high-ranking official, knowing he was ruthless. Facing him, she feared they wouldn't escape unscathed, feeling a bit panicked.

Fang Bai, on the other hand, showed no sign of worry, sending a comforting voice transmission to Qin Yaorao: "Don't worry, I have plans to handle this!"

The Bodhi Ancient Tree, a spirit formed with heaven and earth, has a powerful self-defense mechanism, ordinary immortals find it hard to approach within a hundred feet; hence, immortals cultivate beyond this distance.

Fang Bai released Chaos Immortal Qi from his body, and under the stunned gazes of thousands of immortals, entered within a hundred feet of the tree trunk.

Chaos Immortal Qi, the Immortal Qi from before the heavens opened, nurtured the Bodhi Ancient Tree during its growth; sensing the trace of chaos Qi on Fang Bai, the Bodhi Tree showed no resistance, allowing him to bring Qin Yaorao to its trunk.

"Here, no matter how powerful the Starshine Sect immortal is, he can't harm us."

Fang Bai led Qin Yaorao, sitting on one of the Bodhi Tree's exposed roots, provocatively beckoning the Starshine Sect Immortal Emperor Realm expert.

Fang Bai's gesture was highly provocative, inciting fury in the Starshine Sect Immortal Emperor Realm expert, who charged towards them like lightning.

Chapter 2354: The Bodhi Ancient Tree's Counterattack

"Whoosh!"

An intense green light streaked across the void like a long green whip, striking fiercely at the swiftly incoming Starshine Sect's Immortal Emperor Realm expert.

The green light was a branch of the Bodhi Ancient Tree.

Sensing the release of killing qi from the Starshine Sect's Immortal Emperor Realm expert, the Bodhi Ancient Tree immediately launched a fierce counterattack.

Although an Immortal Emperor Realm expert's body is incredibly resilient, impervious to fire and water, and resistant to Immortal Artifacts, the Bodhi Ancient Tree's branch was far mightier than typical Immortal Artifacts.

Simultaneously, as the branch whipped out, an ancient mystical force enveloped the Starshine Sect's Immortal Emperor Realm expert, making him feel trapped in a quagmire, unable to perform Immortal Technique Secrets, as he watched helplessly while the roaring branch struck his body.

"Ah!"

Amidst the screams, the Starshine Sect's Immortal Emperor Realm expert's skin was torn where the branch struck him, blood mist splashing, and he flew backward, landing a thousand feet away, just outside the Bodhi Ancient Tree's canopy.

All the immortals present understood this was the Bodhi Ancient Tree's punishment for the Starshine Sect's Immortal Emperor Realm expert. However, they were surprised that such a dignified Immortal Emperor Realm expert ended up in such a disgraceful state under the Bodhi Ancient Tree's assault.

If the punished were themselves, Immortal King Realm experts, wouldn't their outcome be even more tragic?

It is evident that when such a naturally occurring spiritual entity like the Bodhi Ancient Tree loses its "temper," its power is terrifying.

In the Immortal Realm, it is said that beneath the Bodhi Ancient Tree is a place for peaceful introspection, for immortals of all kinds to use for Enlightenment. Whoever here harbors killing intent, even an Immortal Emperor, will be punished.

Now it seems this legend could be true.

"Did you already know this would be the result?"

Watching the Starshine Sect's Immortal Emperor Realm expert being beaten a thousand feet away by the Bodhi Ancient Tree's branch, Qin Yaorao's small mouth opened slightly in surprise and joy, transmitting to Fang Bai.

She already knew Fang Bai's previous life, understanding that he was once the Emperor's Palace Master and Invincible War Emperor of the Immortal Realm, he should know some secrets about the Bodhi Ancient Tree unknown to other immortals.

Otherwise, how could Fang Bai remain calm while facing the wrath of that Starshine Sect's Immortal Emperor Realm expert? And how could he leisurely sit with her under the Bodhi Ancient Tree waiting for that Starshine Sect expert to launch an attack?

The Starshine Sect's Immortal Emperor Realm expert was only mildly punished and not severely injured. He leapt to his feet, gazed at the Bodhi Ancient Tree with lingering fear, his face changing colors, yet dared not approach again.

Fang Bai smiled and beckoned to the Starshine Sect's Immortal Emperor Realm expert once more.

The Starshine Sect's Immortal Emperor Realm expert, seeing this, was enraged, pointed at Fang Bai from afar, and shouted, "Don't be arrogant, little immortal! This Immortal Emperor will guard here and see how long you can stay under the Bodhi Tree!"

Fang Bai had his own method of escape, unfazed by the threat, laughed, "Then indeed, keep guarding!"

He ignored the shouting and with Qin Yaorao sat cross-legged on the Bodhi Ancient Tree's sturdy roots, focusing on cultivation.

With the Bodhi Ancient Tree's protection, Fang Bai was entirely unconcerned that the Starshine Sect's Immortal Emperor Realm expert could stealthily approach him and Qin Yaorao.

The Starshine Sect's Immortal Emperor Realm expert waved his hand, letting two sect disciples escort Xinghe Immortal King back to the Sect for healing, while he himself stayed at a high point a thousand feet away from the Bodhi Ancient Tree, sitting cross-legged, with closed eyes for rest.

In the mind of the Starshine Sect's Immortal Emperor Realm expert, Fang Bai not only injured the Sect's most promising disciple, Xinghe Immortal King, but also publicly challenged himself as an Immortal Emperor, if he didn't properly punish him, the Starshine Sect's reputation would be lost.

He wanted to show Fang Bai the serious consequences of injuring the Sect's disciples and offending him, an Immortal Emperor Realm expert.

Though he closed his eyes, he still observed in all directions and listened to all sounds, thinking if that white-clad little immortal left a hundred feet from the Bodhi Tree, he could sense it.

He considered Fang Bai as fish on a cutting board, a sheep waiting for slaughter, confidently believing as long as he didn't leave, Fang Bai was trapped.

Others knew they would not clash again for the moment, so with no spectacle to watch, they each returned to their cultivation state, continuing their Enlightenment beneath the Bodhi Ancient Tree.

Immortal cultivation is timeless.

In the blink of an eye, more than a month passed.

Fang Bai and Qin Yaorao practiced under the Bodhi Ancient Tree's roots, having an advantage over other immortals, but Fang Bai, having been an Immortal Venerable in his past life, had an understanding and perception of the Dao of Cultivation that reached an unreachable realm for most immortals, thus short-term Enlightenment under the Bodhi Ancient Tree had minimal effect on him.

