

F.D Emperor 1301

Chapter 1301 Not Feasible

The more Wang Wei thought about this idea, the more in love he fell with it. Just like he did with Dong Lifan, he can do the same with Xun Junyao. This was simply perfect.

'Her situation is not ideal,' Wang Wei thought. 'In the upcoming era, everybody will be competing for the Path of Transcendence, and as someone without a potent faction to protect her, she'll become a delicious piece of cake to fight over.'

'Additionally, there is also the issue of her network. Many sects will be thankful for her help, but many will also wish to eliminate her to ensure she did not learn any crucial secrets related to them. If you add her unparalleled beauty, her life will truly be full of ups and downs, meaning I can use that to lure her into the sect.'

Xun Junyao's life will not be easy when this era ends without a powerful backer. She still has enough time to build a faction, but even if she does, it won't change much. After all, the new era will be full of Paragons and Primal. Even Wang Wei is not confident he'll reach the later stages of the Paragon Realm, let alone Xun Junyao.

If any of these top lineages are determined to eliminate Xun Junyao, she'll have to struggle for survival — unless she hides in the Lawless Zone. But even such a method is not hundred percent guaranteed. After all, the Paragons of the upcoming era cannot compare to the waste that is these parasites. Even if their power is sealed to the Empyrean Realm, a peak Paragon is still a peak Paragon.

'No matter how I look at it, she has no choice but to find a backer, and the Dao Opening Sect is perfect for her,' Wang Wei thought excitedly before he remembered something.

'No, the sect is not her best choice — the Origin Seal Continent is,' he realized. 'She already has a pseudo-master-disciple relationship with the future wife, so her best choice would be to join her.' Wang Wei had no doubt his future will be able to protect her.

Wu Hong built the Origin Seal Continent into one of the 13 Overlords, showing her personal and political power. Additionally, she'll be even more potent in the new era once she healed her injury

and reformed her foundation. And once she becomes Half-Step Transcendent, the Origin Seal Continent will keep its status as the top lineage of the Eternal Ascension World.

'My future wife might have already been preparing to introduce Xun Junyao into her lineage,' Wang Wei analyzed, sighing deeply to himself. He realized his chances of succeeding were not as high as he anticipated.

'Should I still give it a try?' Countless thoughts flashed through Wang Wei's mind in less than a nanoseconds as he analyzed the pros and cons of trying to get Xun Junyao into the sect.

'No, it's not worth it,' he concluded. He noticed many factors he overlooked due to his excitement. The most important of which is the complex political nature of the Dao Opening Sect. This was not the lower dimension where Wang Wei's prestige and power were even higher than all the Ancestors combined.

In there, Wang Wei can introduce someone like Dong Lifen, that was not raised by the sect and had no clear royalty, and everyone agreed, but he couldn't do the same in the upper dimension. Although Wang Wei hasn't returned to the sect, he has learned and deduced himself to the complex situation. For example, the Dao Opening Sect was not run only by the three clans of Wang, Yan, and Li — there were nine other families below them. These families originated from former sectarian sect masters who became Paragon and, with their long lifespans, established flourishing families.

In fact, Wang Wei deduced that there are even more families in the sect, and the concept of the Sectarian Faction has almost been replaced. However, these other families do not have enough power to be considered the ruling class of the sect.

With such a complex situation, there will be many resistances to Wang Wei introducing Xun Junyao to the sect — especially without a status like his wife. As his wife, people would welcome Xun Junyao with open arms and embrace her into the sect. But as a disciple or member — most people will reject. The Wang Clan is still the most powerful, with two Primals, so Wang Wei could override these rejections, but that does not make any sense.

Xun Junyao must feel some sense of belonging to the sect to eventually contribute after becoming a Half Step Transcendent. After all, even in the lower dimension, Dong Lifen's husband would be born as a member of the Wang Clan. Ultimately, since Wang Wei cannot introduce Xun Junyao to the sect with a guaranteed status like a wife, there is no point in recruiting her.

'There is also the issue with Wu Hong,' he thought. Although he had pure motives for recruiting Xun Junyao, what if she misunderstood him? If he did it behind her, it would appear like he was sneaking around. He told her the truth, but it could appear to be manipulative.

'She's not the kind to be suspicious and question my motive and loyalty, but I have to look at the bigger picture,' Wang Wei analyzed. He had guessed some of the shenanigans his future self was doing, and he was sure one of the primary reasons many things would go smoothly for him was because he had Wu Hong also partaking in these acts. Things would be a thousand times harder without her help.

And since he knew this, his enemy also did. It's already too late to break off his relationship with Wu Hong, so these people must keep an eye on the past.

'My relationship with her is complex and not set in stone, meaning it's the perfect time for these people to separate us,' Wang Wei thought. 'That also means the existence of Xun Junyao is another significant component in this situation. As another woman linked to me by fate, she can also play a role in determining the future.'

Wang Wei suddenly realized he needed to be more careful with how he dealt with Xun Junyao. 'Calm down,' he told himself. He suddenly wanted to do whatever possible to remove the karmic link between them. However, he also understood acting rashly was the opposite of what must be done in this kind of situation.

'The best move I can make next is to tell Wu Hong everything that had happened here, including my speculation and fears about the future. Even better, I should use open and truthful communication at all times from now on when dealing with our relationship.'

Was Wang Wei overreacting? Possibly. However, this involved his future love life and maybe his path toward transcendence. The last thing he wanted was to mess this up.

"There is no problem with cooperating," Xun Junyao said, and Wang Wei focused on her. He was previously multitasking, planning, and analyzing all these things at unparalleled speed while still talking to her. During the entire process, his facial expressions, emotions, tone fluctuations, and everything else never changed.

"That's good to hear."

"But you should understand that I cannot provide you certain information," Xun Junyao added. "There are some things I don't dare investigate even if I had the power."

"I understand," Wang Wei nodded. "My purpose is primarily the parasites; I won't break the rules and touch these lineages unless it's absolutely imperative that I do so."

"That's good," Xun Junyao nodded. She successfully established such deep cooperation with these lineages and kept their relationship for so long because she knew how to control herself. Xun Junyao knew their taboos and never broke them.

"As for the price?" Xun Junyao looked him in the eyes. "You enlightened me, so I owe you karma. If you need help one day, you can ask, and I'll do everything in my power to help. But..."

"Business is business, friendship is friendship," Wang Wei said. "I understand and have no problem." "That's good," she nodded. "We can use the same standard I offered Jimin, and I'll give you a 20% discount." She condensed a talisman that served as a way to contact her directly and contained a detailed system of how she classified the value of certain information and their price.

'From 1 star to 9 stars, but even the lowest 1 star information is expensive, even with the discount,' Wang Wei complained. 'However, I understand why it's so expensive.'

Xun Junyao chose the elite path of selling information, meaning people who buy information from her already have a decent spy network and only buy things they cannot find themselves.

'Why do I find this setting suddenly became weird?' Wang Wei thought as he looked at this information. He knew Xun Junyao had an extensive network, but now, she was more than that. She had become a broker of information, selling news to the elite. She reminded him of an anime character from Earth named Joker in the Underground.

'This woman is more complex than I gave her credit for,' Wang Wei concluded.

Chapter 1302 Not Compatible

"Aren't you worried about revealing your identity?" Wang Wei asked. With such a detailed plan and classification of information, it's apparent that this was not the first time she had made such a deal. However, Wang Wei was sure she never revealed her identity when selling news to people like him.

"It's not as big of a deal as you think," Xun Junyao replied softly. A few individuals know her identity, including Empyrean Kong and Empyrean Jimin. Trust is crucial in her line of work, so when dealing with certain clients, she had to reveal her identity to establish trust. It's also a way to give these people her "weakness" and make them more willing to work with her.

Of course, none of these people dared to offend even if they knew her weakness. Who dares to offend someone who can know what kind of underwear someone wore a few hundred thousand years ago? There is also the soft power that Xun Junyao has. She can summon an army of cultivators to work for her with a few words and some fake tears. No one wants to offend someone with that kind of power.

"More importantly, more people should have figured it out by now."

Xun Junyao has only dealt with [elite] or people with excellent networks. So, she knew what she did to the Blood Dragon would have helped these people figure out her identity by now.

"I'm guessing some people were not surprised by what you did," Wang Wei sighed.

"That's not completely accurate," she corrected him. "They were not surprised that I could do it, but definitely shocked that I dare do it."

"That makes sense," Wang Wei nodded. "While we're on the subject, did you get any reward from Heavenly Dao for killing that horny dragon?"

"Hehe, Young Master Wang," Xun Junyao chuckled as she put her hands before her mouth to hide her teeth. "Such information is worth at least five stars. Do you still wish to know?"

Wang Wei's lips twitched. How come their calm, peaceful, and natural conversation was suddenly corrupted by the unpleasant existence of money? He shook his head. Since he was not willing to pay, he chose to peek.

Xun Junyao was surrounded by the power of perfection, which was excellent at anti-divination. However, Wang Wei used his own Perfect Aura to offset hers, allowing him to find some information.

"Paragon Slayer Title?" he said with slightly raised eyebrows. This was a rare title with harsh conditions, the first of which was that someone from the lower cultivation realm had to do it themselves.

According to Heaven and Earth, paragons were noble existences, so anyone with lower cultivation lucky enough to kill one of them will receive a luck backlash instead of a reward. So, unless they have the protection from the fortune of a powerful lineage, the fate of anyone trying to acquire this title will be miserable — not considering the difficulty of even succeeding.

