

Es. Benefits 1221

Chapter 1221: I Just Remembered a Cultivation Technique That's Perfect for You Tianchen World.

Great Sum Dynasty, Yancheng Imperial Palace, Imperial Study Room.

Lu Chen sat at the desk, reviewing the records of the political affairs handled by the Great Sum Dynasty over the past few years.

Now, the entire Great Sum Dynasty was managed by Crown Prince Lu Changfeng; Lu Chen had completely handed off responsibility, with most new officials being promoted by Lu Changfeng as well.

Unlike the emperors of mundane dynasties, Lu Chen was not at all worried about his son taking his place; he had virtually reached the point of total handoff, at most providing some guidance on modern management.

After all, the Tianchen World had entered the industrial era, and the old management methods were no longer effective. As the only modern person who had crossed over from Earth, only he could offer some advice suitable for industrial development.

Of course, although he had almost completely let go, he would still personally come to the Imperial Study Room every once in a while to review Lu Changfeng's records of political affairs.

Whatever orders or appointments or removals of officials Lu Changfeng had issued, there would be detailed records in the records of the Imperial Court affairs.

At this moment, the cold voice of Bai Qingqing came from the door, “Your Majesty, someone from Skyfire World has arrived.”

Hearing this, Lu Chen came back to his senses. He was curious; it hadn’t been long since he left Skyfire World. How could they have sent someone so soon?

Could it be that something significant had happened in Skyfire World after his departure?

Lu Chen then put down the record book and said, “Come in.”

The next moment, a descendant of the Skyfire Imperial Family entered the hall, “Greetings, Heavenly Emperor!”

“Dispense with the formalities. What has happened in Skyfire World?”

The person hurriedly handed over the envelope in his hand to Lu Chen, “Your Majesty, this is a letter from the Fire Emperor for you. The Fire Emperor said you would understand once you read it.”

Lu Chen grabbed the letter from the man’s hand, and it flew into his hands. He tore open the letter and read it.

He furrowed his brows upon reading the contents.

An old man was actually coveting his woman.

Although Lu Chen had not done that sort of thing to Mu Qinglan in recent years, he had long regarded Mu Qinglan as his woman. He had restrained himself from taking advantage of his identity to exploit Mu Qinglan.

After thinking for a moment, Lu Chen directly activated the Space-Time Mirror and contacted Mu Zhengqing.

Seeing Lu Chen's projection, Mu Zhengqing hurriedly paid his respects, "Greetings, Heavenly Emperor!"

Lu Chen spoke indifferently, "I have received your letter."

"For now, just continue to stabilize the power of the Imperial Mountain Quasi-Emperor, no need to do anything else."

Mu Zhengqing responded, "This junior understands."

Now, it was a race between Lu Chen and the Imperial Mountain Quasi-Emperor. As long as the Imperial Mountain Quasi-Emperor had not broken through, as long as Lu Chen became a Great Emperor before the Imperial Mountain Quasi-Emperor, then the Imperial Mountain Quasi-Emperor would pose no threat to Lu Chen.

After giving a few more instructions to Mu Zhengqing, Lu Chen turned off the Space-Time Mirror. He stood up from his chair, gazing out of the window of the Imperial Study Room, seemingly pondering something.

What was most important now was to quickly become stronger; he had not even broken through to the Saint Realm, let alone contending with a Quasi-Emperor.

Although becoming a Great Emperor required thousands of years, no one could say for sure whether the Imperial Mountain Quasi-Emperor might exit seclusion suddenly due to some reasons. If the Imperial Mountain Quasi-Emperor came out midway and wished to wed Mu Qinglan ahead of time, that would be problematic.

Thinking this, Lu Chen's figure flashed, and in the next moment, he appeared in Mu Qinglan's chamber.

Mu Qinglan, who was cultivating, froze momentarily when she sensed Lu Chen's presence, and immediately opened her eyes, before rising from the couch and giving him a bow.

“Your Grace, Heavenly Emperor! What brings you here?”

Lu Chen handed over the letter that Mu Zhengqing had just sent to Mu Qinglan. Mu Qinglan took the letter and quickly glanced through it.

Upon reading the contents of the letter, Mu Qinglan furrowed her brows slightly, unable to believe that the Imperial Mountain Quasi-Emperor had been thinking of her all this time.

Curious, Lu Chen asked, “You know the Imperial Mountain Quasi-Emperor?”

Lu Chen was puzzled; if the Imperial Mountain Quasi-Emperor did not know Mu Qinglan, then why would he think of marrying her?

Mu Qinglan answered, "I have met the Imperial Mountain Quasi-Emperor only once."

For cultivators, staying in one place to cultivate is also a form of torture, so Mu Qinglan once quietly left the Skyfire World to relax in other worlds.

During a chance encounter, she met the then-Saint Realm Imperial Mountain Quasi-Emperor, but nothing happened between them. The Quasi-Emperor never actively pursued her, and Mu Qinglan could not understand why he would think of marrying her after advancing to become a Great Emperor.

Lu Chen said with a smile, "So, it seems that fellow fell in love with you at first sight. He feels unworthy of you, so he plans to become a Great Emperor before marrying you?"

Mu Qinglan quickly said, "Your Majesty, I will never marry him."

Mu Qinglan felt somewhat panicked inside; in the heat of affection, the thing women fear most is their beloved knowing that others are entangled with them and others love them too.

Lu Chen also noticed the panic in Mu Qinglan's heart, "You are my Protector, indeed you cannot marry him."

“It looks like I need to hasten my cultivation, otherwise I won’t even be able to protect my own Protector.”

Hearing Lu Chen’s words, Mu Qinglan felt a warm sensation in her heart, and a blush appeared on her face. The meaning behind the Heavenly Emperor’s words was that he was cultivating for her sake.

Previously, she had always thought about encouraging the Heavenly Emperor to get motivated and not to focus on women, but her methods were completely ineffective; unexpectedly, it oddly ended up motivating the Heavenly Emperor.

Moreover, the reason for the Heavenly Emperor’s motivation was herself.

Thinking of this, she felt she had a place in the Heavenly Emperor’s heart.

At this moment, Lu Chen’s gaze swept over Mu Qinglan’s cold, stunning face and then slowly moved down to her graceful figure.

Mu Qinglan was wearing a long dress of blue silk which wrapped tightly around her upper body, perfectly showcasing her curvaceous figure.

Lu Chen thought to himself that it was about time.

Seeing that Lu Chen was staring intently at her body, Mu Qinglan’s heart grew even more flustered. She couldn’t help thinking, could the Heavenly Emperor have noticed something?

This could be troublesome; what if the Heavenly Emperor thought her feelings for him were inappropriate and asked her to return to the Skyfire World?

Just then, Lu Chen spoke, “Lan’er, I just remembered a Cultivation Technique that would be suitable for you, which can help in quickly enhancing your Cultivation State. Would you be interested in cultivating it?”

Curiously, Mu Qinglan inquired, “Your Majesty, may I know what that Cultivation Technique is?”

The Cultivation Technique Mu Qinglan was currently practicing was the one initially given to her by Lu Chen. She simply thought that Lu Chen wanted to provide her with a new Cultivation Technique, not considering other implications.

Without hesitation, Lu Chen directly transmitted the content of the Mysterious Female Technique to Mu Qinglan.

At that moment, a white orb of light flew from Lu Chen’s forehead to Mu Qinglan’s brain, and immediately afterwards, Mu Qinglan became aware of the contents of the Mysterious Female Technique.

Upon realizing that cultivating the Mysterious Female Technique involved acts between men and women, she stood frozen on the spot.

Chapter 1222: Your Majesty, Please Help Me in My Cultivation Mu Qinglan had lived for tens of thousands of years and was no longer a naive young girl. When Lu Chen imparted the knowledge of the Mysterious Female Technique to her, she guessed what he was thinking.

Just the thought that Lu Chen actually desired to be with her...

Mu Qinglan, who was originally aloof, had more and more blush appearing on her face. Her shy demeanor, as a Female Saint, became even more attractive with the embellishment of the Dao Charm, which made Lu Chen's heart grow more restless.

However, Lu Chen did not make his move directly but stood in place, waiting for Mu Qinglan's response.

At this moment, Mu Qinglan's mind went blank. Ever since the Heavenly Emperor saved the Skyfire Clan, she had fallen for him. However, the Heavenly Emperor was not interested in women at the time, so she could only keep her affections in her heart.

When she saw the Heavenly Emperor again, she found out that he had reincarnated and hadn't yet recovered his memory. That was when she started to entertain the idea of becoming the Heavenly Emperor's woman before he regained his memory.

But over the years, she hadn't made a move. Even though the present Heavenly Emperor had fallen, and his mind was on women, as the Heavenly Emperor was gradually restoring his Cultivation State, his past life's memories would soon come back as well.

If the Heavenly Emperor found out that she had been seducing him, while he was still without his past life memories, and affecting his Dao Heart, he might very well detest her. This was why she remained in the stage of contemplation and never actively offered herself.

But today, the Heavenly Emperor had taken the initiative to give her this Cultivation Technique. Wasn't this hinting at her to become his woman?