Yet Qin Yaorao was different, having just entered the Immortal Realm and possessing a low cultivation level, the Bodhi Ancient Tree offered her significant benefits.

During this month, she repeatedly experienced Ambrosia Baptism, gaining Enlightenment numerous times. If Fang Bai could give her a petal from a Chaos Lotus, she might even advance immediately.

Fang Bai and Qin Yaorao shared a deep connection, he sensed the changes occurring within Qin Yaorao.

However, with so many immortals present, this wasn't an ideal place for advancing a realm. Fang Bai planned to assist her advancement with the Chaos Lotus petal after leaving.

During this time, immortals continued arriving from all directions at the Bodhi Ancient Tree, joining the ranks of those seeking Enlightenment.

During this time, another high-level member of the Starshine Sect arrived with a group of Immortal King Realm disciples. Ordered by the Sect Master, they were to assist the Immortal Emperor Realm expert who arrived first in slaying Fang Bai and avenging Xinghe Immortal King.

For Fang Bai and Qin Yaorao, this was clearly bad news, which left Qin Yaorao somewhat worried.

Fang Bai held her hand, transmitted, "Do you want to hear some good news?"

Qin Yaorao looked at him quizzically.

Fang Bai gestured towards an immortal meditating hundreds of feet southward, continuing his transmission, "That immortal is an old acquaintance from my past life. A thousand years ago, he was known as the 'Variable Immortal King.' Having now advanced to Immortal Emperor Realm, he should be referred to as 'Variable Immortal Emperor.' With him here, we can escape easily!"

Qin Yaorao glanced at the immortal Fang Bai mentioned, noting his average attire and ordinary appearance, one to blend into a crowd of immortals without drawing attention, responded, "Variable Immortal Emperor? What does that title mean?"

Fang Bai laughed, "He specializes in concealing his aura and mastering many transformation abilities, able to shift into any gender, age, which confuses immortals about his authenticity. Such secret techniques are unmatched in the Immortal Realm except by me."

Qin Yaorao asked, "But there are many Starshine Sect experts. Can that Variable Immortal Emperor singlehandedly face them?"

Fang Bai mysteriously smiled, saying, "That fellow is slippery and deceitful, just watch him put on a good show!"

Chapter 2355: Variable Immortal Emperor

When Fang Bai met the Variable Immortal King in his previous life, both had just entered the Immortal King Realm.

They were kindred spirits, became fast friends, and made a sworn brotherhood, addressing each other as brothers.

The Variable Immortal King possessed four types of innate spiritual roots, a physique known as the "Qiankun Dominant Body" in the Immortal Realm, rarely seen throughout history, only slightly inferior to Fang Bai's "Desolate Ancient Divine Body."

However, Fang Bai traveled the Immortal Realm, focused on cultivation, and consistently encountered great opportunities, advancing rapidly in cultivation level, eventually reaching the Immortal Emperor Realm and becoming the Invincible War Emperor, establishing the Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace, becoming an unparalleled existence among the immortals in the Immortal Realm.

Meanwhile, although the Variable Immortal King was extraordinarily gifted, he was lazy by nature, preferring to wander the nine Heavenly Domains of the Immortal Realm, socializing and enjoying himself, with little enthusiasm for cultivation, unable to settle down to cultivate, resulting in very slow progress in his cultivation level.

When Fang Bai became an Immortal Emperor, the Variable Immortal King's cultivation level was still stuck at the Fifth Grade Immortal King Realm.

Later, when Fang Bai established the Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace and entrusted its management to his disciple, he finally had some leisure time to enjoy himself around the Immortal Realm with a few confidants.

One day, Fang Bai met the Variable Immortal King and, seeing his stagnated cultivation level, which had led to some bullying by other immortals, lectured him out of frustration, later on deciding to "imprison" the Variable Immortal King himself, personally guiding and teaching him, providing him with countless cultivation resources.

The Variable Immortal King, with his extraordinary physique and rare aptitude in the Immortal Realm, was forced by Fang Bai to undergo seclusion for decades, resulting in a qualitative change in his

cultivation level. By the time Fang Bai was besieged by the eight top Immortal Emperors and "fell," his cultivation level had already reached the Ninth Grade Immortal King Realm.

It can be said that if the Emperor's Palace incident had happened a hundred years later, the Variable Immortal King might very well have become another Immortal Emperor.

This time, when Fang Bai saw the Variable Immortal King again, he discovered that after a thousand years, his cultivation level had only reached the early stage of the Immortal Emperor Realm, feeling rather helpless, suspecting that after his own "demise," the Variable Immortal King had reverted to his lazy nature. Otherwise, with such extraordinary aptitude, after a thousand years, he should at least have been a prominent figure in the Immortal Emperor Realm.

However, the fact that the Variable Immortal Emperor had traveled to the Bodhi Ancient Tree for enlightenment at least showed some determination, which brought Fang Bai some comfort.

Fang Bai thought that as his sworn brother, the Variable Immortal Emperor's ability to escape unscathed from the Emperor's Palace incident might be because his cultivation level was so weak, posing no threat to the eight top Immortal Emperors, who thus spared him.

From this perspective, the Variable Immortal Emperor's laziness saved his own life, which was a good thing.

In fact, when Fang Bai and Qin Yaorao first arrived at the Bodhi Ancient Tree, they noticed the presence of the Variable Immortal Emperor, but they did not approach him to reunite.

At this moment, Fang Bai had not only changed his appearance but also concealed his original aura, thus the Variable Immortal Emperor could not recognize his sworn brother from the past.

Fang Bai focused his gaze on the Variable Immortal Emperor and began to communicate with him using the Thread Condensation Sound Transmission Technique.

Qin Yaorao was also observing the Variable Immortal Emperor. Although she did not know what Fang Bai and the Variable Immortal Emperor were discussing, she could guess from the sudden change in the Variable Immortal Emperor's gaze and expression that he had realized Fang Bai's true identity.

The Variable Immortal Emperor's eyes widened, staring intently at Fang Bai, his expression changing from confusion to ecstasy. If it hadn't been for Fang Bai's persuasion, he would have jumped up and rushed over to reunite with Fang Bai.

A moment later, the Variable Immortal Emperor nodded towards Fang Bai and then quietly left from under the Bodhi Ancient Tree.

"Why did he leave?"

Qin Yaorao thought Fang Bai would ask the Variable Immortal Emperor to help deal with the Starshine Sect's experts, but unexpectedly, the Variable Immortal Emperor left at this moment. Although puzzled, she did not speak up.

