

## F.D Emperor 1431

### Chapter 1431 Reunions (Finale)

'I now understand why the upcoming catastrophe targets the Overlords. After ruling the world for so long, all of them have become arrogant, prideful, and corrupt,' Wang Wei thought. Why do loose cultivators hate clans and sects? It's not just because they hoard all the wealth but also because dealing with their members is a nightmare due to their overinflated pride and ego.

'I bet the decadence of the Golden Era started before the Ultimate Taboo; better yet, the taboo should have been the solution to this problem,' Wang Wei analyzed. 'Sadly, the taboo failed, and the subsequent era became an opportunity to suppress these Overlords' arrogance and pride. Sadly, they did not respect any of the Moon's rules, so they just buried that pride until things returned to normal.'

Wang Wei reckoned that even if Time Eater were not present, Heavenly Dao would have weeded out the Overlords before the start of the Transcendent Era. 'It seems class solidification is bad for development in any world,' Wang Wei shook his head before returning to his peaceful life.

Now that he had met all the Overlords, he had no more meetings and could focus on enjoying the few hundred years. Wang Wei was glad he recreated his garden or started fishing again, as the peaceful environment did soothe his loneliness somehow. However, he was wrong, as he had a few more unexpected guests.

"I didn't expect to see you until the trial," Wang Wei said as he stood up from his fishing spot.

"I wanted to come sooner, but I was finishing some last-minute training," Ji Lanfang said. He summoned two gourds, and Wang Wei noticed that both his arms were slightly brown. Wang Wei was even more surprised after checking his [Existence].

"This wine is called Swordstrike — try it."

Wang Wei caught the bottle and took a sip; he immediately felt the effect. His spirit entered an empty space and started battling countless swordsmen. For a moment, Wang Wei experienced the pride and heroism that his father and all swordsmen often boast about, and he understood why these men loved their weapons more than their wives. He still thought it was stupid, but he understood.

"Great wine," he commented. If he were a swordsman and of lower cultivation, this would be a supreme wine for training and improving his strength.

"It is, isn't it?" Ji Lanfang smiled as he sat down next to him. "Your father — he's fine, right?"

"All I know is he's alive," Wang Wei sighed.

"After ascending, I've met countless great swordsmen, but none can click with me as your father," Ji Lanfang complained. "It would be terrible to lose such a friend."

"I understand that sentiment," Wang Wei nodded. He and Li Jun just clicked after that fateful meeting when they were children. The only person he had felt this way toward was Xu Shi. Still, their different factions made it impossible for their relationship to develop genuinely. Since they were not as pure as those swordsmen, their conversation usually had too many underlying things — especially after ascending.

The two chatted for a few minutes, reminiscing about their experience with Wang Tian. Wang Wei even learned some things about his father that he previously did not know, realizing that while he had his own adventure, his father had a life outside of being his father.

Wang Wei, after allowing himself to get a little tipsy, asked: "Are you here for the Power of Nothingness?"

"I knew I couldn't hide it from you — not as I was trying in the first place," Ji Lanfang nodded as he showed his two arms, which were a bronze color compared to his fair skin on the other parts. "My sword has only one purpose — absolute speed. However, if I want to achieve that, I cannot have any resistance when I slash."

Ji Lanfang stabbed his finger in the air, and he was so fast most people would not notice he had moved in the first place.

"I've conquered resistance, inertia, matter resistance, space-time resistance, and even countless other conceptual resistance — leaving only nothingness. Only when my sword can move in an area of absolute nothingness can I reach the speed I want. But..."

"Nothingness is a bitch, and every time you swing your sword, you lose your arm," Wang Wei commented.

"Exactly," Ji Lanfang nodded. "I was inspired by you and changed my body refining method to adapt slowly to the Power of Nothingness. Surprisingly, it allowed me to enter the Emperor Taboo Battle Realm, so I figured I could do the same in the Empyrean Realm. Unfortunately, I underestimated that power when I tried, almost killing myself."

"That's understandable," Wang Wei replied as he raised his hand to condense a talisman with his knowledge about nothingness.

"Thank you," Ji Lanfang nodded as he carefully put it away. "I have prepared a great gift for your father. And if you ever need help tracking him down, don't hesitate to call."

"No problem."

Ji Lanfang eventually left, but Wang Wei had a smile on the corner of his mouth. "I thought Huo Fenghuang had the most potential, but it seems I was wrong. I wonder who would win between them." This was hard to determine. Although Ji Lanfang's foundation is deeper since he entered the taboo in the Emperor Realm, the actual value of the battle realm will only manifest in the Transcendent Realm — it's a kind of foundation or preparation for that stage.

'Ji Lanfang's attack potency is higher, but Huo Fenghuang has versatility with all five unique bloodlines. However, Ji Lanfang now follows the Ultimate Sword Path, meaning he no longer has the flaw of a weak body. Meanwhile, Huo Fenghuang's cultivation is 1% higher than his, and given how close their other attributes or stats are, it's enough to make a difference in this scenario.'