For a moment, Mu Qinglan felt at a loss. The Heavenly Emperor was falling more and more into depravity. If the number of women by his side continued to increase, he would likely have even less inclination to cultivate.

Moreover, what she feared the most was that after the Heavenly Emperor regained his memories, he would blame her for not guiding him on the correct cultivation path.

But on second thought, he already had so many women; one more really wouldn't matter.

Seeing Mu Qinglan standing there in a daze, Lu Chen looked deeply into her eyes and asked softly, "What's wrong? Lan'er?"

"If you don't wish to cultivate this technique, then don't,"

Hearing Lu Chen's voice, Mu Qinglan came back to her senses. With a cool expression, she made up her mind and said, "Please help me with my cultivation, Your Majesty."

She was originally the Heavenly Emperor's Maid. It was natural for her to agree to his desires. Now that the Heavenly Emperor had hinted at her, she couldn't pretend to be unaware of anything.

Besides, becoming the Heavenly Emperor's woman had always been her desire, regardless of whether or not he would still have feelings for her after regaining his memories. She just needed to seize the moment and not worry too much about things that hadn't happened yet.

Seeing that Mu Qinglan had agreed, the corners of Lu Chen's mouth lifted slightly. He then asked, "Are you sure you want me to help you with your cultivation?"

Blushing, Mu Qinglan said, “I am Your Majesty’s Maid. Apart from seeking Your Majesty’s help, I cannot possibly turn to anyone else.”

Lu Chen said, “Alright then, let’s start now.”

As his voice fell, Lu Chen reached out and pulled Mu Qinglan’s delicate body into his embrace, chest to chest.

Being suddenly pulled into an embrace by Lu Chen, Mu Qinglan’s heart trembled, and she instantly felt her body heat up. This was her first time being so close to a man.

She had lived for tens of thousands of years and also knew about the matters between men and women.

Before, she always thought that was just the act of animals—why those men and women got so worked up over it. But when it was her own turn, she realized that her body couldn’t help but undergo some subtle changes.

Feeling the Gentle Jade Fragrance in his arms, Lu Chen was instantly aroused. Mu Qinglan noticed Lu Chen’s condition and, although she knew what was happening, she still felt extremely nervous.

Lu Chen hesitated no more and kissed Mu Qinglan’s red lips, then his hands slowly caressed her cyan gauze clothing.

The gauze was incomparably silky smooth, feeling very nice to the touch. The friction between the gauze and her delicate skin made Mu Qinglan feel even hotter all over, even though she was a Saint, she couldn't restrain the restlessness in her heart when facing her beloved.

As Lu Chen's kisses went on, Mu Qinglan felt her consciousness blurring, and the matter of cultivation had long been tossed to the back of her mind.

After who knows how long, when Mu Qinglan came back to her senses, she found herself lying on a soft couch, with Lu Chen towering above her, watching her with a smile on his lips.

Mu Qinglan's heart trembled, realizing that the Heavenly Emperor had seen her in this state, and he must be thinking of her as a shameless woman.

Just as Mu Qinglan was thinking this, Lu Chen's body suddenly pressed down on her.

“Ah...Mmm!”

Mu Qinglan quickly bit her lip, trying hard not to make any sound.

At this moment, Lu Chen could no longer endure; this was his first time doing such a thing with a Saint. He had always been worried that his wives and consorts couldn't bear it, but a Saint was different; now he could unleash his techniques without worries.

Immediately, Lu Chen showed no mercy or tenderness, beginning his tyrannical behavior.

For a Saint, Lu Chen's onslaught wouldn't bring any discomfort, but the sensations he brought forth were something Mu Qinglan found impossible to shield herself from.

The first time Lu Chen and Mu Qinglan fostered affection, he employed the Cultivation Technique of Hundred Birds Towards The Phoenix, leading Mu Qinglan completely along with him—now she finally understood why the Heavenly Emperor had fallen.

It wasn't just the Heavenly Emperor who had fallen, Mu Qinglan felt herself rapidly succumbing as well.

Two months passed by in the blink of an eye.

Inside Mu Qinglan's sleeping quarters.

Lu Chen had finished his activities and was gently stroking Mu Qinglan's hair, while she lay on the Heavenly Emperor's chest, feeling his fervent affection.

When Lu Chen had been with his other wives and consorts, it generally only lasted a month, but since Mu Qinglan was a Saint, her recovery ability was very strong, so Lu Chen indulged for an extra month.

By now, Mu Qinglan had regained her senses, feeling as though she was in a dream. She had never imagined that she would one day lie atop the Heavenly Emperor, locking him with her body.

At this moment, Lu Chen directed his gaze towards his system interface.

[Congratulations Host on gaining a new consort, you are rewarded with one Mixed Element Pill.]

Subsequently, Lu Chen brought up the introduction page for the Mixed Element Pill with a thought.

[Mixed Element Pill: After consumption, it can significantly increase the chance of breaking through to the Saint Realm.]

Seeing this pill, Lu Chen was stunned for a moment, but he didn't feel happy about obtaining the pill.

The system had given him a pill for breaking through to the Saint Realm, and it could only increase the chance, not directly elevate him to the Saint Realm. That indicated breaking through to the Saint Realm was not an easy feat.

Feeling Lu Chen's hand stop playing with her hair, Mu Qinglan propped herself up slightly and looked at Lu Chen, "Your Majesty, what's wrong?"

Lu Chen snapped back to reality, setting aside the Mixed Element Pill for a moment, then looked at Mu Qinglan's cold yet enchanting face and said with a smile, "Lan'er, who would've thought your first time cultivating the Mysterious Female Technique would be so formidable, rendering me completely immobile."

Chapter 1223: Thank Your Majesty for Granting Me This Opportunity Hearing Lu Chen's words, Mu Qinglan immediately felt a scorching heat on her cheeks and her eyes became evasive, not daring to look directly into Lu Chen's eyes.

If it were an ordinary person, even using the Mysterious Female Technique, they would definitely not be able to lock down Lu Chen, but Mu Qinglan was stronger than Lu Chen.

After fully channeling the Mysterious Female Technique, Lu Chen found it extremely difficult to break free and couldn't even move recklessly.

However, this was not a bad thing for Lu Chen; the sensation made him feel even more intrigued.

Mu Qinglan felt that her actions were somewhat too offensive, so she quickly said, "Your Majesty, I realize my mistake."

As her words fell, Mu Qinglan hurriedly began to channel her energy again, preparing to release Lu Chen, but as soon as she started, Lu Chen said, "Let it be, no need to release."

This...

Mu Qinglan was stunned for a moment, then quickly understood and said with a blush, "I understand."

As Mu Qinglan's words fell, a majestic spiritual power was released from her body, followed by the spreading of her Dao Charm into the heavens and the earth.

Seeing the Dao Charm emanating from Mu Qinglan, the cultivators of Black Dragon City entered a state of sudden enlightenment, and soon, one after another, they made breakthroughs.

Feeling the overwhelming spiritual power within her, Mu Qinglan was slightly taken aback. She had not expected to break through at such a moment.

Although she knew that being in the presence of a Heavenly Emperor could potentially lead to breaking through her long-standing bottleneck since cultivation is ultimately about the heart—her wishes had been fulfilled, her mood was lifted, and this naturally helped her in breaking through—she had not anticipated it to happen so swiftly.

Mu Qinglan sensed her own strength and found that her Cultivation State had directly entered the Saint Fifth Realm, leaving her at a loss for words.

Her feelings were mixed; she had originally thought that the Heavenly Emperor was always indulgent with women and hardly cultivated, simply falling into depravity.

But having been intimately close to the Heavenly Emperor for just two months, her Cultivation State had actually broken through to the Saint Fifth Realm. At this moment, she realized that she might have misunderstood the Heavenly Emperor.

When they were intimate, she could clearly feel that the Heavenly Emperor was channeling a certain Cultivation Technique, a technique that allowed their hearts and minds to connect and also accelerated their cultivation.

Her breakthrough to the Saint Fifth Realm was not solely due to a break in her mental state but also assisted by Lu Chen's Dual Cultivation Technique.

No wonder the Heavenly Emperor did not seem to cultivate much, yet his Cultivation State recovered so quickly. It turned out he was cultivating in a way that even he was unaware of.

However...

The way the Heavenly Emperor cultivated, wasn't it a bit too...

Although Dual Cultivation is considered a legitimate cultivation method in the Cultivation World, it should never become the primary practice. Yet the Heavenly Emperor regarded this method as the primary one.

Wouldn't this cause any problems in the future?

Mu Qinglan still felt a hint of worry in her heart...

Seeing that Mu Qinglan had broken through, Lu Chen raised his hand, gently caressing Mu Qinglan's jade cheek, and smilingly said, "Lan'er, congratulations on your breakthrough."

Mu Qinglan came back to her senses and quickly said, "Thank Your Majesty for granting me this opportunity."

Lu Chen said, "Your breakthrough is due to your own efforts. It has little to do with me."

Having said that, Lu Chen held Mu Qinglan's waist and then flipped over, turning Mu Qinglan underneath him.

Gazing down at Mu Qinglan, he said, "Lan'er, a breakthrough in Cultivation State is indeed a joyous occasion and should be celebrated."