Fang Bai watched the departing back of the Variable Immortal Emperor with a smile in his eyes, took Qin Yaorao's hand again, and transmitted his voice: "Are you curious about why the Variable Immortal Emperor left? He will come back soon, but in a different identity, just wait and see!"

Qin Yaorao smiled and said, "So mysterious, can't you tell me now? Forget it, I'll wait to see how you handle the Starshine Sect's experts!"

In just a hundred breaths, a streak of light flashed across the sky, landing not far from the Bodhi Ancient Tree, revealing a female immortal with a cold demeanor and a proud expression.

"It's Biyu Fairy, another senior in the Immortal Emperor Realm from the Starshine Sect... Fang Bai, this is getting more troublesome..."

Qin Yaorao, upon seeing the female immortal's appearance, recognized her as one of the high-level members of the Starshine Sect, with the initial stage of the Immortal Emperor Realm, looking at Fang Bai with some distress.

"Ha..."

Fang Bai burst into laughter as he saw the "Biyu Fairy" wink at him.

Qin Yaorao scolded, "You can still laugh at a time like this? Where's that sworn brother of yours?"

Fang Bai pouted at Biyu Fairy, saying, "Isn't that him?"

Qin Yaorao was startled, then realized something, her eyes widening, mouth slightly open, showing disbelief.

Were it not for her absolute trust in Fang Bai, she wouldn't have believed that Biyu Fairy was transformed by the Variable Immortal Emperor.

Qin Yaorao had met Biyu Fairy several times and was very familiar with the only female immortal among the Starshine Sect's high-level members. She watched "Biyu Fairy" swoop towards the Bodhi Ancient Tree and found that she couldn't see any flaws.

Once an immortal reaches the Immortal Emperor Realm, they can easily change their form and appearance, but it is still difficult to replicate another immortal's aura completely, let alone perfectly mimic their mannerisms and actions.

However, the "Biyu Fairy" transformed by the Variable Immortal Emperor was identical to the Biyu Fairy Qin Yaorao knew in terms of appearance, figure, temperament, released aura, and walking posture.

As for Fang Bai, his expression remained unchanged, only smiling as he watched "Biyu Fairy."

Under Qin Yaorao's stunned gaze, "Biyu Fairy" approached the group of Starshine Sect disciples.

"Biyu Fairy, why are you here?"

The two Immortal Emperor Realm experts from the Starshine Sect who had arrived earlier were baffled by "Biyu Fairy's" presence.

"Biyu Fairy" said coldly, "The Sect Master has urgent business and wants to see you. He specifically asked me to inform you that you must return to the Sect promptly!"

"What is so urgent?"

One of the Starshine Sect's Immortal Emperor Realm experts asked. "Biyu Fairy" always maintained this cold demeanor, even when speaking to the Sect Master, so he paid it no mind.

"That little immortal is too arrogant, first injuring the Xinghe Immortal King and then provoking me. Let me catch him first; then we can return together!"

Another Starshine Sect's Immortal Emperor Realm expert exclaimed.

"Biyu Fairy" glanced coldly at the two Starshine Sect's Immortal Emperor Realm experts and said expressionlessly, "The Sect Master's orders—dare you disobey? If so, I shall return to the Sect alone and report to the Sect Master truthfully!"

Saying this, she turned to leave.

Chapter 2356: It's Just That Easy!

"Biyu Fairy, please slow down!"

"Let's talk this over!"

Two Immortal Emperor Realm experts from the Starshine Sect hurriedly blocked "Biyu Fairy".

The Sect Master of the Starshine Sect, the Starshine Immortal Emperor, possesses a mid-level cultivation in the Immortal Emperor Realm, with absolute control and authority within the sect. Ordinary disciples don't even dare to breath heavily in his presence, and even the upper echelons are somewhat afraid of him.

These two Immortal Emperor Realm experts from the Starshine Sect had no guts to defy the Sect Master's orders; seeing "Biyu Fairy" about to return to report, they were somewhat panicked.

"BiYu Fairy" paused, giving them a cold look.

"What about that young immortal? He wounded our sect disciples and challenged our sect's leadership. We can't just let him go!"

"BiYu Fairy" thought for a moment and said, "I'll stay and watch him!"

"That's best!"

The two Immortal Emperor Realm experts exchanged glances and felt relieved.

In their opinion, "BiYu Fairy" shared a similar strength with them but was more ruthless, and the white-clad young immortal had no chance of escaping from her grasp. Moreover, once in her hands, survival itself seemed uncertain.

The two Immortal Emperor Realm experts turned around and instructed the group of Starshine Sect disciples behind them to stay and assist "BiYu Fairy," then rode the auspicious clouds and flew away.

"See that? It's so easy to deceive two Starshine Sect higher-ups!"

Fang Bai turned his head, and smilingly said to Qin Yaorao.

Qin Yaorao watched as the silhouettes of the two Immortal Emperor Realm experts faded into the horizon, then breathed a sigh of relief and chuckled, "That Variable Immortal Emperor really plays the part well. I fear that if the real BiYu Fairy appeared, even the Starshine Sect disciples wouldn't be able to distinguish between the real and the impostor!"

"Haha, he can mimic anyone to perfection; that'll leave people questioning what's real and what's fake. That's why 'Variable' is part of his title. Come, let's go over!"

Fang Bai stood up, pulled Qin Yaorao's hand, and boldly walked towards the Starshine Sect disciples.

"Steward Biyu, they're coming over! Let's make our move!"

A Starshine Sect disciple saw Fang Bai in white departing the shelter of the Bodhi Ancient Tree, his eyes gleaming with excitement, rubbing his fists and itching for a fight.

This Starshine Sect disciple knew that the two higher-ups who had just left harbored a deep hatred for that white-clad immortal. If he struck and killed the white-clad immortal, winning their favor, with just a few pointers, he might benefit tremendously.

Other Starshine Sect disciples had the same thought; eyes firmly locked on Fang Bai, ready to attack the white-clad immortal at "Biyu Fairy's" command.

In their eyes, the white-clad immortal only had a Fourth-grade Immortal King Realm cultivation level, while many on their side surpassed him, making killing him a breeze.

"Biyu Fairy" scanned the group of Starshine Sect disciples before her; a hint of mockery flashed in her eyes as she said, with raised orchid fingers, "Alright, if you wish to attack, go ahead!"

The Starshine Sect disciples were overjoyed, summoned their Immortal Artifacts, and charged towards Fang Bai and Qin Yaorao with roars.