On paper, a battle between these two looked 50-50, but if Wang Wei had to bet, he would bet on Huo Fenghuang, and that's because of their battle experience. He could tell from his battle with her that she had pushed herself in her training, experiencing countless battles — even life and death — in the past 10,000 yuan epochs. Meanwhile, Ji Lanfang's aura tells me his battles were mostly learning experiences; he has probably fought countless swordsmen but only to absorb the essence of their Sword Dao to complement his. So, in a life-and-death battle, Wang Wei would put his money on Huo Fenghuang.

'Everything can happen, so they might fight during the catastrophe,' Wang Wei smiled as he continued his rest. However, a little over five years later, he received a request from another unexpected guest.

'Is he trying to ask for compensation?' Wang Wei's lips twitched before accepting the request.

"Old Ma — how have you been?" Wang Wei asked while checking the latter's bloodline to see if he was related to the Ma Clan. Sadly, they only had the same name. 'It's a shame. I could have claimed Ma Liqiu's reward immediately after the trial.'

"I'm not here for your sweet words," Old Ma said directly without even sitting down. "You gutted our rebellion, leaving nothing but crumbs. The Lord sent me to get recuperation."

"Alright, we're old friends, so why are you saying things to ruin that?" Wang Wei said as he poured out the tea. However, Old Ma refused to sit down or drink. "You should be here for the trial, right? I'll offer you three free spots."

"Only three?"

"What do you mean only three?" Wang Wei argued. "That's three future Paragons — that's three spots that your broke Lord cannot afford."

Old Ma's face turned red. He wanted to argue and yell, but he was telling the truth. Paragon Jimin was new, which also means he was broke. He came so late because they were trying to accumulate the wealth for the tickets, but they failed. Luckily, Old Ma's face was thick, so he quickly recovered.

"After everything you've done, you only give us three spots? Aren't you ashamed?"

"What have I done?" Wang Wei asked with pure and innocent eyes. "Those men I took wanted to follow me since your leader was absent — you can't blame me for that."

"You!" Old Ma never thought he would meet someone more shameless than him. "What about what you did to our leader?"

"You mean saving his life?"

"You bastard! Don't play innocent — you could have saved him instead of forcing him to cast that curse."

"The situation was complex, and I realized the only way for him to escape was death. I just ensure he was a normal death instead of a true death," Wang Wei argued. "In fact, he should thank me since I made his death worth something. Didn't he receive some luck for assisting in eliminating one of Five Feathers' lives?"

"You have an answer for everything, don't you?" Old Ma said with gritted teeth.

"I don't lie, so I usually have an answer for everything," Wang Wei boldly lied. Old Ma almost exploded. "Three is not enough," he nearly yelled.

"Three is quite generous," Wang Wei countered. "And tell Jimin that he owes me for saving his life." Wang Wei did not previously use any karmic threat after saving Jimin since he did feel a little bad, but now, he blatantly used it in front of Old Ma.

"You!"

"Trying to take advantage of me? Hmph, you're a thousand yuan epoch too young," Wang Wei thought. "Alright, you have overstayed your welcome. Tell Jimin to choose his candidates wisely since he should understand how terrifying the Paragon Tribulation is."

Old Ma's demeanor suddenly changed as he bowed to Wang Wei: "As you wish."

"Life is truly like a play, and the best actors are the winners," Wang Wei murmured as he watched Old Ma fly away.

## Chapter 1432 The Trial's Entry

'Is it already time?' Wang Wei thought as he slowly opened his eyes from his quick meditation. He stood up and stretched his body for a few seconds before leaving the room to see Red Mask waiting for him.

"Ready?" he asked.

"Everything is settled."

"Good," Wang Wei walked away, and Red Mask turned into a shadow and blended with Wang Wei's. Wang Qi was already waiting outside. "I'll leave everything else to you."

"Patriarch, you know I'm reliable." During the remaining rest time, Wang Wei took the opportunity to officially become the Wang Clan's sect master. He did everything quietly and covertly, and only a few people knew of this sudden change in power. Wang Wei has already started executing his low-key motto, so he will only meet all the upper echelons of the Wang Clan after becoming a Paragon. For now, the position will increase his chances of passing the Immeasurable Tribulation.

"I know," Wang Wei nodded before flying out of his mountain range, where ten people were awaiting his presence. He did not interfere with these clans' selection process, so this was the first time he met these people.

'Only two of them can be described as exceptional by my standards,' Wang Wei thought. All these people were peak Emphyreans, and some were double refiners with body refining achievements. However, only two of them had something unique about them.

The first one is the heir of the Su Clan, Su Dandan. Besides the Wang Clan and the sectarian faction, who are hotspots of all kinds of talents, all the other clans have their own niche or expertise. The Su Clan is a family of body refiners, and Su Dandan inherited her clan's legacy.

She was slightly muscular, distinguishing her aesthetics from the general norm for women in the cultivation world. However, her muscular frame brought a different kind of beauty—the kind that appreciated the female form in all its glory, especially since she wore blue tight-fitting martial clothes. Her hair was shoulder length, and her body naturally released heat and excessive yang energy.

'Such a terrifying blood energy,' Wang Wei thought. Wang Wei found her cultivation technique fascinating. The simplest way to explain it was that she infinitely stacked her Blood Qi; a better way to describe it is that she used a cultivation technique that trained Blood Qi with only 10 levels and cultivated it to level 10 billion and above. It was simple, crude, but highly effective.