Seeing Lu Chen's fervent gaze, Mu Qinglan instantly understood his intentions. Her face blushed as she softly "Mhm"ed, then she started to circulate her Mysterious Female Technique, relaxing her body.

Upon seeing Mu Qinglan release herself, Lu Chen no longer hesitated and continued with his business.

Mu Qinglan was the first Female Saint that he had conquered, which made him somewhat reluctant to part with her. Seeing Lu Chen's ferocity, Mu Qinglan felt no discontent; instead, she took it as an honor that she could drive the Heavenly Emperor to such madness.

After all, being a Saint, her capacity for endurance was incomparable to that of Lu Chen's other wives and concubines.

Later, Lu Chen aided Mu Qinglan in her cultivation for half a month, assisting her in stabilizing her Realm, before finally letting her go.

Meanwhile.

Canghai Sect.

Liu Tingzhang was in closed-door cultivation within a secret chamber when suddenly, he felt a profound surge of Spiritual Power emanating from the forbidden area behind the mountain of his Sect, causing him to abruptly open his eyes.

This is...

His heart leapt with elation; clearly, the Supreme Elder had made a breakthrough.

Without a moment's hesitation, Liu Tingzhang left the secret chamber and flew on his sword towards the forbidden area behind the mountain.

At this time, the Inner Sect Elders of the Canghai Sect had also gathered at the forbidden area behind the mountain. Upon arriving, Liu Tingzhang paid his respects towards the cave dwelling within the forbidden area and said, "Congratulations to my Master Uncle on your breakthrough!"

There was no immediate response from within the cave dwelling as the bountiful Spiritual Power began to rapidly retract. Once the overflowing Spiritual Power had been fully retracted, an elder's voice finally came out from within the cave dwelling.

"Hmm, has anything significant occurred within Canghai Sect during the time I was in retreat?"

Liu Tingzhang replied, "Nothing of great importance, but there is one matter that I believe Master Uncle will find very interesting."

Hearing Liu Tingzhang's words, the next moment an elder emerged from the cave dwelling. Dressed in a white Daoist robe, with white hair and beard, the whole person embodied an immortal Daoist charm and seemed exceedingly kind and harmonious.

Upon exiting the cave dwelling, Jiang Tianrui surveyed the assembled Canghai Sect's high-ranking members, and they collectively paid their respects, saying, "We welcome the Supreme Elder ending his retreat!"

Jiang Tianrui waved his hand, “Those of you without important matters to attend to, please leave. I have important matters to discuss with the Sect Master.”

Upon hearing this, the other high-ranking members of Canghai Sect quickly left the forbidden area behind the mountain, and soon only Liu Tingzhang and Jiang Tianrui remained.

Jiang Tianrui then asked, “May I know what matter my Disciple Nephew wishes to discuss?”

Liu Tingzhang answered, “We have discovered a Star Domain that has been erased from the Star Map.”

Liu Tingzhang did not directly mention having found the Great Emperor’s Tomb; after all, he had not personally visited the Tianchen World and could not verify the existence of the Great Emperor’s Tomb.

Before verifying that the Great Emperor’s Tomb truly existed, he could not assert to Jiang Tianrui that there was indeed such a tomb out there. What if there was no Great Emperor’s Tomb at that place? That would be causing Jiang Tianrui to make a wasted trip.

Curious, Jiang Tianrui asked, “A Star Domain erased from the Star Map? What do you mean by that?”

Liu Tingzhang continued, “We stumbled upon a new Star Domain near the Imperial Mountain Star Region, but none of the powers within the Imperial Mountain Star Region have this Star Domain on their maps.”

Having said this, Jiang Tianrui instantly realized that there was an issue with this Star Domain.

The Imperial Mountain Star Region had existed for God knows how many years now, and people had long explored the areas around it. Logically, there should not be any unknown Star Domains left.

Moreover, even if one power was unaware of it, it’s impossible for all the powers within the vast Imperial Mountain Star Region to have missed the existence of that Star Domain, right?

Chapter 1224: Canghai Sect Disturbance Jiang Tianrui thought for a moment, then asked, “Is there life in this Star Domain?”

Liu Tingzhang replied, “This Star Domain is just a Barbaric Star Domain. Although there are Life Worlds, they are mostly low-level worlds. However, our people discovered Cultivators with the strength of Saints there.”

Jiang Tianrui fell into thought again. There were Cultivators of the Saint Realm in a Barbaric Star Domain—this implied that there might be treasures hidden within.

The key point was that someone had erased this Star Domain from the Star Map, further indicating something unusual about this place.

Jiang Tianrui regained his composure and said, “Tell me everything about how you discovered this Star Domain.”

“Yes, Master Uncle.”

Then Liu Tingzhang recounted the entire process of discovering the Chaotic Star Sea to Jiang Tianrui, mentioning the Great Emperor’s Tomb, which made Jiang Tianrui slightly furrow his brow.

If it were as Liu Tingzhang described, even if there were no Great Emperor’s Tomb, there might still be treasures in the Chaotic Star Sea.

After Liu Tingzhang finished recounting how they found the Chaotic Star Sea, Jiang Tianrui asked, “Have other forces discovered the existence of the Chaotic Star Sea?”

Liu Tingzhang replied, “We occasionally send people to explore the vicinity of the Chaotic Star Sea, and so far, no other forces have entered.”

Liu Tingzhang originally intended to continuously keep watch near the Chaotic Star Sea, but then he thought if he did so, it might arouse the suspicions of other forces.

Think about it, a major force sending Immortal Boats to guard a spot in the void for no apparent reason—no one would believe there was nothing there.

Therefore, Liu Tingzhang occasionally let the Canghai Sect’s Immortal Boats pretend to pass by the outskirts of the Chaotic Star Sea, occasionally monitoring whether other forces entered.

The downside of this approach was that if other forces entered the Chaotic Star Sea without their knowledge, they might not even realize it.

Indeed, the Skyfire World had already sent more than a dozen Immortal Boats into the Chaotic Star Sea, and the Canghai Sect's people were unaware.

Jiang Tianrui was silent for a moment, then said, "Bring those Elders who have entered the Chaotic Star Sea to see me."

Jiang Tianrui wanted to learn more about the Chaotic Star Sea, especially about the Cultivator there with strength nearing that of a Saint.

For a place like the Chaotic Star Sea, he was definitely going to explore, but he needed to be prepared before entering.

If the Chaotic Star Sea indeed contained a Great Emperor's Tomb, it would propel the Canghai Sect to new heights—Jiang Tianrui would not let this opportunity slip away.

Liu Tingzhang said, "Yes, I will call them to the Meeting Hall right away."

Liu Tingzhang then left the forbidden area behind the mountain and soon brought Zou Feiang and others to the Meeting Hall, where Jiang Tianrui was already waiting.

Seeing the Supreme Elder in the hall, Zou Feiang and the others were very nervous. At that moment, Jiang Tianrui calmly asked, "Tell me everything you saw after entering the Chaotic Star Sea."

Zou Feiang quickly replied, “Yes, Jiang Taishang.”

Then Zou Feiang and the others detailed their encounters in the Chaotic Star Sea to Jiang Tianrui. After hearing their report, Jiang Tianrui was even more convinced that there were treasures in the Chaotic Star Sea.

Since there were treasures, it was worth his personal visit, but...

If he blindly entered the Chaotic Star Sea and the opponent’s strength surpassed his own, not only would he miss out on obtaining any treasure, but he might also risk losing an avatar.

A Saint can condense three avatars, each possessing equal strength, but if one avatar perishes, it similarly impacts the strength of the other avatars.

After hearing the words of Zou Feiang and others, Jiang Tianrui speculated that the so-called Saint was likely just newly advanced to the Saint Realm. If it was a cultivator who had just become a Saint, it wouldn’t pose much of a threat to him, a cultivator of the Saint Realm Second Layer.

Thinking this, Jiang Tianrui said to Liu Tingzhang, “Prepare, we will head to the Chaotic Star Sea in one month.”

Hearing Jiang Tianrui’s words, Liu Tingzhang was very pleased; he believed that with Jiang Tianrui, a Saint, the treasures of the Chaotic Star Sea were easily within their grasp.

Subsequently, Liu Tingzhang recalled the disciples under training and the Elders who were out.

The sudden call back of the Canghai Sect's disciples and Elders aroused suspicion among some forces; under normal circumstances, a power would not recall its disciples and Elders executing tasks outside unless it faced some crisis.

Canghai Sect, being a subordinate power of the Imperial Mountain Quasi-Emperor, did not have any force dare to harm them in the entire Imperial Mountain Domain. What crisis could the Canghai Sect possibly have?

Soon, various forces received the news that the Supreme Elder of Canghai Sect had come out of seclusion, and this piqued people's curiosity even more.

The Supreme Elder of Canghai Sect just emerged from seclusion, and then immediately recalled the disciples and Elders; this looked like they encountered some issue.

For a time, many forces sent people to Canghai Sect to investigate, wanting to know what Canghai Sect was up to.

To avoid arousing further suspicion, Canghai Sect declared publicly that the Supreme Elder had made a breakthrough; therefore, they planned to hold a grand sect celebration.