Leading the charge was a Starshine Sect disciple with a Fifth-grade Immortal King Realm cultivation level, one minor realm higher than Fang Bai. He swung his Immortal Artifact confidently, believing one swing could kill Fang Bai.

"Biyu Fairy" knew the extent of Fang Bai's prowess in challenging higher realms and, looking at the retreating figure of the leading Starshine Sect disciple, chuckled softly to herself, "Looks like he's tired of living long..."

Fang Bai held Qin Yaorao's hand in his left hand and with a swift motion, a blood-red light flashed, as he tightly grasped the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade in his right hand.

"Die!"

His eyes flashed with intensity, and as he swung the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade diagonally, a dazzling beam of blood-red light split the sky wide open.

The leading Starshine Sect disciple was startled, froze momentarily, then watched in horror as a terrifying scene of Corpse Mountain Blood Sea Killing unfolded before him; countless skeletons charged in from all directions wielding blood blades, slashing thousands of powerful blood beams at him. Unsure which was real and which was false.

In fear and desperation, the Starshine Sect disciple frantically swung his Immortal Artifact to defend himself while rapidly retreating.

Fang Bai's figure suddenly appeared dozens of feet above him, his cold gaze fixed upon him, mercilessly slicing with the blood blade in hand, concentrating thousands of beams into one lightning-like blood beam that struck directly on his head.

"Ssss!"

A light sound echoed, and the Starshine Sect disciple with a Fifth-grade Immortal King Realm's body was sliced in half, dying on the spot.

"With such limited skill, he dared lead the charge? Who gave him that confidence and courage..."

Fang Bai, with a Fourth-grade Immortal King Realm cultivation level, seemed to perform just a trivial act by slaying a Fifth-grade Immortal King Realm expert.

He reached out to grasp, and the Space Immortal Ring and Immortal Artifact belonging to the Starshine Sect disciple were snatched up and stored within Fang Bai's Five Elements Space Ring.

"Senior Brother!"

Seeing that Starshine Sect disciple fall, the others cried out in surprise, their faces showing anger and grief.

Their strength could not compare to that of their fallen senior brother; intimidated by Fang Bai's slash, they dared not advance further, staring at Fang Bai from a distance, eyes ablaze.

Under the Bodhi Tree, immortals who were seeking enlightenment watched the white-clad immortal clash with the Starshine Sect, entertained by the spectacle.

When Fang Bai casually executed a slash, killing an Immortal King of a higher realm, the immortals were astounded.

Slaying a Fifth-grade Immortal King Realm expert with ease as a Fourth-grade Immortal King implies the white-clad immortal's combat strength possibly nears the Sixth-grade Immortal King Realm.

"That white-clad immortal is remarkable!"

Initially skeptical of Fang Bai, the present immortals now gazed at him with admiration in their eyes.

However, the white-clad immortal slayed a Starshine Sect disciple, and with "Biyu Fairy" being part of the sect's leadership, how could she let him go?

No matter how formidable the white-clad immortal's ability to challenge higher realms is, he can't possibly contend against Immortal Emperor Realm experts!

All the immortals present expected "Biyu Fairy" would act against Fang Bai next.

The group of Starshine Sect disciples also looked eagerly at "Biyu Fairy," believing she would avenge their fallen senior brother.

Yet "Biyu Fairy" stood motionless, and surprisingly, the immortals observed when Fang Bai, holding Qin Yaorao's hand, approached her; her cold and proud face revealed a smile, radiating even more brightly.

"What is she smiling about?"

The immortals found it puzzling.

Moments later, "Biyu Fairy" strode forward to greet Fang Bai.

Fang Bai also released Qin Yaorao's hand, a smile beaming across his face, quickening his steps to move ahead.

Chapter 2357: Junior Immortal Village

Fang Bai and "Biyu Fairy" walked towards each other, and when they were about ten meters apart, they simultaneously burst into hearty, carefree laughter.

A few breaths later, under the astonished gazes of the immortals, they opened their arms and embraced each other in a bear hug, like men do.

"It's great that you're still alive!"

"Haha, I've got a big life, not so easy to die!"

Fang Bai and "Biyu Fairy" gave each other a few solid pats on the back, then each took a step back to size each other up, both with faces full of joy.

"Those two... aren't supposed to be like this!"

Seeing "Biyu Fairy" and that white-clothed immortal meet like old friends, all the immortals were dumbfounded, their minds in chaos.

A group of Starshine Sect disciples rubbed their eyes vigorously, thinking they were seeing things.

"Biyu Steward..."

A Starshine Sect disciple pointed at Fang Bai and cautiously said to "Biyu Fairy": "He... he injured Brother Xinghe before, and just killed Brother Jin Chan! You are..."

"Biyu Fairy" glanced at him, then smiled and said to Fang Bai, "See, the Starshine Sect disciples are all fools! At this moment, they still can't tell something's wrong, and are even thinking I should act to kill you..."

Fang Bai laughed heartily, "This shows your reputation as Variable Immortal Emperor is well-deserved, with no flaws after the transformation! But, you'd better reveal your true form quickly! Hugging and laughing with an old and ugly Female Immortal, I feel awkward!"

"Biyu Fairy" winked at him, then twisted her body a few times and wiped her face with her hand, completely changing her appearance.

When the immortals looked again, the original "Biyu Fairy" had turned into a handsome, dashing male immortal with sword-like eyebrows and bright eyes.

"It's Variable Immortal Emperor! No wonder..."

Some immortals recognized the identity of Variable Immortal Emperor, suddenly realizing that only a transformation into "Biyu Fairy" by Variable Immortal Emperor could deceive all the immortals here without revealing flaws.

If another immortal had transformed this way, they would have likely been recognized long ago by the disciples of Starshine Sect.

However, such an act by Variable Immortal Emperor must have heavily offended Starshine Sect, especially Biyu Fairy, the steward, who would be furious if she knew Variable Immortal Emperor impersonated her, and would surely seek revenge against him.

All the immortals believed that there must be a deep connection between Variable Immortal Emperor and that white-clothed immortal, otherwise he wouldn't take the risk of offending Starshine Sect to transform into Biyu Fairy and deceive two Immortal Emperor Realm experts of Starshine Sect.

If the two Immortal Emperor Realm experts of Starshine Sect were still around, even if Variable Immortal Emperor intervened, the white-clothed immortal would be unable to escape. Now with only a group of younger disciples remaining, Starshine Sect was no match for Variable Immortal Emperor, and could only watch as they left.

"I originally wanted to kill you all to vent my brother's anger! But today I'm in a good mood and will mercifully spare your lives! Now get lost!"