'In some ways, her cultivation approach is the purest form of body refining,' Wang Wei commented. No Body Refiners can escape tempering their Blood Qi in their cultivation's early or middle journey. However, Blood Qi will eventually be changed to something else or evolve to a higher power, but it is still the essence.

Wang Wei shifted his gaze to the second person with potential, Xie Xiaoli. The Xie family's expertise is assassination and espionage powered by Shadow Dao. Xie Xiaoli did not forget that as

he forged his own path. The unique thing about him is that he used his Grandmist to create a large world with only shadow energy and creatures. He then connected that world to the Source Qi Space, allowing him an infinite amount of shadow energy to boost his techniques and divine abilities.

'He has basically abandoned using his Grandmist World to cultivate any subordinates as all the Shadow Lives exist only to absorb or sacrifice when he needs a boost in battle,' Wang Wei analyzed. He must admit that this Xie Xiaoli was dedicated to the Way of Assassin and the Way of Shadow. He glanced at the others but did not catch anything unexpected.

"I know your elders have already warned you, but I will do it again to demonstrate the importance of this warning. Be careful with the Paragon Tribulation because if you die, no Peak Paragon will waste their time rebuilding your [Existence]."

Dying in the tribulation is an event close to achieving true death. The only way to revive someone who failed their Paragon Tribulation is for a Peak Paragon to spend at least a million Yuan Epochs rebuilding their [Existence]. No Paragon wants to waste their time, especially when people who have been revived will have a hundred times harder passing the tribulation a second time. So, unless they are family or loved, few people will put the effort into reviving those who fail in their tribulation.

"It seems you understand. Good, in that case, let's go." Wang Wei flew into the trial's designated mountain. He passed through a dimensional barrier that isolated the ample internal space of this mountain. The group found themselves in a green plain with countless magical circles floating above their heads. Everyone had already arrived, and their presence garnered much attention.

Wang Wei looked around, and most of the people he expected to come were here, with a few surprises. Chu Luo was not there, but Shi Qian came. Furthermore, he saw the Golden Sword Emperor amongst the Sword Path League people. He also saw the current ruler of the Southern Chu Dynasty, also known as the Third Prince. The latter wanted to see Wang Wei, but he declined.

"Since everyone is here, we can now begin," said a deep, coarse voice. "Remember, do not resist what is going to happen." The magic circles in the air activated, followed by a dragon roar. All the participants' Qi Luck manifested, including Wang Wei, who had hidden its unique qualities.

The Qi Luck Dragons rushed into the sky, forming a beautiful sight of thousands of multicolored dragons swimming between Heaven and Earth. Then, the dragons released chains that embedded themselves into the void. The dragon roared as they pulled something from the unknown.

Everyone felt a slight tremor but saw nothing change in the sky until a bright silver gate hung above everybody's head. "The operation has been successful," the deep voice stated. "Be mindful that the surrounding area of the River of Time is turbulent, so it may be best to protect your Great Emperors in case something goes wrong."

The Great Emperors were immediately embarrassed, but it couldn't help that they were at the bottom of this team. However, no one flew to the gate despite the voice's words. Instead, countless eyes secretly looked at the Dao Opening Sect's team. Wang Wei understood these people's mentality, so he did not comment and just flew with his team toward the gate.

He sensed a subtle void fluctuation before the team found themselves in this infinite white space with nothing in sight — including a single speck of matter. Wang Wei and everyone else was confused before a spirit about an arm's length in height materialized before everyone.

"Hehem, can everyone hear me?" the spirit said, his voice audible to all the participants. "I am Sir Lu, the spirit controlling this trial. Due to unexpected events, your world forcefully summoned us, making everything chaotic." He let his words simmer for a few seconds.

"We were in the process of landing in a chosen world, and we will continue doing so, meaning you have to wait before the other participants arrive to begin the Mortalhood Trial." After saying these words, Sir Lu did not wait for anyone and disappeared from this place.

'I knew it,' Wang Wei thought. 'However, this will complicate things.' The presence of other Chaos Worlds will have countless implications, many of which were the last thing he wanted. 'Let's take precautions.'

"All eyes on me," Wang Wei said before raising his hand to separate them into an isolated dimension away from any prying eyes. "The presence of other Chaos Worlds can be devastating to the Eternal Ascension World, so we must take some precautions."

Wang Wei did not let them process his words as he started his action. He used his Time Dao to summon a projection of the River of Time. Then, from the river, he condensed a yellow rope of time energy, and with a thought, a lock attached itself. He waved his hand, and the rope flew before every participant, followed by a lock. Many people wanted to resist this strange spell or technique, but as soon as they tried something, they felt a chill down their spine as an intense killing intent locked them.

"This is not enough," Wang Wei muttered before summoning the River of Fate and intertwining strings to the rope. The next step was to invoke a Paragon Artifact to bless the lock on the rope.

"This rope symbolizes our world's information and history — your information and history. Those of you who are aware of what's going on should understand what length these foreign Chaos Worlds will go to get news on the current situation of the Eternal Ascension World."

The faces of the people who haven't figured out what Wang Wei meant changed drastically; they understand what kind of danger they may face in this trial. The only people who remained clueless were the loose cultivators who did not know anything outside of their home world.