Hearing that Canghai Sect was going to hold a sect gathering, major powers suddenly realized, so it was for the sect gathering; they thought something significant had happened in the Canghai Sect.

This made various powers somewhat disdainful of Canghai Sect. The Supreme Elder of Canghai Sect was only at the Saint One Layer, and even if he had advanced, it would be just to Saint Second Layer. Was a sect gathering necessary for Saint Second Layer?

If it were Saint Fifth Realm, holding a sect gathering might seem justified since reaching the Saint Fifth Realm involves a significant increase in power; but before reaching Saint Fifth Realm, even if your power increases, the increase is not substantial.

However, despite despising Canghai Sect's extravagant arrangements, many forces from the Imperial Mountain Domain still brought gifts to attend the Canghai Sect's grand sect celebration.

Skyfire World.

Skyfire Dynasty, Imperial Palace.

Mu Zhengqing looked at the intelligence in his hands, frowning slightly as if contemplating something.

The intelligence he held was regarding Canghai Sect's grand sect celebration; seeing that Canghai Sect was doing such, Mu Zhengqing immediately felt something was amiss.

It was merely a breakthrough to the Saint Realm Second Layer, there was clearly no need for such fanfare.

Obviously, Canghai Sect intended to use the sect gathering to cover up something; the sect definitely planned some action.

After thinking, Mu Zhengqing immediately went to his desk and wrote a letter to Lu Chen.

The Heavenly Emperor had always ordered him to keep watch over Canghai Sect. Now that Canghai Sect was making moves, this information naturally had to reach the Heavenly Emperor; perhaps the sect gathering of Canghai Sect was related to the Heavenly Emperor.

After finishing the letter, Mu Zhengqing immediately had someone send it to Tianchen World.

Upon receiving the letter from Mu Zhengqing, Lu Chen almost guessed what Canghai Sect was planning to do next.

This gave Lu Chen a strong sense of crisis. He was not afraid of that Saint from Canghai Sect; what worried him was the series of troubles that might follow after dealing with that Saint.

Chapter 1225: Heavenly Emperor Definitely Has a Way! Mu Qinglan possesses the Cultivation State of Saint Fifth Realm, while the Supreme Elder of Canghai Sect is only at the Saint Realm Second Layer. It is very likely that the Supreme Elder of Canghai Sect is no match for Mu Qinglan.

But if that Supreme Elder of Canghai Sect is dealt with, then people from Canghai Sect will disclose matters related to the Chaotic Star Sea and reveal the existence of the Tianchen World, surely attracting more forces and powerful entities to the Chaotic Star Sea.

In case the existence of the Tianchen World is learned by the Imperial Mountain Quasi-Emperor and he leaves seclusion early to come to the Chaotic Star Sea, then they might only have the option to flee.

At this moment, Lu Chen's face was extremely serious. After much consideration, Lu Chen could not think of a good solution, and he didn't want to continue feeling anxious.

If the Imperial Mountain Quasi-Emperor really leaves seclusion early and comes to the Tianchen World, and they are no match for him, then he would simply take his people and leave the Chaotic Star Sea.

Thinking more about it now is useless; after all, he cannot prevent the Canghai Sect from coming, and once they arrive in the Chaotic Star Sea, a confrontation is inevitable.

As the Emperor of the Daxia Dynasty, he surely cannot just watch Canghai Sect invade the Chaotic Star Sea.

Even if the opponent is a Saint, they must take action; there can be no compromise.

Meeting force with force and stemming water with earth, Lu Chen planned to make preparations in advance.

He then transmitted a message to Mu Qinglan, and the next moment, Mu Qinglan clad in blue garments, appeared in the Imperial Study Room.

Mu Qinglan exuded a faint Dao Charm, her hair piled high up, and after having done that sort of thing with Lu Chen, she became more enchantingly graceful.

Seeing Lu Chen staring straight at her body, a hint of shyness couldn't help but appear on Mu Qinglan's cold face.

“Your Majesty, are you looking for me for something?”

When Lu Chen transmitted a message to her, she thought Lu Chen might ask her to restrain him with the Mysterious Female Technique, but once she arrived and saw it was the Imperial Study Room, she realized that Lu Chen must have something serious to discuss.

Lu Chen directly handed her a letter, which Mu Qinglan took and quickly scanned its contents, slightly startled by what she read.

Then Mu Qinglan asked, “Your Majesty, do you suspect that Canghai Sect is planning to attack the Daxia Dynasty?”

Lu Chen responded, “It is highly plausible, we need to make preparations in advance.”

Mu Qinglan thought for a moment, if, as the information says, Canghai Sect only has a single power at the Saint Realm Second Layer, then as long as she is there, Canghai would not pose any threat.

However, the actual threat comes not from the Canghai Sect alone but from Canghai Sect revealing the existence of the Tianchen World to other forces.

If other forces in the Imperial Mountain Star Region learn of the existence of an unmarked star domain nearby, people would definitely think some secret is hidden there and thus send individuals to investigate.

Mu Qinglan said, “Should we now head to the Thousand Ren World?”

Lu Chen thought for a moment, “Let’s wait a bit; I still have some matters to arrange.”

Even if Canghai Sect is intending to come to the Chaotic Star Sea, they won’t be able to arrive in just a day or two, and Lu Chen planned to use the coming time to arrange some matters.

As Lu Chen finished speaking, he got up from his seat and then had Lu Changfeng issue a decree, preparing to convene a Cultivator’s Assembly.

The Cultivator’s Assembly nowadays is not limited to one world; whenever a Cultivator’s Assembly is held, the cultivation forces of the Chaotic Star Sea all attend, naturally only the stronger forces participate.

After the decree from the Daxia Dynasty was issued, the upper echelons of the major forces in the Chaotic Star Sea headed to Black Dragon City.

Upon hearing that this Cultivator’s Assembly was personally chaired by the Heavenly Emperor, people guessed that something was bound to happen in the Daxia Dynasty once again.

Each time the Heavenly Emperor personally chairs the Cultivator’s Assembly, there must be a very important matter, most likely involving the invasion of external enemies.

Three days later, the Cultivators' Conference was convened in the council hall of Black Dragon City. The high-ranking members of various forces were seated below, quietly waiting for Lu Chen on the Dragon Throne to speak.

Lu Chen glanced at the cultivators in the hall and then began, "This Cultivators' Conference is convened mainly for one thing—that an enemy is about to invade the Chaotic Star Sea, and that force is a major sect with cultivators of the Saint Realm."

Upon hearing this, the hall immediately erupted into chaos.

"An invasion is indeed happening!"

"My god, cultivators of the Saint Realm! Isn't the Chaotic Star Sea doomed then?"

"What should we do now? We are surely no match for a Saint."

"Why are you panicking? The Heavenly Emperor definitely has a plan!"

"But that's a Saint. Isn't the Heavenly Emperor not yet a Saint?"

...

Listening to the various comments in the hall, Lu Chen did not interrupt and let them discuss freely.

For Lu Chen, every crisis in the Daxia Dynasty was an opportunity to consolidate internally.

As long as there was a crisis, there would be some forces within the Daxia Dynasty desiring to betray. By eliminating these forces with treacherous intentions, those that remain would be loyal to the Daxia Dynasty.

After several purifications one after another, those who remained were the staunch supporters of the Daxia Dynasty.

The reason Lu Chen convened the Cultivators' Conference every time a crisis arose was partly to let these people know what was happening within the Daxia Dynasty, to create a sense of urgency, and also to see if he could draw out those harboring ulterior motives by utilizing the crisis.

If it were just about handling this crisis alone, Mu Qinglan alone would be enough; it wouldn't be necessary to inform these people.

But if this was done every time, and he personally resolved every crisis, these people would become oblivious to the sense of crisis in the future.

These people might even start thinking that as long as the Daxia Dynasty had the Heavenly Emperor, other matters were irrelevant to them.

What Lu Chen needed to do was to instill a sense of responsibility in them, to let them understand that they were bound together with the Daxia Dynasty.

After an unknown amount of time, the council hall gradually quieted down. At that moment, people realized the Heavenly Emperor was sitting calmly on the Dragon Throne, seemingly unconcerned about the crisis.

People couldn't help but wonder, could it be that the Heavenly Emperor had already broken through to the Saint Realm? Was that why he was so calm?

Just then, a cultivator boldly asked, "Your Majesty, may I ask what realm you are currently in?"

The Cultivators' Conference emphasized free speech, which was always Lu Chen's principle. He was unconcerned about such direct inquiries about his realm and replied lightly, "Guixu Realm Eighth Layer."

Hearing this, the council hall buzzed with discussions once again.

Now the situation was truly troublesome. With the Heavenly Emperor only at the Guixu Realm level, how could they possibly confront cultivators of the Saint Realm?

Could it be that the Daxia Dynasty was going to fall so soon?

The Daxia Dynasty wasn't even a hundred years old; it couldn't be destroyed so swiftly.

While some were distressed, others rejoiced. The Heavenly Emperor had always been suppressing the development of various forces, and the existence of the Daxia Dynasty was not beneficial for many cultivation forces.

Now that the Daxia Dynasty was facing destruction, it also heralded a new dawn for those forces.