Variable Immortal Emperor waved his hand at a group of Starshine Sect disciples, gesturing as if shooing away flies.

The Starshine Sect disciples looked at each other, knowing that even if they joined forces, they were no match for Variable Immortal Emperor, especially with a highly capable white-clothed immortal aligned with him. They had no chance of winning and had to leave dejectedly.

"Brother, is this Female Immortal your immortal partner?"

Variable Immortal Emperor glanced at Qin Yaorao a few times, then asked Fang Bai with a smile.

Variable Immortal Emperor already knew Fang Bai had been reborn, and that in his previous life in the Immortal Realm, he left admirers everywhere, many of which were extraordinary Female Immortals. Seeing Fang Bai and Qin Yaorao holding hands most of the time very intimately, he guessed their relationship as immortal partners.

He had seen some of Fang Bai's admired Female Immortals, all were stunning and exceptional, but he hadn't seen the Female Immortal before him, hence the question.

Qin Yaorao, informed by Fang Bai about Variable Immortal Emperor's identity, naturally felt a sense of closeness, knowing he was a sworn brother of Fang Bai from his previous life. She gave a gentle smile

and introduced herself confidently, "Little sister Qin Yaorao, I met Fang Bai in the mortal world. I look forward to your guidance, elder brother."

When Fang Bai and Variable Immortal Emperor became sworn brothers in their past lives, Variable Immortal Emperor was older, thus Fang Bai was the younger brother, and Variable Immortal Emperor the elder. Hence, Qin Yaorao called herself "little sister."

"Oh..."

Variable Immortal Emperor nodded, realizing that Fang Bai's immortal partner was an immortal ascended from the mortal world. He thought Fang Bai, still charming even after being reborn, had formed such a beautiful partnership.

He noticed that Qin Yaorao possessed an Innate Spiritual Root, and that her aura slightly resembled Fang Bai's, indicating she must have received his teachings.

Though Qin Yaorao's age as an immortal was short, she was already a Grade One Immortal King Realm expert. Apparently, his sworn brother had invested considerable effort in her, suggesting a deep bond between them.

"Meeting for the first time, as an elder brother I should express myself... Take this Immortal Ring, it contains some cultivation resources... Haha, don't mind if it's not much!"

Variable Immortal Emperor said as he took out a Space Immortal Ring and, without waiting for a response, forced it into Qin Yaorao's hand.

"No need to stand on ceremony with him, take it!"

Seeing Qin Yaorao glance at him hesitantly, Fang Bai nodded with a smile.

It was only then that Qin Yaorao thanked Variable Immortal Emperor. Before storing the Space Immortal Ring, she swept her Divine Sense inside and found a variety of cultivation resources in considerable

quantity, thinking that someone could be Fang Bai's brother could not possibly be stingy—those resources would suffice for her cultivation needs for several years.

"This isn't a place for conversation. Let's head to my place and stay for a few days first!"

Seeing the Starshine Sect disciples flying away on their Auspicious Clouds, Variable Immortal Emperor knew that before long, they would likely return with a large number of Starshine Sect experts to seek justice. If their Sect Master, Starshine Immortal Emperor, came personally, even teamed up with Fang Bai, they would be unmatched. Hence, it was wise to leave.

Under Variable Immortal Emperor's lead, Fang Bai and Qin Yaorao journeyed together. Half a month later, they reached a picturesque Junior Immortal Village surrounded by mountains and waters.

The Junior Immortal Village was located within a vast forest, in a very secluded spot, challenging to find without careful searching.

The village architecture was predominantly bamboo buildings, arranged at varying heights, exquisite and beautiful, inhabited by over two hundred immortals.

According to Variable Immortal Emperor's introduction, almost all the two hundred immortals in Junior Immortal Village were his friends, whom he met during his thousand-year travels in the Immortal Realm; among them, ninety percent were Immortal King Realm experts, with the remaining ten percent being Immortal Emperor Realm experts like him.

With one hundred and eighty Immortal King Realm experts and twenty Immortal Emperor Realm experts, such power was indeed extraordinary.

"All these immortals share a similar temperament with me, and also hold goodwill towards the Emperor's Palace... After its downfall, dissatisfied with the actions of the eight top Immortal Emperors, they often spoke out for the Emperor's Palace, and as a result, faced suppression and even pursuit by them. I didn't want them to suffer, so I gathered them here to live in seclusion. Here, we share cultivation insights, exchange Immortal Technique Secrets, and lead a carefree life..."

As Variable Immortal Emperor spoke, a proud expression spread across his face. He shook his head contentedly, saying, "Now, I'm the village chief of this Junior Immortal Village, with over two hundred immortals looking up to me. Hehe, though it's not as grand as your ten thousand disciples under the Emperor's Palace back then, it's an achievement nonetheless. In the future, when you rebuild the Emperor's Palace and take revenge on the eight top Immortal Emperors, they may well become your allies!"

Chapter 2358: Defiance

The Variable Immortal Emperor quickly demonstrated the "prestige" of the village leader to Fang Bai.

After entering the Junior Immortal Village, the Variable Immortal Emperor flew onto a tall stone pillar several zhang high, and with a call from above, over two hundred immortals appeared around the stone pillar within moments.

"Village leader, have you returned from your training? Did you gain any insights this time?"

A slender Ninth Grade Immortal King Realm expert looked up at the Variable Immortal Emperor on the large stone and asked with a smile.

The other experts on the scene also looked at the Variable Immortal Emperor, emitting bursts of good-natured laughter.

They knew that the Variable Immortal Emperor was lazy by nature and negligent in cultivation. When he said he went out for training, it was mostly for fun and leisure. The slender immortal's question about his insights was just teasing.

"Of course, I gained something!"

As he spoke, the Variable Immortal Emperor jumped down from the stone pillar and stood shoulder to shoulder with Fang Bai, saying excitedly, "This is my sworn brother, whom I've been separated from for many years. Finding him is a great gain!"

The villagers of Junior Immortal Village had an excellent relationship with the Variable Immortal Emperor, and although not related by blood, they were closer than siblings. Upon hearing that Fang Bai

was the sworn brother of the Variable Immortal Emperor, they felt a sense of closeness to him and came forward to greet him, exchanging names and titles.

"Wushuang Immortal King? Haha, that's quite an imposing title! Without real skills, you wouldn't dare to use it!"

Some villagers laughed when they heard that Fang Bai's title was "Wushuang Immortal King."

There were also some immortals of equivalent cultivation who looked at Fang Bai with a hint of discontent, eager to test their strength.