"If you have a Paragon Artifact, bless the lock to ensure our information is secure," Wang Wei ordered. A few people hesitated, but the ones who understood the bigger picture did not hesitate.

### Chapter 1433 The Trial Begins

These geniuses — no, powerhouses — no longer hesitated as they summoned their Paragon Artifact to bless this [History Timeline Lock], ensuring their privacy had the highest level of protection.

"You, you, you..." Wang Wei said, pointing at twelve people. "I know you have an artifact. Don't waste people's time."

The people chosen had an ugly expression, wondering how this bastard knew such information. One of them, an ordinarily-dressed scholar, who remained calm after Wang Wei's accusation, smiled before saying: "Lord Wang Wei, not all of us are lucky to be from a powerful faction. Possessing a Paragon Artifact is a luxury that many cannot afford."

Wang Wei glanced at him and immediately knew this was a two-faced scholar. Although he appeared kind and approachable, the hidden stink of blood on his body could not be hidden from his senses. Wang Wei did not say another word; he did not mention that just by coming in contact with a paragon Artifact, these people's Existence had some lasting traces even if the artifact's aura had long been erased.

The two-faced scholar felt a terrifying pressure weighing on him; he felt his intestines and his soul were being squeezed together. "What's the meaning of this?" he yelled, trying to rally more attention toward him. However, instead of backing off, Wang Wei became more blatant as his killing intent manifested to suppress him. The scholar opened his mouth to say something, but the pressure was too much; he had a feeling that if he pushed his luck, he would die. "Mer...cy," he uttered with difficulty, and Wang Wei decreased the pressure. The scholar did hesitate to summon his greatest trump card — a hairpin with a few broken spots. With gritted teeth, the scholar blessed the timeline. The other eleven learned from his mistake and did not try their luck, so the process soon ended. "It's still not enough," Wang Wei muttered before pointing at the floor to manifest a magical circle and a small altar. His Qi Luck Dragon materialized before shrinking to a size small

enough to rest on the altar. Wang Wei clasped his hand and bowed ninety degrees: "Heaven and Earth above, I would not contact you if the fate of our world were not on the line. I besieged you to manifest in this humble dimension."

All the participants felt a terrifying Will descend on this place, and they knew who it was — Heavenly Dao. Luckily, it did not fully materialize in One Eye Shape, or many couldn't bear the pressure. Wang Wei was an anomaly; that's why he had so many encounters with Heavenly Dao and Grand Dao. For most of these cultivators, the closest they've come to Heavenly Dao is when facing tribulations; some don't even know Heavenly Dao's true form of one eye.

"Please, protect our information from being leaked," Wang Wei stated. The powerful will checked Wang Wei's spell, and a few seconds later, a golden chain materialized in this place, wrapping itself around the rope and locks.

"Now it's enough," Wang Wei nodded. With Heavenly Dao's blessing, only if another powerful Half-Step Transcendent decides to show up will they have a chance at getting their information. Before that, no other methods would work, including Soul Search, Divination, Time Rewind, Yin-Calculations, and countless others.

"Thank you for your help," Wang Wei bowed as Heavenly Dao's presence dissipated, and a few other participants also saluted. Wang Wei was about to dissipate the isolating dimension when he noticed an anomaly amongst the loose cultivators. The emotional aura their bodies released indicated they were unhappy about this lock.

'Were these guys planning to sell the information for a good price?' Wang Wei analyzed. 'No, this is not just about loose cultivators gathering resources. The foreign Chaos Worlds should have spies left in the Eternal Ascension World, and my action has prevented these spies from reporting to their superiors. I should watch out for them.'

...

Everyone calmly waited for the trial to continue, and luckily, it was only for five years. A portal appeared opposite their group, teleporting countless people with terrifying auras. The Eternal Ascension World people swiftly noticed the number of people was at least ten times theirs, which seemed a little too much.

'The way this group separates themselves and how their aura is radically different,' Wang Wei observed. 'They are from different Chaos Worlds.' As soon as he made this observation, he realized

it made sense. The other Chaos Worlds did not isolate themselves like the Eternal Ascension World, meaning that news about the Mortalhood Trial should have spread.

These foreign Chaos Worlds would not pass this opportunity to cultivate more Paragons, so they should have negotiated. Even without the negotiation, some worlds would secretly sneak in to participate. There is also the fact that some worlds might be political, military, or economic allies, making sharing this trial something inevitable.

Wang Wei observed everyone who arrived, analyzing them on a fundamental level. Then, he stopped as he noticed an anomaly. A man with white hair and blood-red skin was staring directly at him. The stare was laced with such an intense killing intent that you would think Wang Wei had killed this guy's parents.

However, this man's strange appearance and hostility were not the weirdest part of him. 'Something is blocking my technique, and this power is so familiar. What is it? Oh, right, it's the power of obsession.' With this information, he had put two and two together, deducing the latter's identity and why he hated him so much. However, Wang Wei did not approach or pay more attention as he continued his observation.

Then, he discovered a second anomaly when observing a handsome young man who screamed that cockiness and "acting like a young master" were his personality. Not only was Wang Wei unable to read his [Existence], he felt a terrifying sense of danger from this man.

'Although it was fleeting, the danger was present, and it was overwhelming,' Wang Wei thought. 'No, it was too overwhelming to be coming from an Empyrean. Even if it was a Paragon, I doubt it would be so intense.' He squinted his eyes, trying to think of this person's identity.