Chapter 1226: Mu Qinglan's Confusion

Lu Chen's gaze swept across the council hall, analyzing the changes in everyone's expressions.

He could tell that quite a few people were already entertaining the thought of defecting to the Canghai Sect, and he didn't care at all.

He had already planted members of the Brocade Guard in all major forces. Should these forces make any unusual moves, he would immediately be able to detect them and deal with them accordingly.

It took a long time for the council hall to gradually settle down. Seeing that no one else spoke up, Lu Chen finally opened his mouth and said, "This time, the enemy is very strong, but I will never let them enter the Chaotic Star Sea."

"The Chaotic Star Sea is our common home; I believe you also do not wish to see these enemies destroy our home."

Upon hearing Lu Chen's words, some people almost laughed. In their view, it hardly mattered who the ruler was.

They would stand on the side of whoever won.

They believed that if they connected with the forces invading the Chaotic Star Sea early enough, those forces would not trouble them later.

Even though some were already thinking of betrayal, they still presented themselves as if they would live and die together with the Daxia Dynasty.

“Please rest assured, Your Majesty, our Star Fire Sect will do our utmost to resist the invasion of external forces!”

“Our Heaven and Earth Sect is at Your Majesty’s disposal for any command!”

“Our Cold Moon Sect entirely follows Your Majesty’s orders!”

...

Soon, the entire council hall was filled with high-ranking figures from all major forces pledging their loyalty, regardless of what they truly thought. In such times, it was necessary to say nice things.

The forces invading the Chaotic Star Sea had not yet arrived; revealing any opposition against the Daxia Dynasty too early would mean being quelled without having made any impact.

Seeing some of the high-ranking figures clearly demonstrating grand righteousness while actually having zero Loyalty, Lu Chen felt like laughing.

After a while, Lu Chen said, “I trust in everyone’s Loyalty. To resist the invasion of external enemies effectively this time, I plan to further integrate the disciples from various forces into the War Dragon Army of the Daxia Dynasty for unified arrangement.”

Upon hearing this, the eyebrows of the high-ranking figures from various forces in the hall furrowed. To integrate their disciples into the War Dragon Army of the Daxia Dynasty?

What a joke. If their disciples joined the War Dragon Army of the Daxia Dynasty as soldiers, would they ever return?

Now, who doesn’t know that the army of the Daxia Dynasty has exceptionally good treatment, far surpassing that of Sect forces.

Although people were reluctant internally, with the Sum Emperor using the invasion as an excuse, it was difficult for the forces to object. They had just pledged their loyalty and agreed to the Heavenly Emperor’s arrangements. If they opposed so quickly, wouldn’t that prove their insincerity?

However, it didn’t take long for others to think that integrating their disciples into the War Dragon Army might allow them to access secret weapons from the Daxia Dynasty through their people.

Weapons like the Fire God Gun and Fire God Cannon’s existence were already known to all major forces, but the Daxia Dynasty kept tight control, and only the military could access them.

Various major forces had long been trying to obtain the manufacturing methods of the Fire God Gun and the Fire God Cannon, but eventually, they all failed.

Now, the Daxia Dynasty is taking the initiative to incorporate the disciples of these major forces into the War Dragon Army, essentially giving them an opportunity to obtain the Fire God Gun and Fire God Cannon.

These are weapons that can easily defeat higher-ranked enemies; who wouldn't want such weapons?

In the eyes of the forces who wanted to betray the Daxia Dynasty, if they could acquire the Rune Weapons of the Daxia Dynasty, they would not only have the means to oppose the Daxia Dynasty, but they would also be able to present the Rune Weapons as a tribute to the force about to invade the Chaotic Star Sea.

They believe that once that force acquires the Rune Weapons of the Daxia Dynasty, even if they do not end up supporting them, they would not trouble them.

Seeing that the Loyalty of some people in the hall was rapidly declining, with some even plummeting to negative values, Lu Chen guessed what they were thinking.

Lu Chen merely smiled faintly; these people's schemes rang loud and clear in their minds, but unfortunately, their planning was destined to fail.

Thereafter, Lu Chen made some other arrangements. The Cultivators' Conference ended rather quickly, lasting only four hours without even a full day.

When the Cultivators' Conference concluded, the Daxia Dynasty immediately issued a declaration that foreign enemies were about to invade.

Although Lu Chen had recovered his memories of Earth, some of his ideas still differed from the mainstream thoughts on Earth.

Perhaps to some Earthlings, if a country faced a crisis, it shouldn't be widely known to avoid potentially causing panic or even causing internal collapse before the crisis itself arrives.

However, Lu Chen thought quite the opposite; he believed that no matter the crisis, the public should be informed. Only by letting people know that they are constantly in danger, can their sense of crisis and ownership be fostered.

Moreover, experiencing some minor crises early on could temper people's resolve, so that when a major crisis occurs, both individuals and the entire Empire would have some resistance.

If everything were smooth sailing without the public knowing what was happening, should anything occur, people would feel it distant and unrelated to them.

After the Cultivators' Conference, Lu Chen returned to the Imperial Study Room and began reviewing the development reports of various Sects submitted by the major forces.

Since all forces in the Chaotic Star Sea were now under the rule of the Daxia Dynasty, they needed to submit their respective Sects' development reports of recent years whenever the Cultivators' Conference was convened, allowing the Heavenly Emperor to understand their progress.

Of course, some forces might choose to conceal certain things, but with the Brocade Guard present, no matter how they tried to hide, the truth would eventually be uncovered.

As Lu Chen was examining the various Sects' development reports, Mu Qinglan appeared beside him and curiously asked, "Your Majesty, you are directly informing them about the invasion by foreign enemies, are you not worried about causing panic? Perhaps some might even choose to contact Canghai Sect in advance."

Mu Qinglan was somewhat puzzled by Lu Chen's approach; if it were her, she would simply deal with the Canghai Sect quietly, since, with her abilities, handling this crisis was not difficult.

Most importantly, the Canghai Sect might likely send a Saint this time. With a Saint being present, the powers of the Daxia Dynasty wouldn't be of much help, making it even less necessary to inform them about the Canghai Sect.

Informing those forces, apart from causing panic, seems to have no positive effect.

Hearing Mu Qinglan's words, Lu Chen, while flipping through the development reports, smiled and said, "If any forces dare to do so, it would actually be a good thing for the Daxia Dynasty."

This...

Mu Qinglan seemed to understand something; the Heavenly Emperor was planning to use this crisis to cleanse the Daxia Dynasty of its restless internal forces.

Chapter 1227: The Choice of the Wind-controlling Sect

The Cultivator's Conference had just ended when the Daxia Dynasty's official reports immediately released news of the foreign invasion, and within a few days, all worlds under the rule of the Daxia Dynasty were aware of the impending invasion by a Saint Realm power from the Chaotic Star Sea.

After the news was released, it indeed caused unrest among the citizens of the Daxia Dynasty, especially since the newspapers also mentioned that the Heavenly Emperor only possessed the strength of the Returning Ruin Realm and was absolutely no match for a Saint Realm power.

In an instant, the people were in a state of panic, and some forces began to scheme their next moves.

In the Tianchen World.

Wind-controlling Sect.

Inside the Sect Master's hall, several Elders were engaged in animated discussions, their expressions filled with excitement as if they had encountered some joyous event.

At that moment, the Sect Master, Xu Nianshuo, sitting atop the hall, spoke, "What are your thoughts on this matter?"

As his words fell, Xu Nianshuo swept his gaze across the crowd.

They were naturally discussing the matter of betraying the Daxia Dynasty.

When Xu Nianshuo heard that a Saint Realm powerhouse was about to invade the Chaotic Star Sea, his first thought was to betray the Daxia Dynasty and pledge allegiance to that Saint.

However, even though Xu Nianshuo was the Sect Master of the Wind-controlling Sect and could decide on various matters of the sect, he did not immediately declare his allegiance to the Saint primarily because the Daxia Dynasty had too much influence over the cultivators within the Chaotic Star Sea.

Even within the Wind-controlling Sect, many were influenced by the Daxia Dynasty; if he directly told these Elders about betraying the Daxia Dynasty, it was unpredictable whether some of them would immediately report the betrayal of the Wind-controlling Sect to the Daxia Imperial Court.

If they were to betray the Daxia Dynasty, Xu Nianshuo had to be careful; his primary reason for initiating the discussion was to see what the stances of these Elders regarding betraying the Daxia Dynasty were.

He wanted to test the waters first; if any of them opposed, he would find a way to discreetly deal with those opposed to avoid trouble later.

At this moment, an Elder stood out and said, "Sect Master, this is the best opportunity for us to break free from the Daxia Dynasty; we must seize this chance!"

Another Elder echoed, "Yes, Sect Master, the Heavenly Emperor is definitely no match for a Saint. If we pledge loyalty to that Saint earlier, perhaps there may be a path of survival for

us. If we're too late, that Saint might treat us as the Heavenly Emperor's subsidiary forces and annihilate us together."

Following that, the Elders in the hall unanimously agreed, hoping to quickly pledge allegiance to the Saint who was about to invade the Chaotic Star Sea.