Wushuang signifies uniqueness.

Although most immortals in the world are quite arrogant and proud, few dare to claim invincibility in their realm.

And this young immortal named Fang Bai calls himself the "Wushuang Immortal King." Is he merely youthful and arrogant, or truly skilled?

Many villagers in Junior Immortal Village also had the cultivation level of Fourth Grade Immortal King, some of whom could challenge those of higher levels. Hearing Fang Bai's title "Wushuang Immortal King," they felt dissatisfied.

However, this dissatisfaction was not malicious towards Fang Bai but rather a desire to prove themselves.

"My brother's title, 'Wushuang Immortal King,' is not mere boast. He truly has the strength to be invincible in the same realm. If any of you doubt it, feel free to try!"

The Variable Immortal Emperor, observing the reactions of some villagers, laughed heartily.

Upon hearing this, some competitive villagers in Junior Immortal Village couldn't hold back, gearing up with eyes full of fighting spirit towards Fang Bai.

Fang Bai stood there smiling, facing the eyes filled with fighting spirit. He neither flaunted nor was humble, giving some immortals a sense of profoundness.

Qin Yaorao was initially worried seeing the villagers of Junior Immortal Village so "excited," but seeing Fang Bai's calm demeanor, she relaxed.

"Wushuang Immortal King, let's have a match!"

A young immortal with an equivalent level of cultivation stepped forward excitedly, rubbing his hands as he approached Fang Bai.

Fang Bai glanced at the Variable Immortal Emperor, who understood and introduced, "This is the Shadowless Immortal King, a loose cultivator currently at the Fourth Grade Immortal King Realm..."

After the introduction, the Variable Immortal Emperor chuckled and said to the Shadowless Immortal King, "Are you sure you want to battle the Wushuang Immortal King?"

The Shadowless Immortal King sniffed and nodded, "My title is Shadowless Immortal King, and his is Wushuang Immortal King. Though there's only one word difference, the meaning is vastly different. So I'm ready to prove who is truly invincible in the same realm and who truly deserves the title of 'Wushuang'!"

The Variable Immortal Emperor laughed, "If you defeat him, are you going to change your title to 'Wushuang Immortal King'?"

The Shadowless Immortal King replied, "Well... it's not impossible! After all, 'Wushuang Immortal King' sounds more imposing than 'Shadowless Immortal King'!"

He paused and added, "Don't worry, village leader. Your brother is my brother as well. It's just a normal sparring match; I won't harm him."

The Variable Immortal Emperor laughed heartily, "You harm him? Haha... Just be careful not to get harmed yourself!"

The Shadowless Immortal King scoffed, "It seems you're very confident in your sworn brother!"

The Variable Immortal Emperor grinned, "Just try... try and you'll know..."

As he spoke, he winked at Fang Bai and transmitted, "The Shadowless Immortal King has a strong desire to win. Don't let him lose too badly!"

Fang Bai nodded with a smile.

To the north of the Junior Immortal Village, there was a large lake covering hundreds of li. With the encouragement and goading of the two hundred villagers, the Shadowless Immortal King and Fang Bai flew over the lake to begin their sparring.

The Shadowless Immortal King practiced Wind System Immortal Technique, and as the sparring began, he didn't directly attack Fang Bai but started flying rapidly in circles around him.

With his movement, a violent storm swept across the lake, quickly forming a massive dragon-twisting storm. The waters of the lake rose with the wind, reaching the sky, as if a giant dragon was devouring the lake water amidst roaring sounds, creating a terrifying scene.

Fang Bai was in the eye of the dragon-twisting storm, with powerful twisting forces constantly tearing at his body. Additionally, mountainous waves crashed towards him relentlessly.

Qin Yaorao, unable to see Fang Bai with the naked eye, tried to use her Divine Sense to check on him but was blocked by the powerful dragon-twisting storm, feeling a bit anxious and instinctively looking towards the Variable Immortal Emperor.

The Variable Immortal Emperor stroked his chin, looking somewhat grave, muttering, "During my absence, the strength of that Shadowless Immortal King has improved quite a lot!"

A villager nearby laughed, "Village leader, you might not know, but the Shadowless Immortal King recently returned from his training and seems to have gained some opportunities, now possessing the ability to challenge higher levels! This time your sworn brother might lose!"

The Variable Immortal Emperor, surprised, said, "He can challenge higher levels now? No wonder he doesn't yield to my brother Fang Bai... However, I still don't think he will win..."

Many villagers in Junior Immortal Village, observing the scene, didn't think much of the Variable Immortal Emperor's words. A villager of initial-stage Immortal Emperor Realm cultivation smiled, "Village leader, how about we make a bet?"

The Variable Immortal Emperor's spirits lifted, "Sure! What do you want to bet?"

The villager said, "If your sworn brother wins, I'll give you that Blood Pear Fruit I recently acquired!"

The Blood Pear Fruit is a rare Immortal Fruit in the Immortal Realm, one of which can equal tens of years of cultivation. The Variable Immortal Emperor had always wanted to obtain one. Hearing this, his eyes lit up as he licked his lips, "White Crane Immortal Emperor, in front of all these brothers and sisters, you must keep your word and not go back on it!"

Chapter 2359: An Immortal Who Cheats Is Not a Good Immortal

"When have I ever gone back on my word?"

White Crane Immortal Emperor rolled his eyes and said grumpily, "But you... if your sworn brother loses, what are you going to give me? And let me make it clear, I don't want anything inferior to my Blood Pear Fruit!"

Variable Immortal Emperor shook his head and said, "My sworn brother won't lose!"

White Crane Immortal Emperor laughed, "You're just saying that because you want to weasel out of it!"

Variable Immortal Emperor huffed, "When have I ever weaseled out of anything?"

"Chief, you've weaseled out more than once or twice! You borrowed those Cultivation Resources from me ten years ago, promised to return them quickly, and yet, still no sign of them!"

A villager complained unhappily.

Variable Immortal Emperor blushed, waving his hand impatiently, "Alright, alright, I'll pay you back first once I have enough Cultivation Resources! Hmph, owing you a bit of Cultivation Resources and you have to harp on about it daily? Afraid this village chief will forget, are you? Never seen anyone so stingy!"

"Sigh, owing me and still acting so righteous... it's just unfair!"

The villager sighed, shaking his head, looking utterly aggrieved.

"Chief, you personally told me you wanted to become my Immortal partner, but now decades have passed, when are you going to fulfill your promise? My heart, it's long been yours!"