The only way for someone to receive this title is to kill a Paragon that has lost its favor from Heaven and Earth. The description of "losing favor" is broad and complex, but a perfect example is those parasites.

"That's rude," Xun Junyao said with a frown. She waved her hand and reinforced the Anti-Divination Techniques around her. With her Copy Dao, she had many of them, and now that she was on guard, it was not feasible for Wang Wei to use the same method with his Perfect Aura.

"Indeed. I apologize. It seems I've become too comfortable," Wang Wei replied calmly. Xun Junyao looked at him. She could not tell whether he was telling the truth or if he did it on purpose to alienate the good vibe they had between them. Or maybe he did it for a completely different reason. He was hard to read.

'This man's mind is too complicated,' she thought. Dealing with such a person can be quite exhausting. She did not mind someone extremely intelligent, but there are also times when intelligence goes too far and ruins things, especially regarding emotional matters.

'Maybe it wasn't such a bad thing that he wants nothing to do with me. We're probably not compatible,' Xun Junyao thought. It was already hard to accept he had to share him, but thinking how she would have to spend the rest of his life with someone with such a deep mind, she shuddered.

'Even if he truly opens his mind and heart to me one day, can I believe him?' She knew the answer as soon as she asked. Xun Junyao sighed. She could never remove the suspicion that he was not truly sincere and was not scheming something.

'Senior Wu should understand what kind of person he is, so why did she choose him?' Xun Junyao wondered. 'Maybe she's as complex as him, or she has faith that he truly opened up to her, or maybe she has confidence in herself and from her strength. Whether he's sincere or not, whether he's

plotting something or not, she's confident she can get out of the situation relatively intact, emotionally and physically.

'As for me? I would probably lose myself in a relationship with him.' Xun Junyao knew herself quite well. With the flaw in her mind, it's easier for her to be manipulated. She knew this, and that's why she never truly trusted anyone and never searched for a Dao Companion. What's more, the fact she had to hear from someone else that she needed to help herself showed a tendency to rely on others. With such flaws and character, she knew she would lose her sense of self in a relationship with a person like a woman.

'Yes, it's indeed a good choice.' Xun Junyao decided to cut off the last thoughts she had about him. Although this was their first meeting and she never had any high romantic aspirations, she did consider him after learning about Wang Wei. After all, he was handsome, talented, and had a great background. What woman would not be tempted? However, during today's events, she felt their personality did not match, and their relationship might be ill-fated.

'Hmm?' Wang Wei muttered, looking at Xun Junyao. The benefits for the [Paragon Slayer Title] include an increase in luck, an increase in the amount of time allowed to comprehend [Existence] after entering the Paragon Realm, and what Wang Wei valued the most, a [Aura] ability that boosted strength when dealing with an opponent of higher cultivation realm.

After knowing this, he deduced some basic information on the best way to acquire this title, but he realized it was useless. Apparently, Heaven and Earth judged him by different standards. It's a remarkable feat for anyone to slay a Paragon, but for someone like him, it's expected. So, if he wanted the title, he would need to kill 3 Paragons while in the Empyrean Realm.

As Wang Wei was lamenting that it was unfair, he noticed a strange change from Xun Junyao, so he looked at her. 'Our karmic connection has weakened. What happened?' Sadly, he could not deduce anything from the myriad of emotions in her eyes because he knew little about it.

Wang Wei only met Xun Junyao recently, and in the past 3 million years working together, they did not utter a single word. Through how she operates her True Will and other actions, he had a basic understanding of her, but as they conversed, he had to constantly update the character model he made for her.

'I feel an opportunity coming,' Wang Wei thought. 'So, let's take a look.' He used his Heart Reading Technique, a mind-reading technique he created by combining Buddhist Mantra and Yan Liling's ability. He took a quick peek into Xun Junyao's mind and found her thoughts from the past 10 seconds. He was so fast and sneaky that she did not notice anything.

'So, she gave up on me because we're not compatible? That works in my favor, but why do I feel something is weird?' Xun Junyao's change was sudden, too fast, and, more importantly, due to a random action he did. She was right about Wang Wei's mind being too complicated, but she also exaggerated the situation. Wang Wei's previous rude behavior was not done with malice or any calculations. As he said, he became too comfortable with her too easily, and with his curious nature, he violated her privacy and calculated her information.

'Something really feels off by how she so naturally realized we are not compatible,' Wang Wei thought.

"Is something the matter?" Xun Junyao asked. At this point, Wang Wei was staring, making her slightly uncomfortable.

"Excuse me for a moment," Wang Wei said before closing his eyes, focusing his mind to analyze everything. His intuition told him something else was at play.

'Did my future self act and remove the obstacle that was Xun Junyao? Or maybe Hong'er is the one who acted?' Wang Wei suddenly thought. 'No, that's not it. Whenever they act, there are always some signs of slight anomaly. But this time, it was so subtle and fluid that it reminded me of how [Fate] operates.'

Chapter 1303 Intent and Tao Harmony

'Maybe Xun Junyao's future self intervened,' Wang Wei thought. This was not out of the realm of impossible. She was a Transcendent Seed, so at a minimum, she has a high chance of reaching the same level as Maitreya and Supreme Unity. These two should have transcended the shackles of the River of Time, meaning they can influence the past; it's only a matter of how much they can influence before facing a backlash.

'Her future self might have decided that I was not worth the headaches and chose to end this ill-fated companionship,' Wang Wei analyzed. 'However, I'm not satisfied with this answer.' Wang Wei was not underestimating Xun Junyao or looking down on her. His intuition told him he had not found the crux of the issue.

Wang Wei raised his eyebrow. He deduced countless possibilities, but none gave him an answer, and he was satisfied. 'My problem is that I don't know much about Xun Junyao. In that case, let's use her from the alternate timeline as a reference.'

He focused on his alternate timeline's memory. Although the part in the upper dimension was vague, he had enough information to go on. So, Wang Wei asked himself: what was his relationship with Xun Junyao like in that timeline? Why did she not find them incompatible but did in this timeline?

Numerous images flashed in his mind. Although vague, they contained enough information for him to deduce and recreate a complete picture. His relationship with Xun Junyao started out of desperation. She had reached the peak of the Empyrean Realm, but she did not dare become a Paragon due to the flaw in her Dao Heart.

Additionally, despite Wu Hong's protection, Xun Junyao already sensed that many people were planning against her. So, when Wang Wei ascended, she clung to him as she thought he was the only way to save her problem and perfect her Dao Heart. However, how could that version of Wang Wei care about any woman?

All he cared about was revenge. However, Di Tian had taken a great deal of Wang Wei's luck and destiny after defeating him in the Heaven Will Battle, so the latter's strength had reached a terrifying level by the time he ascended.

Wang Wei, driven by revenge, no longer acted calmly, composed, or with his intelligence. He used the most stupid way of killing and plundering for resources to increase his strength quickly. If not for Xun Junyao's intelligence and Wu Hong's strength, the parasites or other people would have killed him long ago. He was also lucky that the foreign worlds started to invade not long after ascending, so these parasites had to head to the frontier to defend the world. During this time, Maitreya and Supreme Unity also started their battle.

Wang Wei shook his head after seeing this. 'This version of me is genuinely useless.' His current self would never crumble this easily, even if he experienced his family's annihilation. He knows how powerful and Heaven Defying powerful cultivators are, so he would dedicate himself to reaching higher levels to revive them.

As for revenge against Di Tian? There were so many other ways, mainly from the sect. That version despised, even hated, the upper dimension sect for allowing his sect's destruction. However, Wang Wei understood they could not do anything. The sect's ancestors were in limbo, meaning they could not even send a projection to help. Additionally, Maitreya and Supreme Unity still looked harmonious during that time, meaning everyone believed they were the enemies. In such a situation, it would be impossible for the ancestor to act. Wang Wei believed that even if they had some potent method to interfere with Limbo, the other people would stop them. The destruction of the lower dimension's Dao Opening Sect would severely impact the luck of the upper dimensions. With how severe the competition between the 13 Overlords was, they would not waste such an opportunity.

'The Di Clan is only a top Paragon lineage without a Primal,' Wang Wei thought. 'All that bastard had to do was to use the upper sect's guilt of being unable to help to convince them to annihilate Di Tian at all cost.'

'And even if he wanted to kill the latter himself, he could have used the resources from the sect to increase his strength quickly. They would have gladly cultivated him at all costs to make up for the fact they allowed their ancestral land to be destroyed.'

Wang Wei frowned. The more he analyzed his alternate self, the more stupid he realized that bastard was. He understood being overwhelmed by vengeance, but there is such a thing as calm fury. Why must he use the riskiest and stupidest method if he wanted to be alone and plunder resources? Couldn't he have plotted the entire world from the shadows to get the resources he wanted?

'The Supreme Outlaw Trial was more beneficial to me than I thought,' Wang Wei concluded. The trial forced him to master his emotions, understand his true self, control his weaknesses, and change his way of thinking and acting.

'So, the trial's purpose is not just to determine a person's worthiness to wield certain Daos, but also a method of molding these Dao Lords and Overlords into the monster they were,' Wang Wei analyzed. Grand Dao's relationship with these monsters has always been like that. It feared their capabilities but also spent time and effort to mold them so that it could see what they could do.