Seeing the reactions of these Elders, Xu Nianshuo felt extremely satisfied; as long as these Elders were on his side, there would be no problems.

However...

At this moment, Xu Nianshuo's gaze fell on the Elder Yu Changqin of the Wind-controlling Sect.

While the other Elders all spoke out and took their positions, Elder Yu Changqin, Zhang Yidong, remained silent, seemingly pondering something.

Seeing Zhang Yidong delaying his response, Xu Nianshuo's brow slightly furrowed; Zhang Yidong was the Wind-controlling Sect's second in command and often opposed Xu Nianshuo, the Sect Master, due to his status as Elder Yu Changqin.

For the other Elders, Xu Nianshuo felt quite reassured, but regarding Zhang Yidong, Xu Nianshuo felt somewhat uneasy; Zhang Yidong was an unstable factor.

He thought to himself, if Zhang Yidong was unwilling to join them, then there might be some trouble.

Zhang Yidong was able to become the Elder Yu Changqin of the Wind-controlling Sect not only because of his strong influence but also because he had some methods; many within the Wind-controlling Sect stood by Zhang Yidong.

Attempting to move against Zhang Yidong would inevitably lead to significant turmoil, and if it caused too much commotion, it might draw the attention of the Daxia Dynasty.

Xu Nianshuo then asked, "What are your thoughts, junior brother?"

At that moment, Zhang Yidong came back to his senses and said indifferently, "If there really are cultivators from the Saint Realm entering the Chaotic Star Sea, then the Daxia Dynasty is indeed not far from destruction. But brother, have you thought about how we can make contact with that Saint in advance?"

"The Heavenly Emperor only mentioned that a force is about to invade the Chaotic Star Sea, but we know nothing about where this force comes from or what kind of force it is. How can we connect with them?"

Seeing that Zhang Yidong was not against allying with that Saint, Xu Nianshuo breathed a sigh of relief; he temporarily did not want to clash with Zhang Yidong, especially not at this juncture.

Since Zhang Yidong also agreed to ally with that Saint, things would be much easier. Xu Nianshuo then said, "Junior brother need not worry. As long as we propose to the Heavenly Emperor in advance that we want to station ourselves in the Thousand Ren World, when our people patrol the edges of the Chaotic Star Sea, we naturally might encounter that force's scouts."

In Xu Nianshuo's view, since the opposing force was planning on invading the Chaotic Star Sea, they would certainly send some scouts to explore the situation in the Chaotic Star Sea.

If they guarded the edges of the Chaotic Star Sea, would they still fear not encountering that force's scouts?

After thinking for a moment, Zhang Yidong said, "Brother's method is feasible; let's proceed according to your plan."

Seeing Zhang Yidong agreeing, the corners of Xu Nianshuo's mouth slightly raised, and he then said, "Since you all have decided, I will immediately write an application letter to the Cultivator Association."

The Cultivator Association also belonged to the Daxia Imperial Court and was specifically responsible for managing Sect forces. Any matters concerning Sect forces could be directly addressed to the Cultivator Association.

Xu Nianshuo wanted to send Sect disciples to station in the Thousand Ren World and also needed to submit an application letter to the Cultivator Association.

After the Sect discussion ended, Zhang Yidong returned to his mountain. At that time, an Inner Sect Elder came to Zhang Yidong's cave dwelling.

"Elder Yu Changqin, do you really plan to ally with that Saint?"

The visitor was one of Zhang Yidong's confidants, a cultivator from Zhang Yidong's faction. He also participated in the Sect discussion, and although he outwardly agreed to ally with that so-called Saint, he felt somewhat unsure about this.

If the force invading the Chaotic Star Sea really had a powerful figure from the Saint Realm, it must be an extremely strong force overall.

If the opposing side was really powerful, how could they possibly be interested in a small force from the Barbaric Star Domain? Their Wind-controlling Sect might not even have any use value.

Of course, that was not the most crucial point.

After hearing Gao Jinming's words, Zhang Yidong said indifferently, "Whether there is such a so-called Saint is uncertain, and Xu Nianshuo is so keen on becoming someone else's dog, he may not even know how he dies in the end."

Upon hearing Zhang Yidong's words, Gao Jinming was slightly startled.

Zhang Yidong continued, "The Wind-controlling Sect has been under the rule of the Daxia Dynasty for so many years, yet Xu Nianshuo has still not realized what kind of person the Heavenly Emperor is. He even thinks of opposing the Heavenly Emperor."

Zhang Yidong simply did not believe that this was any sort of crisis. Over the years, the Daxia Dynasty would occasionally show some flaws, making people think there was an opportunity to exploit, but in the end, those forces that took advantage of the situation would be settled.

Gao Jinming then asked, “But what if there really is a powerful figure from the Saint Realm invading the Chaotic Star Sea?”

Zhang Yidong chuckled and said, “Even if there really is a powerful Saint invading the Chaotic Star Sea, it is highly likely that they are no match for the Heavenly Emperor; otherwise, the Heavenly Emperor wouldn’t have been so calm during the Cultivator Convention.”

Chapter 1228: Probably Not Acting Alone

After hearing Zhang Yidong’s words, Gao Jinming sighed in relief. His thoughts were actually the same as Zhang Yidong’s.

The reason he had agreed with Sect Master Xu Nianshuo’s ideas during the Sect deliberations was that he did not want to become an outlier in the Sect, especially since the other Elders were supporting the Sect Master. If he objected at that time, it was very likely to displease the Sect Master.

Zhang Yidong then continued: “Xu Nianshuo’s summoning of the Elders for discussion today is most likely an attempt to test the attitudes of the Elders. If anyone opposes him, he will certainly take action against those individuals.”

Hearing this, Gao Jinming was startled and felt somewhat relieved that he had not sung a different tune from the Sect Master, otherwise, he might not have lived much longer.

Then, Gao Jinming asked, “Elder Yu Changqin, what should we do next?”

“If the Sect Master is really conspiring secretly with the forces invading the Chaotic Star Sea, and if the Daxia Dynasty discovers this, I’m afraid everyone from the Wind-controlling Sect will be implicated.”

Zhang Yidong pondered for a moment before saying, “If the Sect Master’s request is approved, then when the time comes, you’ll lead the team to the Thousand Ren World to stand guard. Try to gather as much intelligence as possible about the invading forces. As for the rest, I will figure something out.”

Gao Jinming replied, “I understand.”

A few days later, the Wind-controlling Sect’s request was approved, and the Sect dispatched four Elders and over a thousand disciples to stand guard in the Thousand Ren World.

However, as soon as the disciples of the Wind-controlling Sect arrived in the Thousand Ren World, they were forced to be completely dispersed and assigned among the various War Dragon Army legions, and the Elders were scattered as well.

Not only the Wind-controlling Sect but also the disciples from other Sects and clan forces were treated the same. During the Cultivators’ Convention, the Heavenly Emperor had already mentioned integrating the disciples of all forces. Although there was dissatisfaction among the major powers, none expressed it outwardly.

Some powers were still counting on their Sect’s members obtaining the Fire God Gun and Fire God Cannon.

After staying in Tianchen World for a few more days and feeling that it was about time, Lu Chen prepared to head for the Thousand Ren World.

As Lu Chen was about to leave, a voice arose outside Lin Wanyun's sleeping chamber, "Your Majesty, the Brocade Guard has delivered quite a bit of intelligence regarding the major Sects?"

Hearing this, Lu Chen smiled and caressed Lin Wanyun's cheek, "Wanyun, it seems I need to get busy. When I return, let's continue."

At these words, the beautiful lady's cheeks instantly flushed hotter, and she then calmed her Mysterious Female Technique, relaxing her entire body.

Lu Chen withdrew and with a casual wave, donned a suit of white gold clothes.

Lin Wanyun hastened to say, "I bid Your Majesty farewell!"

After Lin Wanyun finished speaking, Lu Chen arrived at his Imperial Study Room.

Now there were two Imperial Study Rooms in the Imperial Palace, one where Lu Changfeng handled government affairs, and the other was Lu Chen's.

Lu Chen's Imperial Study Room did not contain materials related to government affairs, instead mostly holding intelligence files.

Upon entering the Imperial Study Room, a Commander of the Brocade Guard immediately reported to Lu Chen about the recent movements of the various Sect powers.

Lu Chen listened to the Commander's report while flipping through the files on the desk.

Seeing the content of the files, Lu Chen merely smiled faintly. The Daxia Dynasty had been established for so many years, yet these Sect powers were still restless. Even before the Canghai Sect had entered the Chaotic Star Sea, those powers were already thinking about proactively making contact with the Canghai Sect.

In order to connect with the Canghai Sect, they even stationed Sect disciples and Elders in the Thousand Ren World.

Lu Chen was not angered by these little maneuvers of the Sect powers; he had anticipated such events occurring long ago.

At this moment, Lu Chen spoke to the Commander of the Brocade Guard, "For now, don't make a move on them, just keep a close watch."

"Yes, Your Majesty."

"You may leave."

"Your subordinate takes his leave." As the Commander of the Brocade Guard's voice faded, he left the Imperial Study Room. It was at this moment that Lu Chen flipped to an interesting piece of intelligence.