Wang Wei moved his eyes to stop at a blind old woman dressed in pure black. He immediately detected the power of fate around her and decided her identity from this: 'The All-Seeing Temple. I did the right thing to hide my information.' The few anomalies have proven this trial will be an annoyance, and their presence further reinforced Wang Wei's decision to remain low-key and act from the shadows.

Wang Wei observed and analyzed. For a moment, he thought there would be no more surprise until the last person passed through the portal. A man more handsome than words could describe slowly flew from the gate. His pure white clothes, a symbol of his etherealness and purity, floated with the hair, along with his long, luscious, black hair. Dao Rhymes followed him, and upon observation, everyone could tell this was not a show, but the laws of Heaven and Earth simply loved this man to such an extent.

All eyes were on this man, including Wang Wei, but he stared for an entirely different reason. The moment he laid eyes on this bastard, he sensed a natural repulsion, followed by a thread of fate he never discovered connecting them. Wang Wei immediately knew their life was destined to intertwine whether he wanted to or not.

'My destined enemy — the Son of Grand Dao,' Wang Wei figured out. 'What the hell is going on?' However, he immediately had an answer after asking himself: Grand Dao was trying to stop his rise before he reached the level of becoming a genuine problem.

'In other words, I'm once again fucked by my future self,' Wang Wei groaned internally. He wanted to curse, but since this was not the first time, he was calmer this time. Sir Lu had appeared, meaning it was time for this trial to begin officially.

"Can everyone hear me? Good," Sir Lu nodded. "We have amassed a tremendous amount of destiny, so we decided to raise the stake of the trial."

'There it is,' Wang Wei complained.

"However, before we begin, I should give anyone who so wishes a chance to decline their participation," Sir Lu continued. "Once you enter, the only way to leave is to become a Paragon or meet stringent requirements that you would probably die before accomplishing."

He let his words simmer while giving the participants their last chance to save their lives. However, everyone present was the elites among elites, so they knew the risk of coming here and would not cower now in the face of danger. Even if someone wishes to, they can't back down now in the presence of their peers.

"This is not the time to let pride rule your decision," Sir Lu warned, but his words had no effect. "Well, it's your choice." He snapped his finger, and everyone teleported to another location.

## Chapter 1434 The Trial's Rules

As soon as they arrived at the destination, no one had the time to look around as they sensed their bodies experiencing a tremendous change. Many people immediately sat down cross-legged to check this change, Wang Wei included. Most people failed to detect anything; if they did, it was only surface level.

But Wang Wei saw everything. He saw how an unknown power directly suppressed all the characteristics in his [Existence] that granted him his eternal lifespan before squeezing these characteristics for an unknown pure energy that is divested into the ground.

'Is this trial some kind of secret plot to steal people's power?' Wang Wei thought. Such thought stopped him from enjoying the superb application of [Existence] that this trial just exerted. 'It doesn't make sense. Only a powerful Half-Step Transcendent could make such a trial, and the power from these Emphyreans should be nothing to them even if it has been storing it for ages.'

Wang Wei kept his skepticism, but he did not make any conclusions. He continued observing the process, trying to record and learn from it as much as possible. 'I have 10 million years of life span left,' Wang Wei thought as he opened his eyes to observe everyone. It appeared he was the highest, if you don't count the people he could not read, and the smallest amount he detected was 1200 years.

The process was not random but based on the individual's foundation and how developed their [Existence] is. 'Hmm? He doesn't look too happy. It seems his life span is not much.' Although he could not read any information from the cocky young master, the latter did a terrible job of hiding his emotions.

"How is everyone doing?" Sir Lu said with a smile as his voice spread to every corner. However, no one was in the mood to share his jovial enthusiasm.

"Now that you have acclimated to the environment, let me introduce the rules," Sir Lu continued. "You are now in the Residential Area, and it's also the Safe Zone. No fighting and killing is allowed here."

Everyone looked around, and nothing was nearby besides a few enormous towers in the distance. It appeared they needed to build their own accommodations.

"Outside that barrier is the hunting area, divided into two levels," Sir Lu continued. "The hunting area contained a creature unique to our trial called the Bestowal Monster. Level 1 hunting area contained Emphyrean Tier creatures and level 2 for Paragons."

Everyone listened attentively, not wanting to miss a single word.

"Hunting creatures is everything in this trial," Sir Lu smirked. "You want to cultivate? Hunt monsters. You want to increase your lifespan? Hunt monsters. You want a token to allow other members of your faction to enter the trial without being summoned? Hunt monsters."

Many people frowned as this was not what they expected from this trial. However, Sir Lu was not about to explain or alleviate their concerns. "There are a few rules when hunting. You cannot summon your elders or power beyond your capabilities unless it is to save yourself. However, be warned we can exile you from this trial if you go too far."

"You can use artifacts higher than your realm, but puppets are not allowed — unless you refine them yourselves."

Sir Lu did not care about these people's complaints. He waved his hand, and a token appeared in everybody's hands.

"Every monster killed will reward a certain amount of points based on their individual strength, and the token will record your current and accumulative points, both important," Sir Lu continued.

"Points will be used in the towers over there." Everyone looked at the towers.