'Let's focus,' Wang Wei thought as he continued his deduction. After many years and relentless effort, Wang Wei finally allowed Xun Junyao to have a small part of his heart. So, did she get what she wanted? The memories were vague, but Wang Wei did not think so. By now, his other self was madly in love with Wu Hong, but he just dared not admit it due to his hatred and her high status. As for Xun Junyao? The final face she created definitely resembled Wu Hong. Maybe the other Wang Wei realized this and modified it somewhat. However, Wang Wei believed that Xun Junyao did not get her true face until his other self became a Half-Step Transcendent.

Yes, Wang Wei believes his other self would eventually reach that realm. As for the reason? There were many, but the primary reason is that the latter's personality and behavior would eventually become the same as his. He had some basis for this assumption.

'I chose a Dao that fits with my pursuit and goal in life. The ancient sages called this situation the Harmony of Intent and Tao,' Wang Wei thought. 'The result is that my personality fits with my Dao.' This is why Wang Wei loves secrecy and planning and is an expert in manipulation. It's also why his personality is so free and easy, and he can even be described as moody, given how easily he can change to fit a situation.

This situation does not apply only to himself. Wu Hong has a natural domineering aura because her ambition was once to prove her worthiness to the world by suppressing everything. Now, her goal is probably to seal everything between Heaven and Earth — including all 3800 Dao Sources and even Grand Dao itself.

Yan Hai, or the Sword Empress's personality, is sharp, aggressive, and even arrogant because her path or pursuit is to [Slash Heaven]. This "Heaven" does not refer to the sky, space, the world, or even Heavenly Dao. No, her target is whatever or whoever is the limit of power in this vast universe — that's who she wants to slash.

'That alternate version of myself would eventually have a personality similar to mine, meaning that he would indeed become incompatible with her, but by then, it would have been too late,' Wang Wei sighed before suddenly pausing; his mind caught a sudden inspiration. He focused.

The words [Intention and Tao Harmony] and a scene from his time in the lower dimension remained vividly in his mind; it was the scene where Heaven and Earth celebrated because he was too happy after receiving Wu Hong's letter.

'Harmony...Heaven and Earth...Naturally affecting, changing, and influencing it,' A light flashed in his mind — he understood what was happening. Assuming that he's correct and his future self reaches a realm comparable to Grand Dao, and his pursuit of absolute freedom has not changed, what happened to Xun Junyao was due to his influence.

A being of his level is so powerful that he can naturally influence the entire Chaos Universe, past and present, to help him achieve his goal — just like Heaven and Earth celebrated Wang Wei's happiness back then. His emotions and desires have transcended everything mundane, time and space, and almost every concept in the universe.

That version of Wang Wei is playing a chess game using the Chaos Universe, countless concepts, lives, and time and space as the board, but he doesn't have to actively make a move. The chessboard itself will also actively help him win. Of course, the same goes for his opponents.

The move of making Xun Junyao give up on Wang Wei so soon was probably a passive move of the chessboard; that's why it's so smooth and natural.

Wang Wei wanted to take a cold breath. 'This level of existence...' He was in awe while simultaneously excited. After figuring out everything, a weird aura emanated from his body.

'Epiphany?' Xun Junyao thought, a little surprised.

Wang Wei opened his eyes, not hiding his excitement. This deduction benefited him immensely. He had a deeper understanding of [Fate Dao], its operation, and its overwhelming potential. Additionally, Wang Wei peeped at the power of higher entities, which will be pretty helpful when it is his turn to reach that level.

The most important part about this epiphany was that it did not matter whether his deduction was complete nonsense. As long as he believed it to be true, he could work in that direction to reach that level and eventually self-actualize this level of power.

Chapter 1304 End of First Meeting

As he opened his eyes, Wang Wei saw the slight envy in Xun Junyao's eyes, and he understood. There were two types of epiphany in the three stages of the Immortal Realm: the kind that instantly increases a cultivator's understanding of the Grand Dao Source by 1% and the kind that gives a significant boost/blessing in cultivation for an extended period. Wang Wei's epiphany was the latter, but even such a kind was rare and valuable beyond words.

'After establishing such a deep foundation in the Mortal Realm, the effects of my Innate Paragon Soul are better than I anticipated,' Wang Wei analyzed. However, he did not focus too much on that as his mind shifted to his previous deduction/epiphany.

'I don't have to wait until I'm at a higher level to reach such a state — I can lay the foundation now and maybe even acquire this ability early,' Wang Wei thought, deducing how he could go about achieving such a task.

'Above the Taishuang Indifference State of Mind, Taoism has a higher level called [Harmony With The Tao], which allowed them to fuse their mind with Heavenly Dao, entering a state of absolute calmness, absolutely stillness, and emptiness — in other words, a state without emotions, thoughts, troubles or concerns. In this state, the blessing for understanding the Grand Dao Source is comparable to some of the best physiques that lean toward comprehension.'

Many inspirations flashed in Wang Wei's mind.

'Buddhism sees the world as a Sea of Suffering and strives to transcend it. Maybe I can combine these two to get what I want. First, enter a state of harmony with the Tao. Then, find a way to transcend Heaven and Earth. No, I don't need to transcend it. I don't think I can even do it at this

level. I only need for my status — my [Existence] — to be above Heaven and Earth even by a slight margin. Then, I can guide it to help me achieve my goals and ambitions.'

Wang Wei was excited but soon calmed down. This plan sounds easy, but this was far from the truth. There were many obstacles to overcome. The first of which is a deep understanding of Taoism and Buddhism and sufficient achievements in [Spiritual Practices]. Wang Wei has access to the knowledge to make achievements, but Spiritual Practices usually require dedication and their own unique Dao Heart to reach high levels \. Luckily, Wang Wei has an Ever Changing Dao, so with a thought, he can be a Buddha and, with another, a Supreme Tao Lord.

The second obstacle is the [Harmony With The Tao] state. Many Taoist priests failed to reach this level or did not even take this path because of the consequences of assimilation. The consequence of fusing with Heavenly Dao is to turn into an emotionless machine—just like Supreme Unity. Taoism emphasizes reducing and regulating emotions, not completely removing them. As such, any priest who has such a state of mind will have to constantly be on guard to prevent themselves from being assimilated and turning into a monster.

Of course, some people actively pursue assimilation. These people belong to a unique branch of Taoism called the Way of Indifference, the Way of Ruthlessness, or the Way of Heavenly Dao.

'This is harder than I thought,' Wang Wei pondered. He had attained great success in two different spiritual practices and then fused them. 'By any standards, it will take a long time to succeed, and it might not even work. Instead of wasting time, I might as well focus on becoming a Half-Step Transcendent...Wait, why am I so arrogant to think I can make such a technique in the Paragon Realm? My goal should be to lay the groundwork now, and once I'm on that level, I may succeed.'

Wang Wei believed his future self was way more powerful than the two suns, and it's not because they used an incomplete method. According to his deduction, becoming a transcendent is such an enormous leap from the Paragon Realm that the Half-Step exists. However, there should be a difference between the half-steps.

Maitreya and Supreme Unity would be something like Tier 12.1, while Wang Wei's future self is like Tier 12.7 to 12.9, and Tier 13 is True Transcendence. His technique should allow him to have some characteristics of 12.7 people while in the realm of 12.1.

Wang Wei's lips twitched. He hoped he knew enough about the realm of Half-Step Transcendence since he was not fond of this 12.1 and so on system.

"Is something wrong?" Xun Junyao asked again after noticing his weird reaction.

"No," Wang Wei replied. "Where were we? Oh, yes, negotiations. I have no problem with the price or your rules."

Xun Junyao glanced at her before raising her eyebrow ever so slightly. "That's good to hear. Is there anything else?"

"One last thing. This is for you."

"This is?"

"Purest Power of Fate," Wang Wei responded.

"What is this? A gift?" She looked at him strangely.

"Oh, don't misunderstand — this belongs to you. I intercepted it from Old Man Tianji."

Xun Junyao knew he was telling the truth as she sensed a direct connection to this power. After seeing this power, her mind deduced many things, and she understood a few puzzling matters—including why the reclusive Old Man Tianji was so willing to work with her.

"Well, thank you."

"No problem," Wang Wei replied. "Well, it's time for me to leave." Now he's met Xun Junyao and knows how to break their connection; Wang Wei achieved everything he set out to do for this meeting. Things went even better than anticipated, with Xun Junyao completely giving up on their relationship.

'I should still be on guard since I doubt Fate would accept this result without any resistance, but I'm satisfied for now,' Wang Wei pondered.

"Fellow Daoist, why don't you stay a little longer? I'm happy to continue hosting." Wang Wei could tell she was just being polite, so he declined. "That's a shame," Xun Junyao nodded before looking at the chessboard. "Especially for the unfinished game."

"We could preserve it for our next meeting," Wang Wei suggested.

"Oh?" After the previous alienation, Xun Junyao thought he only wanted a strict business-like relationship, but he seemed open to a regular acquaintanceship. She pondered briefly before nodding: "That's fine. You can keep the board, but please, do not cheat."

"I would never," Wang Wei said, and with a wave of his hand, the time in that world froze, and he put the chessboard away. Xun Junyao did not believe these words. She knew that if there were any benefits to winning and cheating was the only method to guarantee the win, he would cheat without reservation.

'Why do I feel my reputation in this woman's mind has been ruined?' Wang Wei thought after reading Xun Junyao's facial expression. He was speechless as he realized his assumption was correct. He shook his head, bowed to her, and disappeared from the Heavenly Beauty Palace.