The information indicated that an Elder of the Wind-controlling Sect seemed to be actively seeking out the Brocade Guard, appearing to have some matters they wished to report through the Brocade Guard.

Seeing this intelligence, Lu Chen faintly smiled. It seemed the Wind-controlling Sect also had its share of wise individuals.

Just then, Bai Qingqing's voice came from outside, "Your Majesty, a disciple of the Wind-controlling Sect requests an audience!"

Lu Chen was slightly taken aback; he had just read this piece of intelligence and did not expect the Elder of the Wind-controlling Sect to send someone so quickly. Lu Chen directly said, "Come in!"

The disciple from the Wind-controlling Sect entered the Imperial Study Room and immediately knelt down to salute, "Greetings to Heavenly Emperor!"

"Dispense with the formalities. Speak, what did your Elder send you here for?"

Upon hearing Lu Chen's voice, the disciple of the Wind-controlling Sect immediately shook with fear; he was a direct disciple of Zhang Yidong, and Zhang Yidong had already discussed their Sect's matters with him.

Just thinking that the Wind-controlling Sect was about to betray the Daxia Dynasty and that disaster was imminent filled his heart with dread.

Although Lu Chen had already told him to rise, Duanmu Zhi still knelt on the ground, not daring to stand up or lift his head.

“Your Majesty, my honored master sent me to inform Your Majesty that the Sect Master of the Wind-controlling Sect is obstinately determined to have the Wind-controlling Sect secretly side with the invaders of the Chaotic Star Sea.”

Hearing this, Lu Chen chuckled lightly, then said, “I’m afraid it’s not just an obstinate determination; as I understand it, almost all the Elders of your sect are in favor of siding with the Canghai Sect.”

Duanmu Zhi broke out in a cold sweat; he had not imagined that the Sum Emperor already knew about the Wind-controlling Sect’s affairs—just as his master had feared, this was a trap set by the Heavenly Emperor.

Fortunately, his master had seen through the Heavenly Emperor’s intentions. But now that the Sect Master of the Wind-controlling Sect had already made his choice, would the Heavenly Emperor still spare the Wind-controlling Sect?

Upon coming back to his senses, Duanmu Zhi immediately said, “Your Majesty, the majority of the Wind-controlling Sect’s members are loyal to Your Majesty. They are only intimidated by the aggressor’s threats, hence their failure to defy the aggressor’s orders. Please discern the truth, Your Majesty.”

Lu Chen said, “Alright, I am aware of this matter. Go back and tell your master that I am very clear about who is loyal and who is traitorous. Those who are loyal to the Daxia Dynasty will see ever better days, while those who betray the Daxia will soon meet their retribution.”

This...

Duanmu Zhi was unsure of how to interpret Lu Chen's stance, but now all he could do was return and relay Lu Chen's words to his master.

Immediately, Duanmu Zhi said, "Your humble subject will bear in mind the words of the Heavenly Emperor and now takes his leave."

As his words fell, Duanmu Zhi rose and left the Imperial Study Room, trembling all the while.

After Duanmu Zhi had left, Lu Chen collected all the intelligence inside the Imperial Study Room into the Space Ring and then directly transmitted his voice to Bai Qingqing and Mu Qinglan, "Bai, Lan'er, let's go to the Thousand Ren World now."

Having finished the transmission, Lu Chen's body moved to the teleportation gate, and Bai Qingqing and Mu Qinglan quickly followed suit.

When the two ladies arrived at the teleportation gate, Empress Tianhong was already waiting there. There was no need for Lu Chen to tell Empress Tianhong where he intended to go; she would follow of her own accord.

Seeing that all three ladies had arrived, Lu Chen no longer said anything further, directly activating the teleportation gate, and together, the four of them proceeded to the Thousand Ren World.

Chapter 1229: Impending Crisis

After arriving in the Thousand Ren World, Lu Chen did not go straight to the Imperial Palace to indulge in pleasure; instead, he first went to inspect the War Dragon Army that the Daxia Dynasty had recently integrated.

Upon Lu Chen's arrival at the barracks, two robust men clad in armor appeared before him, "Greetings, Heavenly Emperor!"

"Dispense with the formalities."

Lu Chen sized up the two generals in front of him; one was a cultivator from the Skyfire Clan, and the other was Lu Chen's brother-in-law, Xuanyuan Chen.

Since the resurgence of Spiritual Energy in the Tianchen World, Xuanyuan Chen's strength had improved very quickly, even faster than the Cultivation State advancement of Lu Chen's wives and concubines. He had already reached the Ninth Layer of the Yin-Yang Realm and was only one step away from breaking through to the Returning Ruin Realm.

Lu Chen even suspected that Xuanyuan Chen might also have a system. Judging from the Qi Fortune atop Xuanyuan Chen's head, Xuanyuan Chen truly was not an ordinary person; his Qi Fortune was much denser than that of average individuals.

Xuanyuan Chen spoke at this time: "Your Majesty, the disciples from those Sects are somewhat unruly, always coveting the Rune Weapons."

Hearing this, Lu Chen chuckled lightly; he had anticipated that those powers intended to use this opportunity to get their hands on the Fire God Gun and Fire God Cannon. So from the very beginning, he had not allowed Xuanyuan Chen to bring those Rune Weapons to the Thousand Ren World.

Lu Chen then said, "Let them covet. Until they are fully committed, do not let them touch the Rune Weapons."

Xuanyuan Chen replied, "As you command, Your Majesty."

Lu Chen continued, "Let's go, take me to see how well your new forces are training."

Xuanyuan Chen hastily stepped aside, "Please follow me, Your Majesty."

Xuanyuan Chen then led Lu Chen to the new recruits' barracks, and as soon as they saw the Heavenly Emperor, the training of the new soldiers immediately stopped, and they uniformly saluted Lu Chen.

"Greetings to the Heavenly Emperor!"

Lu Chen glanced over the soldiers present; the Loyalty of most of these soldiers was only between forty and fifty. While not considered low, that figure was not high either.

It was clear that those Sect disciples did not intend to stay in the Daxia Battle Dragon Army permanently, of course, Lu Chen did not expect all of them to stay.

The reason he had integrated disciples from various forces into the War Dragon Army was just to filter out those willing to become Daxia Soldiers.

After some time, Lu Chen would allow those who did not wish to join the War Dragon Army to leave.

However, by that time, Lu Chen believed many cultivators would be reluctant to leave. Compared to those Sect powers, Daxia Battle Dragon Army soldiers received more Cultivation resources, and the War Dragon Army also had a more complete promotion system.

Staying in the War Dragon Army held more prospects than staying with those Sect powers; Lu Chen was convinced that in the end, these Sect disciples would know how to choose.

After making his rounds, Lu Chen then departed from the barracks. Once Lu Chen had left, those Sect disciples started whispering among themselves.

“So that was the Heavenly Emperor, such an oppressive aura!”

“It’s said that the Heavenly Emperor is only one step away from becoming a Saint. If not for the enemy invasion, maybe the Heavenly Emperor could become a Saint after a decade or so of seclusion.”

“The Heavenly Emperor’s talent is terrifying indeed, I’ve heard he’s younger than all of us.”

...

Every time they thought of the Heavenly Emperor’s talent, those sect disciples felt incredibly envious. Those disciples tasked with guarding the Thousand Ren World were almost all significantly older than Lu Chen.

After decades, or even a century of cultivation, their own Cultivation State was still not even half that of the Heavenly Emperor's.

Listening to the private whispers of the soldiers, Xuanyuan Chen immediately said out loud, "The Heavenly Emperor is not someone you can gossip about!"

Chastised by Xuanyuan Chen in this way, the soldiers went silent in an instant. Xuanyuan Chen continued, "If you sincerely follow His Majesty the Heavenly Emperor, with the cultivation resources provided by the War Dragon Army, you could totally achieve His Majesty's current Realm in the future."

"Of course, the prerequisite is that you are truly loyal to His Majesty the Heavenly Emperor!"

"As for those who joined the War Dragon Army with ulterior motives, I must remind you to clearly understand what you're doing."

Warned by Xuanyuan Chen in this manner, some sect disciples began to have second thoughts. They thought that if the Heavenly Emperor's terrifying talent leads to a breakthrough before the enemy invasion and he defeats the forces invading from the Chaotic Star Sea, wouldn't the first thing to do be to purge traitors?

Lu Chen merely inspected the War Dragon Army barracks and already intimidated many sect disciples harboring ulterior motives.

Nevertheless, many still believed that no matter how high the Heavenly Emperor's talent might be, it was impossible for him to break through to the Saint Realm in a short period of time, and the fall of the Daxia Dynasty was just a matter of time; they had no reason to fear the Heavenly Emperor.

Lu Chen didn't care about what those sect disciples thought. At this stage, he was just consolidating those sect forces. He would neither let them come into contact with rune weapons nor would he allow them to directly participate in combat.

The reason he allowed them to stay in the Thousand Ren World was because he intended to let them witness how the Daxia Dynasty defeated the invaders.

Only by seeing the Daxia Dynasty's strength for themselves would those sect disciples become utterly devoted to the Daxia Dynasty.