A Female Immortal looked at Variable Immortal Emperor with a face full of grievance.

The villagers in Junior Immortal Village knew about the Chief and the Female Immortal's situation. They looked at each other, making faces and chuckling, laughter continuously ringing out.

Variable Immortal Emperor blushed even deeper, muttering, "This... I'm not mentally prepared yet... give me a few more years, I'll definitely become your Immortal partner and take you to the Carefree Immortal Realm..."

The Female Immortal said wistfully, "You've used that excuse for decades, can't you come up with a new one?"

Variable Immortal Emperor said seriously, "This time, I mean it!"

At this moment, another Immortal spoke up, pointing to a little fairy girl about ten years old beside him, "Chief, you promised to give my daughter an Immortal Artifact, when will you fulfill that? You can't break a promise with a child!"

The little fairy girl stretched out her hand, seriously saying, "Chief Uncle, where's my Immortal Artifact? A promise-breaking Immortal is not a good Immortal!"

Variable Immortal Emperor's eyes shifted, glanced at Fang Bai fighting with the villager in the lake, and said with brows raised, "Little one, I'll give you the Immortal Artifact in a few days. This time Chief Uncle promises his word is certain!"

The little fairy girl tilted her head, thought for a bit, worried he might go back on his word, and said, "Then let's pinky swear!"

"Alright! Alright! Pinky swear!"

Variable Immortal Emperor squatted down in front of the little fairy girl, solemnly hooking her finger.

"It's just a low-grade King Grade Immortal Artifact, my brother Fang Bai can easily craft one. This time, this village chief finally keeps his word!"

Variable Immortal Emperor thought to himself.

"If my sworn brother loses, I'll give you the Immortal Artifact I'm using, which is a Superior King Grade Immortal Artifact, that should be worth your Blood Pear Fruit, right?"

Variable Immortal Emperor casually said to White Crane Immortal Emperor.

The Immortal Artifact he used was only a Superior King Grade, but it was hard to come by. If he were to give it away for free to the White Crane Immortal Emperor, he would never agree. The reason he used it as a bet now was because he knew Fang Bai definitely wouldn't lose.

As a former life's sworn brother of Fang Bai, few Immortals knew better than Variable Immortal Emperor how formidable Fang Bai's capability was to leap realms. Let alone one Shadowless Immortal King, even if there were one or two more, Fang Bai could easily triumph.

Just then, a sudden muffled boom echoed from the giant dragon-tornado Storm around Fang Bai in the lake, as though it had exploded, scattering fiercely in all directions like fierce winds. The massive amount of lake water swept into mid-air by the dragon-tornado, also fell with the storm's disappearance, triggering colossal waves.

The Shadowless Immortal King, who was rapidly circling around Fang Bai, paused, staring blankly at Fang Bai who was suspended a hundred meters above the lake surface, silently shocked, with an incredulous face.

The earlier dragon-tornado storm was one of his most powerful secret techniques. He thought even if it couldn't harm Fang Bai, it would trap him inside, eventually unable to bear the pressure, and force him to surrender.

Unexpectedly, Fang Bai somehow used some secret technique to shatter the dragon-tornado from within, and he himself seemed utterly unscathed. This level of physical toughness far exceeded what the villager imagined.

Only then did Shadowless Immortal King realize that the sworn brother of the village chief was not as weak as he had imagined. Seeing that hint of a smile on his lips, he felt uneasy, his expression turned serious, and he became fully alert.

"I can also do your dragon-tornado secret technique!"

Fang Bai said as he cast nearly the same secret technique and started circling around Shadowless Immortal King.

His speed was faster than Shadowless Immortal King, and the wind he brought up was even greater, instantly sweeping out a gigantic dragon-tornado that reached both the sky and earth. Almost half the lake's water was drawn up by the wind, forming a spectacular sight as it shot into the sky.

Among the over two hundred villagers watching by the lakeside, there were quite a few stronger than Fang Bai, and they all could sense that the secret technique Fang Bai cast was significantly more powerful than that of Shadowless Immortal King.

"Shadowless Immortal King is going to lose..."

One Immortal watched the dragon-tornado in the lake, murmuring with a strange expression.

"No... no... stop... I surrender..."

In just a few seconds, the Shadowless Immortal King, trapped in the dragon-tornado's eye, cried out for mercy.

Fang Bai's figure halted immediately, and the dragon-tornado vanished along with it.

Although the Shadowless Immortal King could still hover in the air, his hair and beard were disheveled, his clothing in tatters, with alarming bloody scars all over, looking utterly wretched.

Fortunately, Fang Bai controlled his strength very precisely. The injuries on Shadowless Immortal King's body looked serious, but were just some minor flesh wounds, likely to heal on their own in a few days.

Shadowless Immortal King felt relieved, took a deep breath, and looked at Fang Bai with lingering fear, fully convinced.

He knew, if it had been a life-and-death battle just now, in a few more seconds, he might have been churned into a mass of flesh by the terrifying twisting force.

Fang Bai and Shadowless Immortal King consecutively landed on the lakeshore.

"So, Shadowless Immortal King, do you admit defeat?"

Variable Immortal Emperor patted Shadowless Immortal King's shoulder with a hearty laugh.

Although Shadowless Immortal King loved to contend fiercely, he was also an Immortal who could accept losing gracefully. Upon hearing this, he said with a wry smile, "I concede!"

He gently shook his body, and the tattered clothes turned to dust and vanished, instantly replaced with a new set of clothing.

He cupped his fist towards Fang Bai, his face full of admiration, saying, "I initially wanted to compete for the title of Wushuang Immortal King with you. Now it seems, I've overestimated myself! However, I may not be up to the task, but that doesn't mean other villagers aren't!"

Fang Bai saw the intense battle spirit in the eyes of many village Immortals with Immortal King Cultivation Realm around him. He laughed and said, "Who else wants to fight? Whoever in the same realm can beat me, this title of Wushuang Immortal King, I'll gladly give it to you!"

Chapter 2360: Subjugation

Fang Bai knew that to subdue the unruly Immortals before him, he needed to display formidable strength. These Immortals were both friends of the Variable Immortal Emperor and sympathizers of the Emperor's Palace of old. If he could win them over, they might become a force to help rebuild the Emperor's Palace in the future.

Watching Fang Bai defeat the Shadowless Immortal King, the Variable Immortal Emperor was so thrilled he danced with joy, and joyfully received a Blood Pear Fruit from the White Crane Immortal Emperor.

"Village Chief, your sworn brother seemed to be holding back earlier!"