Wang Wei did not return to the Dao Burial Ground; he teleported to a random realm located in Blood Dragon's territory. As soon as he arrived, he sensed more than seven battles in the void.

'As expected, it's in chaos.'

Wang Wei did not have the manpower to occupy such a vast territory, and even if he could, he wouldn't dare. His movement was still an underground one, so occupying any territory would be revealing himself to the world and his enemy. Other people or lineages did not dare take over these territories or adopt a wait-and-see tactic, leaving the parasites.

However, these people did not dare leave the boundaries of their territories. Blood Dragon's death scared many of them, especially without the presence of their leaders. Their tactics also involved waiting and protecting their territory. Expansion could wait until their leaders came back or ordered them to do so.

'I spent so long worrying about reactions from these parasites that I overlooked the time difference between Primordial Chaos and inside the Eternal Ascension World.' Although 3 million years have passed, a small amount of time might have passed outside. More time might have passed, but these people could not intervene or react because the war had significantly intensified.

'Moreover, I have a feeling that these people are used to taking their time when doing things. I haven't fully adapted to that yet,' Wang Wei thought as he flew around this place. He was used to

things happening relatively fast in the lower dimension — especially during his time as Heavenly Emperor. However, things may be slower in the upper dimension.

It sounds like a bad thing, but it's the opposite. Taking more time to respond means taking more time to prepare for the response. Fast also means unpreparedness, being sloppy, and more room for error.

'Despite this, I have a feeling that Supreme Unity hasn't reacted because he's waiting for something,' Wang Wei frowned. 'The question is what.' He thought about many possibilities, but he did not like any of the results.

'Forget it. Let's just prepare for everything I can think of. Anyways, I have nothing but time.'

Chapter 1305 Relief

Xun Junyao walked into a long corridor with a furrowed brow. A few palaces saw and quickly saluted, but she was too lost in her thought to notice. Soon, she arrived at her destination.

"Master," Xiao Tiandi quickly said. "Are you alright?"

Xun Junyao finally woke up and smiled gently: "What can happen to me?" She walked to the slightly elevated podium and sat down, and her apprentice followed. The announcer, Xun Tong, appeared next to the two and served tea before sitting next to the Palace Lady.

Xiao Tiandi controlled himself so he would not immediately ask a thousand questions by slowly sipping his teeth.

"Palace Lord, what happened? What took you so long?"

"For the most part, we..." Xun Junyao told him what happened but in too much detail.

"So, by some twist of fate, he did you in a way," Xun Tong nodded, feeling relieved. She has said something similar to the Palace Lord for many years, but her words could never get through. However, she's happy that the latter finally awakens regardless of who helped her.

"What do you think of him?" Xun Tong asked, and Xiao Tiandi perked up to listen.

"He's a scary man with immense power, talent, and a deep mind," Xun Junyao replied seriously. "I understand why Little Di saw him as a rival." Xiao Tiandi rolled his eyes. He hated that nickname, but no matter what he tried, his master refused to stop calling him that.

"However, I recommend you prepare yourself," Xun Junyao said directly to him.

"Master, you don't think I'm good enough to compete with him?" Xiao Tiandi asked, feeling he was looked down upon. Xun Junyao sighed: "It's not a matter of whether you can compete — I know you have the talent. The issue is you're too late. He's way ahead of you, and if you want to catch up..." Xun Junyao shook her.

If it were the past, she might have said something about the finish line. After all, back then, everyone was stuck in the peak Paragon Realm, so even Wang Wei reached that level, it was only a matter of time before Xiao Tiandi caught up. However, there was now a path ahead, meaning there were many uncertainties.

Xiao Tiandi was quiet. One cruel truth about geniuses is that once you're surpassed, there is a chance you'll never catch up. After all, everybody is supremely talented, and everybody works hard.

"I won't give up!"

"That's the spirit, but don't become obsessed with competing with him or let his existence become your Heart Demon," Xun Junyao reminded.

"I won't."

Xun Junyao nodded approval. She sipped her tea before asking Xun Tong: "What has happened during my absence?"

"That's it?"

"What do you mean?"

"Come one, Palace Lord," Xun Tong said with shining eyes. "You said it yourself; he's handsome, talented, powerful, and has a great background. On top of everything else, you two were ordained by fate."

"You forgot to mention his wife," Xun Junyao said.

"Minor detail."

"How is that minor? You know what, I won't even entertain your thoughts," Xun Junyao said. "He's indeed an excellent man, but we are not compatible." Ever since Wang Wei left, she's been thinking about her decision, and the more she thought about it, the more relieved she felt. She sensed that she had avoided a catastrophe by avoiding that man.

"Is that so? In that case, it's for the best," Xun Tong nodded. She wanted the Palace Lord to find someone to spend her life with, but it also had to be the right person. She didn't mind if the person had other wives as long as they treated the lady with great sincerity. However, if she felt they were incompatible, there was no sense in pursuing such a companionship.

Xiao Tiandi — quietly listening to this conversation and drinking his tea — felt a sense of relief after hearing these words, and his body relaxed. He did not want his master to get with Wang Wei, and it was not because the latter was his peer or due to the immoral emotions he recently developed.

He wanted nothing more for her to find happiness, and he'd gladly accept it as long as someone could give it to her. However, he had already figured out that his master was not compatible with Wang Wei. His master has a flaw in her mental state, which is something that someone like Wang Wei can easily take advantage of.

However, this was not his main concern. His primary worry was that his master had trust issues. Xun Junyao lived her life amidst wolves who wanted nothing but her body and beauty. Living in such an environment already made her weary of the people around her, but the straw that broke the camel was when she discovered her parents had sold her to the highest bidder.

After learning this truth, Xun Junyao became discouraged at the world and mistrusted anyone who came close to her. She ran away from home and never met with her parents again. When her mother died, she did not show off, participate in the funeral, or even send words of condolence. When her father came to see her, asking to help revive her mother, she coldly refused.

Luckily, Xun Junyao had Xun Tong, the maid who raised her, accompanied and protected her. No matter what she did or said to drive Xun Tong away, she remained steadfast in her loyalty and desire to protect her young lady. It's that unwavering dedication that melted Xun Junyao's heart, allowing her to have faith and trust people again.

Although Xun Junyao was much better than when she was young, Xiao Tiandi knew his master needed someone who could sacrifice and truly open their heart to her — even if it was just to reassure her. Someone like Wang Wei, who has many secrets and countless thoughts, schemes, and plans, cannot be a hundred percent with their partner.

"Master, I'm glad you're okay, but I have some inspiration, so I'll go cultivate."

"Oh, alright." Xiao Tiandi bowed before walking out of the room.

"What's wrong with him?" Xun Junyao asked. A light flashed in Xun Tong's eyes. "He's been a little stressed lately, so he might need to relax a little."

"Is that so? Keep a close eye on him. We don't want him to regress to his old self."

"I don't think that will happen, but I will."

Xun Junyao nodded. "Anything noteworthy to report?"

"Two things," Xun Tong reported. "The Dao Opening Sect responded that they agree with our proposition, but the summoning ceremony is more complex than they anticipated, so it may take a while before they finish their preparation."

"It's good news that they're willing to help us in the first place," Xun Junyao smiled."

"True," Xun Tong agreed. "Regarding the second thing, it's about the world's changes since 3 million years ago."

...

Xiao Tiandi stood in his cultivation room, looking at the sky in a daze, for hours without moving a muscle beside his face. 'What am I doing? How could I suddenly fall in love with my master? Oh, who am I kidding? I probably always loved her.' He smiled wryly.

'Regardless of when it happens, it doesn't change the fact it's wrong.' Due to the long and exaggerated lifespan, cultivators do not have so many rules and restrictions about their partners. So, unless they are from a religion like Buddhism, which altogether forbade relationships, Taoism, which takes master-disciple relationships seriously, and the Literature Way, which is strict on etiquette, most people will not care about a master marrying their disciple. On the contrary, this kind of union is rather common sense, as masters and disciples spend much time together and know each other intimately. This known fact is one of the contributing reasons—besides his talent—the parasites schemed against Xiao Tiandi to turn him into a waste.

Of course, there are some hidden rules for these kinds of relationships, mainly that they are more acceptable if the people involved are in the immortal realms.

Suppose one of the individuals involved is still a mortal. In that case, there is a concern about lifespan and the power dynamic balance in their relationship, so many people will condemn these types of relationships. In fact, in cases like Xiao Tiandi, the people involved usually wait until they are in the same cultivation realm before revealing the information to the public.

'Should I just bottle up my emotions? It might be better that way. Master won't think less of me, and I won't tarnish her name and reputation,' Xiao Tiandi thought, but his face contorted after feeling like this.

'No. If I continue like this, my state of mind might be affected. It's better to tell her the truth and face the consequences — good or bad,' he analyzed. 'However, it's best I wait until she finds her true self and face. That way, she can understand that my love is sincere.'

After deciding, Xiao Tiandi felt a heavy weight lifted from his shoulders. He did not know what the future held, but he knew his heart was at peace.

Chapter 1306 The Current Situation

Wang Wei suddenly craved food after not eating for so long, so he searched for a place to grab something. However, with the current chaos, most places were destroyed or closed. He searched for a few seconds before finding a small restaurant.

"You're open?"

The waiter suddenly fell to the ground. The last thing he expected was someone to appear in his room suddenly. Then, his face paled as he realized something: "Cultivator." He immediately stood up and knelt on the ground: "Sir, please spare my life."