Time quickly passed, and another half month was gone. Canghai Sect saw off those powers that had come to attend the sect's grand celebration, and Canghai Sect took this opportunity to blend their Immortal Boats in with the ones leaving.

In this way, even if other powers saw many Immortal Boats leaving Canghai Sect, they would just think that the people on these Immortal Boats had come to attend Canghai Sect's grand celebration.

The Sect Master of Canghai Sect and a group of Supreme Elders took advantage of this opportunity to head directly to the Chaotic Star Sea.

During Lu Chen's time in the Thousand Ren World, as usual, he spent most of his time cultivating with his wives and concubines, and of course, there was now Mu Qinglan.

Mu Qinglan had completely abandoned the idea of helping Lu Chen recover his spirit. She was herself immersed too deeply; how could she possibly persuade Lu Chen to recover his spirit?

Being uncheckedly treated by the man she deeply loved, Mu Qinglan found herself unable to stop, especially each time she used the Mysterious Female Technique to lock Lu Chen down, it gave her the thrilling sensation of having conquered the Heavenly Emperor. She found herself increasingly enjoying this pleasure.

Thousand Ren World.

Imperial Palace.

Lu Chen was in Mu Qinglan's room, assisting her with her cultivation, while Nangong Yuehua and Nangong Qingya were in the adjacent yard, seeking advice from Empress Tianhong on some cultivation issues.

The Nangong Sisters were very curious about the existence of Empress Tianhong. They had seen Empress Tianhong appear on the Feihong Immortal Boat before; this woman who was clearly an Artifact Spirit had now become a real person.

Lu Chen had not told them how Empress Tianhong became human, but he had told them that if they had any cultivation questions they didn't understand, they could ask Empress Tianhong.

Although Empress Tianhong didn't like being disturbed during her cultivation, later she thought that if she could repay some karma in this way, it was worth it. Hence, every time the Nangong Sisters asked her about cultivation, she would reply earnestly.

After Nangong Yuehua finished asking Empress Tianhong her question, she gave a saluting gesture with her hands and said, “Thank you, senior, for enlightening me!”

Empress Tianhong, with an expressionless face, said, “You have already been tainted with karma. No matter how you cultivate, until you have repaid this karma, you cannot leave that man.”

Chapter 1230: It Seems I Have Misunderstood You All

Empress Tianhong discovered that although the Nangong Sisters often indulged with Lu Chen, the sisters were also particularly diligent when cultivating.

Empress Tianhong had originally thought that their cultivation was aimed at liberating themselves from Lu Chen one day, thus they cultivated so desperately.

Therefore, she intentionally reminded them that no matter how much they cultivated, if they did not repay their karma, once their Cultivation State reached a certain level, advancing any further would be very difficult.

If they wanted to become stronger, or achieve the status of Emperor, they would need to repay their karma.

At this moment, Empress Tianhong looked at the two women again; both of them were wrapped in heavy karma, and these threads of karma were very thick, making it difficult to either break free or repay.

Hearing Empress Tianhong's reminder, the two women immediately understood that Empress Tianhong had misunderstood them. Their intense cultivation was not to break away from Lu Chen, but to stand before him with more confidence.

Nangong Yuehua promptly said, "Thank you for the reminder, senior, but this junior has never thought of leaving the Heavenly Emperor."

Empress Tianhong was slightly stunned; she did not expect Nangong Yuehua to say that.

Empress Tianhong then asked with a cold expression, "Are you cultivating so diligently just to free yourselves from that man?"

Nangong Qingya replied, "Senior, the reason we cultivate so diligently is because we do not want to be a burden to the Heavenly Emperor. His Majesty's Cultivation State is increasing so rapidly that if we do not work hard, we may eventually lose the qualifications to stand by his side."

This...

Empress Tianhong took another look at the two women, her gaze sweeping back and forth across the lines of karma, and then thought to herself that she really shouldn't have spoken unnecessarily.

Such thick lines of karma; these two women clearly can no longer leave that man, she really was worry for nothing.

Immediately, Empress Tianhong said expressionlessly, "It seems I misunderstood you."

“If so, then continue cultivating diligently. I have other matters to attend.”

As her voice fell, the figure of Empress Tianhong dissipated on the spot. Seeing that Empress Tianhong had left, Nangong Qingya, smiling, said to Nangong Yuehua, “Sister, why do I feel that the senior seems to dislike His Majesty a bit?”

Nangong Yuehua replied indifferently, “Are women who dislike him few?”

Just after Nangong Yuehua spoke, they heard a burst of ghostly wails and howls from next door.

In Nangong Yuehua’s view, none of Lu Chen’s women really liked him; of course, their dislike wasn’t the kind of hostile type, but a love-hate kind of dislike.

After all, this unreliable man sometimes completely disregarded their feelings and liked to torture them to no end.

At that moment, Nangong Yuehua glanced at Empress Tianhong’s chambers, not knowing how Lu Chen managed to give a body to an Artifact Spirit, but given the appearance of this Artifact Spirit, it was likely that her end would not differ much from theirs.

Perhaps they had addressed her as ‘senior’ today, but maybe soon they would have to call Empress Tianhong ‘sister.’

Nangong Yuehua didn't think much of it; she turned around to head back to her own chambers, when at that moment, a female soldier entered the yard, "Your Majesty, there's a situation!"

As the female soldier finished speaking, she handed over the intelligence report to Nangong Yuehua who after scanning it, slightly furrowed her brows.

Nangong Qingya asked from the side, "Sister, your expression looks so grim, has the enemy entered the Chaotic Star Sea already?"

Nangong Yuehua did not respond directly, but handed over the letter in her hands to Nangong Qingya. After scanning it, Nangong Qingya sneered, "These guys are getting restless so quickly."

The intelligence report Nangong Yuehua received indicated that some Sect Disciples had used patrolling as an excuse to leave the Chaotic Star Sea and had disappeared for a long time.

As for what they went to do, one need not think to know that these fellows had gone to seek out the Canghai Sect.

At this moment, the gazes of the two women simultaneously turned towards the neighboring royal chamber, contemplating whether to inform Lu Chen of this news.

Currently, Lu Chen was busy; if they disturbed him now and Lu Chen got angry later, they might also suffer the consequences.

At this very moment, the sound from the neighboring royal chamber suddenly ceased. The next moment, Lu Chen's voice transmission resonated in the ears of the two women.

“What's the matter? Is there anything important?”

Lu Chen, after all, was a cultivator of the Guixu Realm Eighth Layer; he certainly had this level of perceptiveness. Once he relaxed, he noticed that the two women's gazes were consistently fixated on his chamber, clearly having something they wanted to report to him.

Nangong Qingya transmitted her voice saying, “Some restless disciples from various sects have left the Chaotic Star Sea, most likely to join the Canghai Sect.”

Hearing this, Lu Chen chuckled internally and then transmitted back, “I know. Let them be for now, I've already sent people to watch them.”

After hearing Lu Chen's response, the two women seemed to understand something. Lu Chen had enforced the law by fishing before, not just once or twice. It seemed that Lu Chen also wanted to take advantage of this crisis to thoroughly cleanse the internal unrest within the Daxia Dynasty.

Just as the two women were pondering this, Mu Qinglan's voice came again, prompting the two women to hurriedly leave the yard, fearing that if they continued listening, they would lose the focus to cultivate too.

At the same time.

In the edge of the void of the Chaotic Star Sea, numerous Immortal Boats were silently progressing.

On a luxurious Immortal Boat, Jiang Tianrui stood on the deck, gazing into the endless void ahead.

At this moment, he still found it hard to believe. Ahead was clearly an unending darkness; it should have been a Dark Zone by all accounts. Was there really a Star Domain existing there?

Jiang Tianrui then asked the person next to him, “Zou Feiang, are you sure there really is a Star Domain ahead?”

Zou Feiang hurriedly replied, “Junior has personally visited the Chaotic Star Sea before. Once we pass this void, we will see the Life World.”

Just as Jiang Tianrui was about to continue probing, he suddenly noticed a faint and barely visible point of light in the distance.

Jiang Tianrui frowned and immediately flew out from the Immortal Boat. He then extended his Divine Sense into the distant void, only to find that something seemed to be restricting his Divine Sense, greatly limiting the distance it could probe.

Jiang Tianrui thought to himself, no wonder this Star Domain is unknown; it seems the entire Chaotic Star Sea has prohibitions.

Afterwards, Jiang Tianrui returned to the Immortal Boat and commanded, “Accelerate forward!”

With that command from Jiang Tianrui, all the Immortal Boats of the Canghai Sect sped towards the distant void at the fastest pace.

Not long after, people noticed a small Immortal Boat slowly moving forward in the void. This boat, with a Spirit Stone emitting light at the front, seemed to be searching for something.

Seeing that there really was an Immortal Boat emerging from the Chaotic Star Sea, Jiang Tianrui was slightly startled. But before he could speak, Sect Master of the Canghai Sect, Liu Tingzhang, had already flown to the bow of that boat.

“Who are you!”

As Liu Tingzhang spoke, he released the Semi-Saint pressure from his body.

Feeling the Semi-Saint pressure from Liu Tingzhang, those people immediately kneeled down.

“Spare us, senior!!!”

“We specifically came to seek you out!!!”