"There are eight towers: The Dao Tower will make understanding the Grand Dao Source easier and help break bottlenecks. You are allowed to use the resources you brought for additional boosts."

"The Soul Tower will make it easier to build a Paragon Soul."

"The Heart Tower will allow you to experience Samsara to cultivate your mind and willpower. You can also stimulate the Time Erasing Tribulation and read about the experience of former trial takers."

"The Luck Tower will help you achieve White Qi Luck Dragon."

"The Tribulation Tower is where you underwent your transformation. The tower can accelerate the time of your tribulations while minimizing the backlash."

A Paragon Tribulation can be as fast as a few million years to a few yuan epochs, so the participants understood the need for this tower.

"The Essence Tower is for all the Indestructible Emphyreans. This tower has everything you need to reach higher levels, including cultivation techniques and the experience of former participants.

"The Life Tower is where you heal your injuries after hunting or after the tribulation. Of course, like everything else, it's accelerated.

"Lastly, it's the Battle Tower. This is where you fight for honor or wager your trial points. The top 100 will receive rewards in the form of points, and I will tell you a little secret. The Battle Tower is the only place besides hunting where you can receive other rewards like a life increase or trial token. However, to do so, you must have an unbeatable fighting record or stay at the top spot for an extended period."

These participants' eyes shone brighter than the sun. They are the darling of their worlds, always competing to be the best. Now, they can prove they are better than people in other Chaos Worlds. There is also the fact that winning a battle is the best way to take people's destiny and increase theirs; in other words, the battle tower can replace the Luck Tower, saving them points.

"I'm glad you're excited, but there is more," Sir Lu chuckled. He snapped his finger, and two scrolls appeared above the towers, one of them explicitly located above the battle tower.

"Remember when I said your accumulated points mattered?" Sir Lu asked. "The first list will keep records of the top 100 participants with the most points. These 100 seeded individuals will be granted a first-selection pass, meaning they can use any of the towers whenever they desire."

Everyone squinted at this revelation as they processed the implications.

"Yes, that means seeded participants can kick non-seed out of the tower to use it, and the higher the rank, the higher the power," Sir Lu chuckled. "I'll tell you another secret. The rooms at the top of the tower are exponentially better than the others, and there is such thing as the best room."

The eyes of these participants glowed with the unbridled power of ambition; they wanted one thing and one thing only — to be the number one and have the best of all the towers.

"The ranking in the Battle Tower will be based on your fighting records. I think that's it for all the rules. I don't think I missed something," Sir Lu stated contemplatively. "Well, any questions?"

"I have a question," someone raised their hands.

"Go ahead."

"Can we hunt in a team?"

"Yes, that is allowed, but the distribution of points will left to you since the token will only register the person with the final kill," Sir Lu's words were simplified. Still, they also revealed information that intrigued certain grifters who planned to steal monsters.

"What about killing? Is that allowed?" someone else asked.

"It's allowed as long as you don't do it in the Safety Zone, and you will receive three-quarters of the dead participant's points," Sir Lu nodded calmly.

"That's good to hear."

"Can I sell longevity pills?" someone asked.

"You can, but I can tell you it's useless here." This was terrible news for the people who thought they could use their deep background and resources to compensate for their lack of life span.

"What If I exchange my lifespan for points?" someone asked.

"That is allowed," Sir Lu nodded. "You mentioned stringent requirements to leave this trial early. What are they?"

"Hunt 10 Paragon Bestawal Monster or have 5000 undefeated streaks," Sir Lu responded calmly, making countless people shake their heads. More people continued asking questions, trying to understand the rules better. Then, out of nowhere, Yang Guowei, who had hidden his identity and blended with the loose cultivator crowd, raised his hand.

"Some of us like anonymity, so is it possible to hide our names in the seeded list?"

"Confident, aren't we? But that is to be expected," Sir Lu joked. "Your name can be hidden, or you can use another identity. However, your homeworld origin cannot be hidden."

The questions continued for a few more minutes before everything ended.

"Now that these questions have ended, it's time for the last section of this introduction," Sir Lu said with a smile. "Remember when I said this particular trial had amassed a great deal of destiny, so things would be more interesting? Now it's time for me to give you a great surprise."

Sir Lu coughed lightly to clear his throat. "Usually, a participant must exit this trial after becoming a Paragon. However, for this trial, we have extended the staying limit to the Paragon Realm's Fifth Heaven, or 95% realm, as you call it."

"Sir Lu, are you saying?"

"That's right. You can continue using our facilities until you reach a cultivation of 95%."

People were immediately salivating after hearing this. Such news meant they could reach the middle level of the Paragon Realm at a record time.

"Don't get too excited since there are more rewards and more rules," Sir Lu continued.

#### Chapter 1435 On The Move

"The rules are only one person can cultivate to the Fifth Heaven, and once that happens, there will be no more," Sir Lu continued. These participants became more excited; this trial brought back the feeling of the Heaven Will Battle, the feeling of competing with all their peers for a single spot of glory.

"Please let me continue," Sir Lu stated to quiet down the murmurs. "Two people will be allowed to cultivate to the Fourth Heaven, 4 to the Third Heaven, 8 to the Second Heaven, and 16 to the First Heaven."