Wang Wei looked at this poor man and shook his head. The mortals in the upper dimension had a rough life. Although they can naturally live for over one thousand years, their lives are as fragile as paper in this world ruled by gods, demons, and higher dimension life forms.

"Get up," Wang Wei said, and a magical force picked up the waiter from the floor. "Is this your restaurant?"

"I...This...S..."

The waiter was incapable of forming a normal sentence, so Wang Wei waved his hand to release a golden light that immediately made his mind and spirit calm and at peace.

"Thank you, Lord," the waiter said. "And to answer your question, this is indeed my restaurant. No one wants to work in these dangerous times, so I had to do it myself."

"Aren't you afraid?" Wang Wei asked.

The waiter sighed deeply: "Of course I am. However, the money at home has run out, and I need to feed my family."

"I respect that." No matter how weak this man was, it was respectable that he put his life in trouble to feed his family. "What's your name?"

"Lord, my name is Hui Mengwei."

"Wei? It seems our name has the same character. In some way, this is a kind of fate," Wang Wei smiled. "Serve me your best dish, and if I'm happy, your fate will change from now on."

Hui Mengwei was shocked but was soon filled with excitement. No matter what this opportunity was, whether it was simply a monetary reward or a chance to walk the cultivation path, he knew his life would change for the better as long as he could please this lord.

'However, can I please this lord?' Hui Mengwei knew how high these cultivators' standards were, and his little restaurant was "small" even in its heyday. 'This is not the time to hesitate.' He rushed to the kitchen to prepare. Although he was the owner, Hui Mengwei was once a cook and learned from his father. After inheriting the restaurant, he was more hands-off, but he's the one who created most of the menu, so his cooking was decent — at least by mortal standards.

Wang Wei found an empty seat and started his work. A screen materialized before him, showing Wang Qi's frowning face less than ten seconds later. "What's wrong with you?"

"Sect master, you can't do this."

"What are you on about?" Wang Wei asked.

"I've said it before: my loyalty lies with the Madam. I will not accept or acknowledge anyone else."

Wang Wei looked at him in puzzlement before remembering something: "Bastard! Don't tarnish my name and reputation."

"Aren't you doing that by yourself?" Wang Qi sneered. "3 million years!" he roared. "I don't think you've spent so much time with the Madam."

"Bastard, I told you not to slander me," Wang Wei yelled back. "I was helping her remove Blood Dragon's Dao Imprint."

"Do you think I'm stupid? You spent so much time with such a beautiful woman that nothing happened between you two?"

"Your words are either insulting my integrity or revealing what kind of person you are," Wang Wei sneered. "So, which is it?"

Wang Qi was immediately embarrassed: "You really didn't do anything?" Wang Wei just looked at him with ferocious eyes. "Then, why did it take so long?"

"Do you think anyone can remove the Dao Imprint of a Paragon? The process would have taken yuan epochs if not for my cleverness."

Wang Qi paused as he remembered reading something similar in the records from the Fate Shadow Guard. He coughed in his fist before continuing: "I'm sorry about that. I just wanted to protect —"

"I've tolerated you enough," Wang Wei cut him off. "Once I return, I'll check your cultivation, and if I'm not satisfied, I'll punish you myself."

Wang Qi smiled wryly. "I understand." He sighed. 'It doesn't matter. As long as I can protect the madam's rights and future happiness, it doesn't matter if I suffer a little.'

"Sect Master, are you not returning immediately?"

"I planned to eat something, check on you before returning," Wang Wei said, his eyes still fierce. "However, after seeing your reaction, I think I should see her and report to prevent others from slandering my name."

Wang Qi coughed again: "Sect Master, that happened so long ago; why are you still focused on that? You're a great man, so show your broadmindedness and don't be so petty."

Wang Wei was immediately baffled. It hasn't even been 10 seconds. Since when was this bastard so shameless?

"However, since you've changed your itinerary, I recommend you also add visiting Emperor Kong," Wang Qi said. "You missed the previous meeting, and although I've explained, it might be best to explain directly."

"You have a point," Wang Wei nodded. "I should probably bring a small gift." Wang Qi agreed with these words. Since they were in the wrong by canceling the first meeting, it's normal to show sincerity by apologizing with a gift.

"What happened during my absence?" Wang Wei asked.

"Where to begin?" Wang Qi said. "The professionals came running to use less than 100,000 years in their conversation. After suffering a little, they all thought they were suffering from luck backlash from Blood Dragon's death. Some of the people who refused to sign the contract even contacted us. Of course, I made them sign a more restrictive contract."

Wang Wei nodded. These alchemists should be happy I gave them more than 100,000 years as a vacation.

"The Puppet Demon's Workshop is already in operation," Wang Qi continued. "Everyone else is retreating and increasing their strength after acquiring so many resources. The Fate Changing Hall is a similar situation. Your plan worked. Most of the resources from these loose cultivators' hands had to be returned to us since they only had the raw materials. However, there are some issues that you need to decide."

"What is it?"

"Some Loose Cultivator Professionals have taken some of our business by offering lower prices. I've been debating whether I should stop them or not."

Wang Wei pondered: "No need for that. There is a mixed bag among loose cultivators, so the quality of their professionals is less than ours, not to mention their low numbers. However, you can create false scenarios and spread rumors about these professionals cheating others and delivering faulty products."

Wang Qi's eyes lit. One of the advantages of using the hall's own professionals is that they must guarantee their products and their reputations. However, suppose someone chooses the unofficial path and hires one of those loose cultivators. In that case, there are no guarantees, meaning it's easy to take their operation down by ruining their already shaky reputation.

"These people are not stupid, so there is a chance they might deduce we are behind these sudden rumors," Wang Wei continued. "To ensure no problem, choose one of the professionals with a terrible personality and blame it on him."

"As expected of you, sect master," Wang Qi praised. He destroyed these people's secret business with one move and removed all suspicions from themselves.

"No amount of boot-licking can save you," Wang Wei sneered. "Anything else?"

"Internally, there is nothing else to report," Wang Qi explained. "But a few noteworthy things happened outside. Firstly, the sect sent news that the trial would take longer than anticipated."

"If they take too long, I might not need it by the time they're ready," Wang Wei frowned.

"It probably won't take that long. At the very least, you can use it to deal with the Paragon Realm Bottleneck," Wang Qi reassured.

"You may be right. Continue."

"The Rebellion was not happy with us, probably envious of our wealth. However, they said nothing out loud but asked us to sell them information."

"Did you agree?"

"Of course, after all, they are now our own."

"Oh?"

"Red Mask has taken over most of the lower and middle-level officers. The rebellion is basically ours — except for a few groups."

"That's good to hear," Wang Wei's eyes shine. "What's the situation with the upper echelons?"

"We don't have enough people?"

"Didn't Red Mask tell me she was confident she could take over the Blood Dragon's information network?"

"And she did, but we only got 70% of them."

"That's excellent for such a short period," Wang Wei said. "But 70% should be a lot of people." These parasites have an extensive network. Although not the best, they are probably one of the largest in the world.

"That's the problem — there are too many people," Wang Qi said. "Red Mask has been scrambling to control these many people."

Wang Wei understood the issue. Although she conquered these people, she cannot trust them yet. As such, she'll need the original members from the Fate Guards to supervise these new members, but Wang Wei's original foundation was way too small compared to the Blood Dragon, meaning Red Mask did not have enough people to supervise these people — let alone spare members to control the Rebellion's upper echelons.

"I'll be in retreat once I've dealt with a few things here. I'll take this opportunity to create more Tier 10 and 11 Creation Life Forms," Wang Wei replied. "And if she's truly desperate, she can borrow some creations from Jia Ping and Dulgun."

"Is this alright?" Wang Qi asked. The Fate Guard is one of the core assets of Wang Wei's political powers, so it may be a problem to have others involved.

"Like I said, it's a desperate move. Plus, Red Mask will know what to reveal or hide from these people," Wang Wei replied. He knew the risks, but this was one of the dangers of swallowing a behemoth like the Blood Dragon's network. So, it was worth it to take the risk to digest the behemoth since the reward would be worth it. As for the problems that will arise? They can be dealt with given sufficient time.

"I understand."

Chapter 1307 God of Cooking

"What is the current situation of the other parasites? What's their reaction?" Wang Wei asked.

"Things are becoming complicated," Wang Qi replied seriously. "There are signs that the fights between the two suns might reach here."

"A battle between Buddhism and Taoism? Tell me what happened?" Wang Wei frowned.

"It started with the disappearances of a few renowned Taoist Priests and Eminent Monks, but about 15,000 years ago, these two had a direct confrontation over a small Source Stone Mine."

"Do you think someone is manipulating these events?"

"Red Mask had the same thought, but after investigation, we found no mastermind. However, we found a few people secretly fanning the flame."

"Did we join in the fanning?"

"I wanted to, but Red Mask said there were too many people already doing it, and there is no point in joining since we might be revealed," Wang Qi explained.

"That's fine," Wang Wei nodded. Since he handed everything over to us, he trusted her judgment. "If Buddhism can retrain and balance Taoism, I'll have more room to maneuver," Wang Wei muttered. "What about the others?"

"They have entered the highest state of alert. They cleaned up a few core territories, eliminating all spies or anyone they deemed suspicious. We've lost a few people," Wang Wei explained. "Luckily, our methods are far from ordinary."

The Fate Shadow Guards will parasite someone's fate line and take on their identity, luck, destiny, and everything else. This method is hard to guard against or detect. Although they lost some members, they still retain a decent amount of them.