Having lost a hard-won Blood Pear Fruit, the White Crane Immortal Emperor felt a bit of heartache but was willing to accept defeat. He couldn't help but find Fang Bai, standing proudly with hands behind his back at the edge of the great lake, increasingly remarkable.

He realized Fang Bai possessed an Innate Spiritual Root, and experts with such roots often had abilities to challenge cross-level. The Shadowless Immortal King had also encountered great opportunities, and likewise could challenge cross-level, making the two Immortals evenly matched.

Therefore, the White Crane Immortal Emperor thought that although the Shadowless Immortal King was not a match for Fang Bai, he shouldn't be much weaker. At the least, both sides would need to fight fiercely and for a long time to determine victory.

But unexpectedly, when Fang Bai made his move, it was astonishing. In the blink of an eye, he forced the Shadowless Immortal King to beg for mercy and admit defeat.

Only then did the White Crane Immortal Emperor realize he had misjudged. Fang Bai's combat power was far more formidable than he had guessed. It seemed his title of "Wushuang Immortal King" was well deserved, as there wasn't an Immortal in Junior Immortal Village of the same realm who was a match for Fang Bai.

However, the villagers of Junior Immortal Village were not intimidated by Fang Bai's display of power. Instead, they grew increasingly excited.

Especially those villagers with cultivation levels similar to Fang Bai, who rushed forward eagerly, requesting to duel with him.

They didn't care about winning or losing; they just wanted to fight with a powerful opponent like Fang Bai to gain practical experience and improve their own combat power.

Fang Bai accepted the enthusiastic challenges from the villagers one by one, ending each fight with a single decisive move.

Eventually, even a few villagers with fifth-grade Immortal King Cultivation Realm, seeing Fang Bai win easily and knowing he still had energy to spare, couldn't resist stepping forward to spar, only to end in defeat.

It was not until Fang Bai defeated a villager with sixth-grade Immortal King Cultivation Realm that the challenges finally ceased.

By this time, the villagers had completely surrendered to Fang Bai.

Defeating a sixth-grade Immortal King Realm expert with a fourth-grade Immortal King Cultivation Level, Fang Bai's combat power had far exceeded the realm of "invincible in the same realm"; the title "Wushuang Immortal King" seemed even a bit humbling for him.

"Your sworn brother, what kind of monster is he? I can't see through him... can't see through..."

The White Crane Immortal Emperor, looking at Fang Bai, who had experienced successive battles without his immortal power being depleted and appeared more spirited, was full of disbelief and sighed, speaking to the Variable Immortal Emperor.

The Variable Immortal Emperor, hands on hips, burst into laughter, saying: "My brother is an unprecedented genius of the Immortal Dao. Even the prodigies of those Super Sects can't compare to him! Don't say I didn't warn you all; hurry and make friends with him, for in the future he will become an Immortal Emperor!"

Throughout history, Immortals capable of becoming Immortal Emperors were invariably exceptionally talented prodigies. Fang Bai, so young with an Innate Spiritual Root and such formidable combat power, was rare even in the Immortal Realm. Even if he can't reach the Immortal Emperor Realm in the future, becoming an Immortal Emperor Realm expert is highly likely.

Moreover, an Immortal Emperor Realm expert is still a dominating presence within the Immortal Realm, worth befriending.

Besides, this Fang Bai is the sworn brother of the Variable Immortal Emperor, effectively making them brothers.

Thus, the villagers, won over by Fang Bai, gathered around with friendly smiles and began to chat with him.

Qin Yaorao, standing not far away, watching Fang Bai surrounded by Immortals, revealed a faint smile.

As the saying goes, more friends, more paths.

Qin Yaorao knew that for Fang Bai to rebuild the Emperor's Palace and seek revenge on the eight top Immortal Emperors in the future, he couldn't do it alone and must have many friends to help. Thus, the more friends Fang Bai made in the Immortal Realm, the happier Qin Yaorao was for him.

A moment later, perhaps seeing Qin Yaorao being left out, the Variable Immortal Emperor awkwardly said to Qin Yaorao: "The villagers of Junior Immortal Village are too enthusiastic and have occupied my brother! Sister-in-law, don't be upset. I'm doing this for my brother's good!"

Qin Yaorao said with a smile: "Brother, I understand! I'm not upset, rather I think it's great!"

The Variable Immortal Emperor knew Fang Bai's goals upon returning to the Immortal Realm, and patted his chest, saying: "My brother's business is my business! To help him fulfill his wishes, I will fully support him!"

Qin Yaorao replied: "In that case, thank you very much, brother!"

The Variable Immortal Emperor nodded, stroking his beard.

Suddenly, several Immortal Emperor Realm experts from Junior Immortal Village, including the Variable Immortal Emperor, seemed to sense something, turning their heads in unison to look towards the eastern sky.

Fang Bai, Qin Yaorao, and the other villagers of Junior Immortal Village followed their gaze towards the eastern sky.

A ray of light, faster than lightning, flew from afar and in the blink of an eye was hovering above Junior Immortal Village.

"It's Miaoyin Fairy! She seems to be injured!"

A villager recognized a familiar aura, expanded his Divine Sense, and exclaimed in surprise.

The ray of light swiftly descended to the ground, revealing a Wind Roc carrying a beautiful female Immortal.

Once the Wind Roc landed, the female Immortal jumped down, stumbling into the crowd led by the Variable Immortal Emperor, and urgently called out: "Quick... quick, go save Fen Yue and the others!"

She was covered in wounds, some of which were quite severe, and her dress was stained by blood. She seemed to have encountered a critical situation, disregarding healing, and rushed back to seek reinforcement.

"What did you say?"

The Variable Immortal Emperor's eyes immediately reddened when he heard "Fen Yue", glaring at the female Immortal with the title "Miaoyin Fairy," and asked sharply: "What happened to Fen Yue?"

Miaoyin Fairy responded urgently: "Fen Yue and a few friends went behind our backs into the Myriad Demons Mountain to harvest Purple Frost Demon Grass. They ended up surrounded by a group of the Demon Clan. When we received their distress signal and went to help, we also got caught in the demon ambush. I barely managed to break through... Village Chief, let's hurry to Myriad Demons Mountain to save Fen Yue and the others..."

"Alas! That girl... she is always causing trouble! Had I known earlier, I wouldn't have let her go experience the world!"

The Variable Immortal Emperor stamped his foot, saying with a regretful look.

"Brother, who is Fen Yue?"

Fang Bai asked, seeing the Variable Immortal Emperor so anxious, clearly showing that Fen Yue was extremely important to him.