"As you all know, even 1% can make a difference when cultivating in the Paragon Realm, so don't miss this opportunity — even the 16 First Heaven Spots."

Sir Lu was correct. Cultivation in the Paragon Realm was challenging, and a difference of 1% can make a significant difference. Additionally, these participants have sensed a wind of change. Another round of chaos is about to cover the Chaos Universe, so the faster they grow, the higher

their chances of survival. And if they grow fast enough, they might use the chaos to reach higher heights.

"Do you think that was all?" Sir Lu smiled. "I got more for you. The first person to reach Fifth Heaven will receive five entrance tokens, the 2 Fourth Heavens will receive two tokens each, and the 4 Third Heaven will receive one token as a reward. So, hurry up and cultivate as fast as you can."

Wang Wei calmly looked at the people around, secretly shaking his head. This trial took the concept of raising Gu to the limit as it dangled rewards before these geniuses to subtly encourage them to fight, compete, and kill one another. The interesting part is it does not matter whether you realize this; anyone with ambitions or pride in their heart will rise to the challenge.

"Alright, this is everything for now," Sir Lu stated. "If there are any new developments, we will contact you through your trial token." As soon as he finished, countless people flew to the tower or directly to the hunting ground, leaving only a few level-headed individuals.

"Follow me," Wang Wei said to the Dao Opening Sect people before flying to a corner of the Safety Zone. With a thought, he recreated his [Transcending Fate Mountain], including the small manor and garden. Of course, the garden only looked the same and did not contain all the precious flowers the genuine thing had.

Wang Wei calmly looked at his residence. Although the mountain looked the same, anyone who had been there could tell it was not. The genuine [Transcending Fate Mountain] oozed the power of fate, but this one had a heavy Yin-Yang Aura. Additionally, the plague that called this place [Transcending Fate Mountain] now had the characters for [Plum Blossom Mountain].

Without hesitation, Wang Wei started engraving formations on the mountains while everyone else waited. Although this trial forbade fighting in this area, he would not place his safety on someone else. It took Wang Wei a few hours to finish, but he did not hurry.

"Look at you: the word 'impatient' might as well be engraved in your faces," Wang Wei said as he walked inside the manor to his team. He sat on the main cushion, looking at this group: "I must remind you your primary objective is to become Paragons, not compete with others. You can compete with others after overcoming the Immeasurable Tribulation."

Wang Wei let his words simmer, but it seems only a few of them heed his warnings. He frowned but did not say anything else. "For the beginning of the test, you must move in a group. Hunt the

monsters in the first level from the weakest to the strongest; this should give you an idea of how strong they are for when you start solo hunting."

"Young master, is this really necess—" The person hadn't finished his words when he felt a terrifying pressure weighing on him, and he immediately shut his mouth.

"Su Dandan will be the team leader, followed by Xie Xiaoli as the vice-leader," Wang Wei continued. "Remember, your task is to allow your team to measure these monsters' strength and know how to hunt alone."

"Understand," Su Dandan replied briefly, and Xie Xiaoli only nodded.

"I don't think I need to help you with properly dividing the spoils?" Wang Wei asked.

"No need," Su Dandan replied.

"Good. You can leave." Wang Wei calmly watched them exit the premises, and once they were far gone, he uttered: "You can come out." The void in the room parted due to a terrifying sword will, revealing an ordinary man in blue with extraordinary eyes.

"Yan Jie, right?" The man nodded, but Wang Wei frowned. "The way you hide your original Sword Will is full of flaws." He pointed at him, and the tip of his hands released a blue light. Yan Jie's body instinctively operated in a strange manner, and his disguise drastically improved. Even if his master was here, he might not be able to identify Yan Jie's Sword Aura and Will.

"Thank you," Yan Jie said with a flash of surprise in his eyes.

"It seems you're as quiet as your teacher," Wang Wei commented. "Anyway, your target is the Myriad Clan Union, the Primarch Origin Temple, and the Limitless Exchange Hall — these three have the highest number of participants, and we can't allow that. Start by killing the weakest members and work your way up. As long as you reduce their number, you don't have to fight their elites unless you wish to."

"I understand."

"One more thing," Wang Wei added as he released a light into Yan Jie's body. "I have a few loose cultivators under my wing, and I have left a way for you to detect them. If you can encounter them, you can choose to work together."

"Very well."

Wang Wei waved his hand to dismiss this boring guy. His next focus is on the anomalies he noticed during the entrance: 'No need to worry about them since they will be easier to deal with once I'm a Paragon. In that case, let's focus on domestic trouble.'

His shadow morphed into Red Mask. "Lord, what's your order?"

"There should be a few spies amongst the loose cultivators. I'll transmit a list of suspicious individuals, and you can start from there."

"What is my objective? Killing? Apprehension? Or Information Gathering?" Red Mask asked.

"Your primary objective is to gather information. From there, you can decide what to do next."

"It will be done," Red Mask declared before dissipating from the shadows. Wang Wei took his token and received the information inside, which was primarily about the prices and rules of the towers. The lowest service was 1000 points; the best usually went for 100,000.

"The first spot has too many powers, so I must take it," Wang Wei thought. As soon as he knew the first spot could use the Tribulation and Life Tower simultaneously, he knew he had to have this spot since the Immeasurable Tribulation was crucial for his plan.