"From what we know, they've been doing a few things since that day. Firstly, they've been using their resources to build their military. It seems that everyone is preparing for something.

"Secondly, they've been on guard against each other while lowering their previous confrontation — at least, in the open." From what the guards reported, Wang Qi knew there had been a decrease in confrontation between the borders of these parasites' territory.

"The third thing is they have been hunting down Xun Junyao," Wang Qi continued. "They have offered a substantial price for any information on her whereabouts and even more for her capture."

"Only capture?" Wang Wei asked.

"Yes."

"Even the two women?"

"That's right."

"I want to believe they want her alive because she's valuable and due to the Blood Dragon's wealth in her hands, but I doubt that's the truth," Wang Wei sighed. "Continue."

"The last thing is they are looking for us," Wang Wei added. "To be precise, they are looking for Dragon Palace."

"That's understandable," Wang Wei nodded. The palace contained unimaginable wealth, so he reckoned many people were looking for it, even these top lineages. "Is that all?"

"That should be it. No, there is also the Celestial Race."

"Them? What do they want?"

"They seem very satisfied with Blood Dragon's death and decided to increase their investment," Wang Qi replied with a bright smile. "They've provided us with many resources to train Immortal Path talents."

"That's good to hear," Wang Wei nodded. "I guess I don't have to enter the business of selling unique Qis." He can easily enter that line of work with his Spirit Flower Ability. However, Wang Wei's original target was the Rebellion and a means of amassing wealth. He resisted the urge to launch this plan because of his relationship with the Celestial Clan.

However, now that the rebellion was under his control, he was wealthy beyond words, and his relationship with the Celestial Race dramatically improved. There was no need to ruin their friendship by stealing their business, and he could still use the Qis to train his people.

"Alright, I'll check with Red Mask." The screen changed, and Red Mask appeared. She reported everything to Wang Wei, and he dealt with the issues she could not decide on. Afterward, Wang Wei checked on the Fate Changing Hall before he was completely free.

'I finally have a good foundation,' Wang Wei thought. After digesting Blood Dragon's network, his Fate Shadow Guard will finally be able to compete on a global scale. Then, with the Fate Changing Hall, the rebellion, and the Lawless Zone's people, he can build a potent military force to compete with the parasites.

'The only thing missing is the Paragon Tier powerhouse, and that can be solved after entering the Taboo Realm,' Wang Wei thought. 'It would be even better if Mongke could also succeed.' Wang Wei smiled brightly. He built such a foundation in such a short period, making him slightly proud. However, he only indulged in such emotion for a few seconds before calming down and returning to his former self. After all, his enemies were numerous, so his current power was still not enough.

Wang Wei turned his eyes to look at Hui Mengwei. The latter stood with a tray on his hands, his legs and arms trembling. Wang Wei spent at least 3 hours talking and dealing with his affairs, but Hui Mengwei stood in this position without moving.

"A man of firm will," Wang Wei praised. Of course, he noticed the latter when the food was ready, but he did not say anything just to test him.

Put the food on the table."

"Yes, my Lord," Hui Mengwei nodded. "I must apologize since the food is now cold."

"It's fine," Wang Wei said. With a thought, he returned the food to its state a few hours ago and tried it. By his standards, this food tasted like garbage. However, by his mortal standard, it was excellent — especially the noodles.

"This noodle is not bad," Wang Wei said.

"Thank you, my lord," Hui Mengwei swiftly said. "This is a family recipe that has been refined for more than 10,000 years."

"That is indeed impressive," Wang Wei nodded. Mortals in the upper dimension can live up to 500 years, and if they take care of themselves and even practice some basic martial arts or health-

preservation techniques, they can live twice as long. Unfortunately, most die in a catastrophe created by cultivators before reaching such old age. So, the Hui family can survive for more than 10,000 years, which is a sign of their luck and prosperity.

"Previously, I only wanted to give up a small opportunity," Wang Wei said. "But now, I have changed my mind." Wang Wei's original plan was just to praise the food as long as it was decent. This might not appear much, but it was praise from an Empyrean and one that is loved by fate. Hui Mengwei's Qi Luck would soar with his words only, and his family would be blessed with more than 100,000 years of good fortune. As long as they use that fortune correctly, it would not be impossible for them to become a cultivation family.

Wang Wei raised his hand to summon an Empyrean Artifact. He activated his Purpose Manipulation Technique to change the functions of the artifact.

'Should I give him a system? Maybe even memories from Earth? No, that will only cause trouble. In that case, let's rebuild these Earth cuisines in another way.'

He created a few worlds based on cooking inspired by Earth's cuisine and media (television, anime) and left them inside the artifact. Hui Mengwei can experience them and learn their techniques and dishes.

'He probably needs a pure cooking base cultivation technique. Should I deduce one? No, it's best if I find and modify an existing one so he can attain the Duyi Realm.'

However, after searching his mind, he did not have such a technique — even amongst the ones the sect gave him. 'Damn it. If only those parasites didn't close the Myriad Record Temple.' Wang Wei was annoyed. He wanted to ask his future wife but felt it would be inappropriate to call her now just for this.

'In that case, let's give him a basic soul-nourishing technique and tell him he can have the technique after meeting certain requirements. This should buy me enough time to find it.' Wang Wei created an artifact spirit to better facilitate this deception.

'Since my purpose is to plant Dao Fruits, it's better to go all out. Let's put cultivating a family into this artifact. If the entire Hui Clan can dedicate themselves to Cooking Dao, I'll reap even more benefits.'

Wang Wei was not doing all this for nothing. His future wife despised him for not having better cooking skills, so how could he accept that? However, Wang Wei knows he'll probably be busy for a "while," meaning he won't have time to be studying the Art of Cooking. So, he decided to have someone else do it to reap the benefit. Hui Mengwei was lucky.

'The last part is the Heaven Will. Should I leave him one or allow him to compete fairly for one?' Wang Wei pondered. 'A good cook must also be powerful to hunt certain materials. However, I also don't need to compete in these Emperor Battlefields. I can create a world similar to my father's Swordsmanship World and have him fight in it. However, this time, the reward can be a Heaven Will.'

Wang Wei finished the artifact before looking at Hui Mengwei.

Chapter 1308 Cracked Line

Wang Wei looked at the trembling Hui Mengwei and said: "Cam down. I wouldn't have waited so long if I wanted to do something to you."

"Sir, I'm just too excited and can't control myself," Hui Mengwei swiftly answered. He knew a great opportunity was about to befall him, so he did not want his cowardness, or anything for that matter, to ruin it.

"That's good," Wang Wei nodded, not caring whether he was telling the truth or not. "My wife once despised me because I cannot cook or because I don't have as fancy of a tongue as her. As a man who can hold both Heaven and Earth in his heart, how can I tolerate such a thing?"

Hui Mengwei looked at him in shock. This is not where he thought this conversation would go. 'I didn't expect even these gods would also tremble under their wife's wrath,' Hui Mengwei thought before his body was once again overwhelmed by fear. All he could think about was whether his small body could survive the confrontation between these Gods. Even if he survived, he might be wiped out for knowing too much. After all, this God might not want others to know his wife suppresses him.

Hui Mengwei wanted to cry but dared not. He thought this was a chance to change his life, but he got himself in between the martial dispute between Gods and would be wiped out as a consequence. Wang Wei noticed his sudden emotional fluctuation and checked. He was speechless. This man had a vivid imagination.

'Well, it's not a bad thing if he can use it for cooking,' Wang Wei thought before continuing. He pointed the artifact in his hand, and it fused with Hui Mengwei's forehead.

"Out of pride, I made a bet with her that one day, I would make her the best banquet in the world," Wang Wei continued. "I must keep my promise, but I'm also busy. The Dao of Cooking is profound, and if I only study it half-heartedly, I don't know when I'll be able to fulfill the bet."

Wang Wei had a half-smile on the corner of his mouth as he glanced at Hui Mengwei.

"This is where you come in. I've granted you an artifact that will train you to be the best cook in the world. I want you to build a clan based on the Dao of Cooking, creating the best and most unique recipes in the world, and I'll come to get them. Do you understand?"

"Lord," Hui Mengwei said, immediately kneeling on the ground. "I will go through fire and thunder to complete your mission."

"Good. I hope you remember your words," Wang Wei nodded, deciding not to restrain Hui Mengwei or his family in any way. This can be considered a test for him. If his family can continue their mission and serve Wang Wei faithfully after acquiring a significant amount of power, then it will be fine. If they let the power get to their heads and deny their mission, Wang Wei will just eliminate them and choose someone else.

He waved his hand, teleporting Hui Mengwei home. The latter was confused about what had happened until he realized where he was. "Truly the method of immortals," Hui Mengwei commented in envy. However, he soon regained his bearing as he understood he might have such power in the future. Hui Mengwei did not immediately leave this room but took this opportunity to communicate with the artifact in his mind.

The conversation lasted for over an hour, and Hui Mengwei had a strange expression once he opened his eyes. Wang Wei laughed after seeing this. "Boy, how can you build a Cooking Clan with only one wife and two children? You should thank me."

That's right. Hui Mengwei's first mission was to select more wives and concubines to increase the Hui Clan's population. Wang Wei was correct when he said the latter should thank him since he left enough resources in the artifact to turn Hui Mengwei and his descendants into great talents. He even instructed the artifact spirit to embed law fragments associated with the Dao of Cooking into Hui Mengwei's first 33 heirs, granting them acquired physiques.

Wang Wei stopped observing, but he suddenly remembered something: 'Didn't I promise that silly little girl to find her master? I remember Blood Dragon took him away, but I don't think he was part of the personals we killed or captured.'

Wang Wei frowned. 'No need to think so much about it. Blood Dragon should have records of what he did with it; I'll find out when I read through all the information from his network. Before then, let's put her talent to use.' He pointed to the void to create a master-student karmic relationship between the little girl and Hui Mengwei.

'She's about to prove the world, so her safety would be somewhat guaranteed,' Wang Wei muttered. He granted the silly little girl a Heaven Will but did not let her immediately use it since he wanted to increase her chances of becoming an Eternal. Luckily, he discovered that although Chen Zhilan was silly due to being sheltered by her master, her cultivation talent was extraordinary; it wouldn't take much for her to become an Eternal Emperor.

Wang Wei's eyes focused in the distance to the seven people fighting without restraint. "Suppress." His voice echoed between Heaven and Earth, shocking everyone in the realm. A terrifying pressure sent these people crashing into the ground from the sky. "From now on, this is my territory, and fighting is prohibited."

This voice frightened mortals, and the other cultivators quickly admitted their fault. This was an excellent place for Hui Mengwei to lay a foundation, so Wang Wei eliminated the unstable factors for him. Wang Wei condensed some of his Chaos Flame and fused it with this territory as a deterrence. He then changed the secrets of Heaven and Earth. Anyone who tries to investigate the powerhouse that has taken over this place will only find the source to be this Chaos Flame that has gained sentience, and it has nothing to do with Wang Wei — the destined one.

'Boy, look how much effort I've taken to ensure your growth and prosperity. Don't make me waste my efforts,' Wang Wei thought before disappearing from this place.

Where should I go next?' he thought. He should have gone directly to see his future wife and explained. 'But I feel doing this would make me look even more guilty — even though I didn't do anything.' Wang Wei was entangled. He wanted to explain but didn't want to appear too desperate, as if he had done something wrong. He sighed. 'No matter what world, dating is never easy.'

He waved his hand to send two talismans: one for his future wife to tell her of his arrival and the other to Emperor Kong. Ultimately, Wang Wei chose to see Emperor Kong first before meeting her. After all, he didn't do anything wrong.

'I should also show some sincerity, but it can't be too obvious.'

Wang Wei's eyes changed, and he saw his karmic lines. All these lines never touched his body due to the Karma Unbound Body, leaving only one attached to him like an unmovable leech. Wang Wei materialized a sword and used his father's [Absolute Cut Sutra] to cut off this karmic line.

'Hmm? The effect was 10% better. Father's technique is truly unique – especially regarding attack potency,' Wang Wei commented as he looked at the cracked karmic line. 'Unfortunately.' He could not completely sever the causal link, but it was good enough that it cracked. 'She should understand my sincerity.'

Wang Wei's destination was the Holy Academy Realm, where Emperor Kong established the main branch of the Emperor Enlightening Academy. This entire realm was countless times larger than the lower dimension and was a grand city.

'This should be the outer area?' Wang Wei thought as he walked through this vast city. There were no mortals in this place, only cultivators. 'The concentration of energy in this area is excellent, considering it's the weakest part of this city. However, there seems to be something else in the air.'

Wang Wei sensed his environment as he walked. 'Eliminating resentment, restless thoughts, calming the soul, and an understanding boost for cultivators below Tier 10 — this should be a Righteous Qi Array. Emperor Kong's foundation is more profound than I anticipated.'

It's one thing to use this kind of array for a few selected areas for talented students, but something else to use it on such a large scale for everyone to use. From what Wang Wei knows, the outer area is for guests and people waiting for the Academy to recruit members. Yet, such an environment is already top-notch, so he could wait to see the inner and central areas.

While Wang Wei was observing everything, someone flew with incredible speed and landed before. He was surprised since there were flying restrictions even in this outer area, but he understood as soon as he saw who it was.

Chapter 1309 The Academy

Wang Wei looked at the young man before him dressed in a blue literary robe, giving a free and easy atmosphere as if he were an ambitious scholar who wanted to measure the world with his feet. He compared it with the sage-like elderly man in his memory.

"Headmaster Bai Han? No, I should call you Young Master Bai Han," Wang Wei said calmly. Bai Han looked at him, a complex feeling flashing in his mind. At one time, this person was his junior and someone he saw as a threat. But now, the latter became his father's peer.

Bai Han exhaled softly to compose himself. He cupped his hands and bowed: Empyrean Wang, it's an honor to see you. My father, I mean, the Dean, sent me to welcome you."

Wang Wei looked at him and sighed: "Time is truly a fascinating subject if you look at it through the lens of the human experience. Young Dean Bai, I'm glad I'm no longer your Heart Demon."

Bai Han smiled wryly. "I was young back then, so don't take what happens to heart." His father spent much effort to enlighten him, allowing him to realize Qi of Calamity influenced him in the lower dimension and that Wang Wei had become his Heart Demon.

"I'm not that narrow-minded," Wang Wei replied. "Come one, lead the way."

"No problem." Bai Han flew into the distance, and Wang Wei followed. The outer area was vast, and even while flying countless times faster than light, it took them more than thirty minutes to reach their destination. Wang Wei realized Bai Han wanted to give him a tour instead of directly sending him to their destination, so he enjoyed the sight. There were many people; more importantly, he saw ten thousand different races.

"Teaching myriad races without distinction? It seems your father is truly walking the path of a Sage," Wang Wei commented. Most sects are racially based, including the Dao Opening Sect. Although they recruit other races, the human race is the main, while only a few highly talented foreign talents will be recruited.

"The Academy has always met to teach all sentient beings, but in the lower dimension, we had to focus on the human race due to the political climate," Bai Han said. "However, here, we have much room for development."

"There is also the fact you can't offend the demon race by excluding them," Wang Wei added. This academy was the only one opening because Emperor Kong made a deal with the parasites, but he only opened it for humans; the Blood Dragon and Five Feather would have slapped him into oblivion.

"There is that too," Bai Han nodded.

"When is your academy's next recruitment?"

"We recruit people every 50,000 Yuan Epoch, and the next time is still about 2,000 epochs away."

"That's not a long interval." Resources are strictly controlled and not infinite, so most factions will not recruit people easily. Some factions will only recruit people every million yuan epochs. Of course, they have recruitment halls that will search for talents in the meantime, but no mass recruitments will occur.

"We promise to train a few elites for the moons, so we must recruit more consistently than others," Bai Han explained.

Wang Wei nodded. They soon reached their destination. Wang Wei saw another part of the city in the distance, but he knew this was just a mirage. Then, like the academy in the lower dimension, Bai Han activated a token, and they entered another world where the inner area was located.

The first thing Wang Wei saw were countless towers. They were everywhere in this enormous city, and there were many of them — at least 10,000. He also noticed that each tower contained a unique aura or charm.

"What are those?" Wang Wei asked.

"The different schools," Bai Han explained. "The Academy's philosophy is to teach based on a person's talent or ability, so the Dean divided the teaching into different schools.

"There is the School of Alchemy and School of Array that teaches profession. The School of Heart focuses on training the Dao Heart. The School of Willpower teaches people with high willpower but low talent, the School of Enlightenment teaches people with high understanding but terrible physical qualities, the School of Combat for people with fighting talent, and so on."

"This method is excellent for teaching middle to lower talents, but it's not enough to teach top geniuses," Wang Wei commented. Any unparalleled Emperor will have their expertise, but they must also excel at many other things, especially regarding Dao Heart, willpower, soul, etc. They cannot have any flaws.

"That's what the central area is for," Bai Han explained. "If someone shows talent in many categories, they will be observed and tested for a period before entering the Academy's core for training."

"I see," Wang Wei nodded as he continued flying. He observed everything, including the towers. "Hmm? Is that a Devil Cultivator?"

"That's right," Bai Han nodded calmly.

"You guys even accept these people? Wait, why does he feel so weird? I can sense his resentment, but he has no negative karma."

"Him? He's from the School of Righteous Devil."

"Righteous Devil? I see. You feed the devil cultivators the flesh, blood, and souls of creation lives instead of regular people. That way, their bodies are still full of resentment, but Heavenly Dao does not acknowledge the karma of killing these creation lives. Your father is indeed a genius."

"As much as we would like to claim the idea for such a thing, but it wasn't his," Bai Han explained. His father told him he had this idea after annihilating a weak Emphyrean Lineage. Their ancestor was a Devil Emphyrean, but he did not want his descendants to suffer the same hardship as him.

Simultaneously, the man was proud of his Supreme Magic Technique and used this method to help them.

"Your father wants to teach all sentient beings; doesn't creation lives count? The existence of this school seems to contradict that."

"We will teach anyone who comes, but how to teach is something else," Bai Han explained. "Truth be told, the School of Righteous Devil exists only to give hope to the desperate. The people with extremely low talent, willpower, and understanding do not meet the requirements of the other schools."

"However, even so, their school is the most infamous, has the most risks, and has the highest restrictions. Only people with terrible talent who wish to embark on the cultivation path no matter what will enter."

Bai Han shook his head. The people of that school are easily influenced by the resentment around them, turning them into madmen or allowing their killing nature to take over and commit true sins. As such, the people in that school are closely monitored, and their teachers have strict requirements for training their state of mind and Dao Heart.

"Leaving hope for the desperate? Indeed a sentiment for a broadminded Sage," Wang Wei praised. The Dao Opening Sect only cultivates elites, so there is no way for them to have such a branch in their midst. However, the nature of the Academy is different, so it made sense that Emperor Kong would do this.

"Have there been any Great Emperors born in that school?"

"There have been a few, and one legendary one that also became an Empyrean," Bai Han said with some pride. From the records, he knew many people disagreed with his father's decision to establish that school until a few unparalleled figures appeared — especially Empyrean Nine-Death.

"Oh? A Legend?"

"That's right," Bai Han nodded. "The other devils used their determination to break the limit of their talents, and then, with the Academy's resources, slowly caught up to their peers and even proved the Dao. Five of the seven became Eternals, and the remaining two were Pseudo Eternaos.

"However, these people eventually changed their path — they can no longer be counted as Devil Cultivators. Some of them even completely denied their origin." Bai Han shook his head.

"The only exception is Empyrean Nine Death. He continued the Demonic Path. After purifying his soul and increasing his comprehension, he completed the Nine-Death Nine-Life Sutra, which absorbed flesh, blood, and soul to condense the Supreme Demon Body, which has absolute control over the soul, resentments, negative emotions, negative karma, blood, death, and life.

"He never changed his path or denied his origin. Now, he's one of the best teachers in the Academy and the second-best fighter after my father."

"It sounds like he does deserve the title of a legend," Wang Wei praised. He could tell what talent someone must have to be allocated to the School of Righteous Devil. It's also because of these low talents that these people have incredible achievements once they succeed in life.

"Few would deny that," Bai Han nodded. Many people still want to close that school to this day, but with Empyrean Nine Death present, no one dares. That school might be the weakest among the academies and receive the least resources, but no one can shut it down because of its existence.

'It's already a miracle that Bai Han became an Empyrean in such a short period, so how did he train another?' Wang Wei pondered. He was not surprised the Academy had Empyreans, but he figured they were people Emperor Kong recruited. However, Bai Han said that the academy trained this man, and it sounded like he was not the only one.

Chapter 1310 Heaven and Earth Wonders

Things weren't adding up. Unless Emperor Kong had found a few unparalleled geniuses compared to Wang Wei and had access to merit and numerous other resources that speed up cultivation, there is no way for him to have trained a few Empyreans for the academy — especially given how young it was. All the teachers with this cultivation level should have been people he recruited.

Wang Wei remembered Emperor Kong's life from the sect's record. After ascending, he found a secret realm that allowed him to become an Empyrean in record time. Such an event brought him some fame, but for the most part, Emperor Kong was inconspicuous.

After all, he was a loose cultivator with no background. Many factions invited him to join him, but he refused and disappeared from the world. It was not until about 300,000 Yuan Epochs ago that he appeared before the world and caused another sensation. All seven moons and two suns supported him in re-opening the Academies and training talents for them.

The reaction to the news varied. Most former academies hated him, while others thought he did an excellent job. After all, their role in this world is to teach, and in the current environment, Emperor Kong's existence has brought some hope to many sentient beings. The people from the lower dimension considered him a traitor for working with these people, while others gave him the benefit of the doubt. A few people realized he was not a simple man.

'It is possible to train an Empyrean in 300,000 Yuan Epoch, but only if a top Paragon Lineage poured their resources and cultivated someone without hesitation. Kong does not have this ability purely from a resources standpoint,' Wang Wei analyzed. 'Another possibility is he cultivated these talents during his disappearance after becoming an Empyrean, but Bai Han's story showed these talents showed up during the Academy's existence. Moreover, he should have been cultivating himself and planning for his reappearance; where would he have time to train other talents? Where would he have the resources to spare to cultivate other Empyreans?

'The only explanation is Time Artifact, but is it that good?'

Heaven and Earth are fair. The Emperor Path and Dao Path skipped countless steps by using the Heaven Will to gain access directly to the Grand Dao Source, so there must be a way to balance them. Grand Dao makes it extremely challenging and time consuming to understand the Dao Laws and restricts the effectiveness of Time Formation.

'By my calculations, Emperor Kong's Time Artifact would be better than one created by a peak Paragon of Time Dao. When he used it, the effect was even better than the ones created by a Primal Paragon.'

Wang Wei was suddenly caught in an inspiration.

'Artifact that broke the limit...Effects reducing after use...' A bright light flashed in Wang Wei's eyes. 'No way. This bastard wasn't lucky enough to find a Wonder of Heaven and Earth.'

Wang Wei suddenly stopped, surprising Bai Han.

"Is something wrong?"

"The artifact your father used to become an Emphyrean at such record speed. It wasn't a Wonder of Heaven and Earth, by any chance, right?"

Bai Han looked at him, his facial expression changing faster than a chameleon; the former Dean did not know what to say.

"By your reaction, I guess I'm right," Wang Wei replied. "Damn it, why is this man so lucky?' He was truly envious. Throughout the Chaos Universe, artifacts are ranked based on what cultivation realm they have the most effect on. Supreme Innate and Supreme Chaos Artifacts effects rank 11 and 12, and it's the same for Emphyrean and Paragon Artifacts. This rule also applies to Dao and Immortal Artifacts.

Their primary difference is how they are created and their innate characteristics. Innate Artifacts are mostly created by Heaven and Earth, with a few refined by Earth and Heaven Primarchs. Meanwhile, Emperor Dao Artifacts are mostly created by Emphyreans and Paragons, with a few born from the Grand Dao Source itself.

The former is less potent than the latter. However, they compensate for it by putting less strain on the user's mind and soul. Additionally, Innate Artifacts cannot corrode a person's Dao like Emperor Dao Artifacts.

Although Empyrean, Paragons, Earth, and Heavenly Primarch can create many fabulous things with their powers, their abilities paled in comparison to the Wonders of Heaven and Earth. For anything to have the title of [Wonder], it must meet one requirement: break Grand Dao's inherent rules or limitations.

An example would be Emperor Kong's artifact/secret realm. It broke the restrictions on how much time acceleration is allowed in the universe, allowing him to become an Empyrean in record time. Another example would be the Yin-Yang Land that appeared during the Golden Age. According to historical records, many factions fought for that wonder, including the Overlords, and it even appeared that a worldwide war was about to happen. Luckily, someone found the ability of that wonder, which reduced the interest of many people.

The Yin-Yang Land broke the restriction on birth. Immortal Tier cultivators of any path are too powerful and have an infinite lifespan on top of everything else. As such, Grand Dao placed restrictions on their fertility to prevent them from giving birth to too many Dao Children and causing too much chaos between Heaven and Earth. However, no matter what cultivation someone is, as long as they enter the Yin-Yang Land, they can give birth to offspring.

Wang Wei sighed while controlling his greed. Wonders are attractive, but they also have limitations, and sadly, those limitations are on the number of uses. Most will disappear after only one time, while some will allow multiple users. However, once the usage passes the limit, the wonder will either disappear or the effect of breaking the limit will be gone. What's left is still on par with peak artifacts created by the most potent Paragons and Heavenly Primarch. However, it's not the same as the former wonder.

'A lot of things make sense now,' Wang Wei thought. 'But I wonder how he kept that thing for himself?'

Although Emperor Kong's artifact had lost its status as a Wonder of Heaven and Earth, it was still precious, meaning these greedy moons would have never left it to him.

"Do you want to continue?" Bai Han asked calmly. He had figured out that he had panicked for no reason. Their academy never hid the Empyreans they cultivated, and there were many wise people in the world, so couldn't they have figured out their secrets? Yet, his father was able to keep that

treasure. Although Bai Han did not know how he did it, the fact he never tried to hide it is proof of his father's confidence. As such, it did not matter whether he accidentally revealed the news to Wang Wei. The truth is it was only a matter of time before he discovered this truth — just like everyone else; in fact, he was just catching up.

The two continued this tour, but Bai Han was mainly quiet, fearing he would reveal too much. Although he woke up from the previous shock, this incident reminded him of the time Wang Wei played with him in the lower dimension, causing him to lose his position as Headmaster. Although he knew he had lost so miserably because of the Qi of Calamity, Bai Han also understood that he would not fare any better even without it. He learned from Xu Shi what Wang Wei had done in the lower dimension and understood how scary it is to confront such a monster.

Bai Han flew slightly faster than before, so the two soon arrived at their destination: a beautiful white palace with a unique Dao Rhyme associated with scholars of the Literary Way. With a glance, Wang Wei could tell this was not an actual palace but a physical manifestation of the world it contained. Once they were before the palace, a formation was activated to scan their bodies. Then, a spatial fluctuation enveloped them, transporting them inside. Wang Wei looked at the vast world before him, taking a glance at everything.

"Welcome to the central area," Bai Han said.

Wang Wei raised his hand to manipulate something in the air to condense a golden light. "Righteous Qi? No, it's not as simple as that. You used an array to transform the Dao Qi between Heaven and Earth into the purest form of Righteous Qi, boosting its effect on cultivation by at least 200%."

"It's my father's work. He's very proud of it," Bai Han replied after several considerations.

"He should, especially if this formation can be used with the same effect using third-grand Dao Sources," Wang Wei nodded. Third-Grande Sources are used by Paragons, meaning every single one contains the best quality of Dao Qi. If this formation could still provide a 200% boost or even a 10% boost, it would still be extremely impressive and valuable.

"That, I don't know about," Bai Han said, telling the truth. His father never told him anything about Paragons or things of that level.