"Let's pick a name first," Wang Wei muttered before indicating to the token that his chosen name was the [Yin-Yang Plum Daoist]. Then, he no longer hesitated before flying to the first hunting area.

Far in the distance, a man with red skin locked his gaze on Wang Wei's mountain. As soon as he flew out, the red-skinned man almost lost control of his killing intent. "Are you finally out, coward? Good, I can finally have my revenge."

He flew after Wang Wei, but mid his fight, he started talking to himself: "What do you mean to wait? He's right here."

"Are you doubting my strength? Don't worry, I've been planning those for too long, and with your help, I cannot lose. We will skin this bastard alive and use his bones to make soup."

"You say you don't doubt me, but your words say otherwise."

"But he's so close. I only need a few minutes, and we will be free from our torment."

"I'm not being stubborn, it's just—"

"Alright, you're right — as always."

"It will indeed be more satisfying to crush him with absolute force after becoming a Paragon. We might even see him beg for mercy."

"Don't worry, I'm not mad. Anyway, I've waited so long and can bear a few more years." The red-skinned man changed his destination and no longer followed Wang Wei. However, the determination to kill has not abated in the slightest. On the contrary, it has grown deeper, like a root with an abundance of nutrients.

'He's no longer following me?' Wang Wei thought. 'Interesting. I didn't think he could control his killing intent.' He did not pay attention to this man and continued his journey. He noticed one more eye on him, and it was Grand Dao Son; it appeared the latter was also starting his hunt. Oddly though, the man only briefly glanced at Wang Wei before continuing what he was doing.

'Things are getting even more interesting,' Wang Wei thought.

## Chapter 1436 The Top 3

Wang Wei entered the first level; he did not immediately rush to the higher hunting ground. He observed these Bestward Monsters; most resembled the demon race, with a few humanoids. 'I thought the special rewards were deeply hidden inside these creatures, but it seemed I was wrong.'

He had observed countless of these creatures, but he saw no entrance token or life-increasing opportunities. Wang Wei locked to a monkey creature with flaming hands and slapped him into non-existence before checking his token. 'The weakest Emphyrean only gives 0.1 points? Isn't this a little too ruthless?'

The minimum cost to use any tower is 100 points, which means each participant must defeat 10,000 Empyreans for the lowest access level. However, if they are not a seeded player, they may not even have the opportunity to use them.

Wang Wei locked into a peak Empyrean monster that resembled a blue fox with eleven tails. He annihilated with a glance, and his token increased by one point. 'Truly pitiful,' Wang Wei shook his head before directly heading to the second level. He observed briefly, trying to see if he could detect any creatures with hidden rewards.

'So, it's a different reward mechanism, probably not something related to luck,' Wang Wei analyzed. Everyone here could be called a darling of Heaven and Earth with ample luck and destiny. The trial would lose a tremendous amount of resources if they used luck as their reward mechanism.

Wang Wei locked onto a blue humanoid creature with enormous bat wings. He attacked it, killing it in ten moves. '1000 points? Are they trying to encourage participants to hunt above their realm?' These geniuses can hunt Paragon Monsters with a base 90% realm using Paragon Artifacts and Talismans.

However, the success rate is not high unless they partner up. Additionally, overused and prolonged use of Paragon Artifacts will corrode their Dao. People from powerful factions will have Supreme Chaos Artifacts with lower risks, neutral Paragon Artifacts with less corrosion, or specially tailored artifacts with similar effects. Regardless, using these artifacts will have side effects that can be detrimental to the Paragon Tribulation, not to mention how draining they are to the soul. Luckily, Wang Wei did not have these issues.

He looked around, searching for his next target. His Taboo Battle Realm strength was previously 94% with a temporary 95% in desperate mode, but after acquiring that technique, he has perfected his application of all his techniques after studying them on a micro-level, he now could display 95% strength normally and reach 96% point in a desperate situation.

'Let's compare how many points each monster will give and the time it takes to defeat them,' Wang Wei planned. It took him a few hours, but he had the data, which indicated that hunting creatures between the Second and Third Heaven was better since it took too long to defeat Fifth and Sixth Heaven creatures.

"Let the hunt begin," Wang Wei muttered before starting a massacre. He did not stop for five straight years before checking on his points and ranking: "Huh? I'm only ranked second?" At the very top of the list were the bold characters:

[1st. Tian Xuan, True Origin World, Points:...]

'Tian Xuan? Chosen by Heaven? The name is a little on the nose, but I wonder whether it's his real name or the title he chose,' Wang Wei thought. That didn't really matter, so he didn't pay too much attention to the name. 'He's only a few thousand points ahead, so if I speed up, I should surpass him. However, as long as I leave this area, he'll soon overtake me. I can't have that.'

Wang Wei waved his hand to summon a dozen bodies from his meat puppet pools. He injected them with his spirit particles before granting each of them Paragon Artifacts. "Go and hunt," he ordered. With a disposal team under his command, the speed at which Wang Wei racked up points drastically increased.

Tian Xuan immediately noticed this change and increased his pace, too. Unfortunately, whatever method he used was not as effective as Wang Wei's meat puppets. After fifteen years of hunting, Wang Wei felt he had enough of a lead to head to the towers.

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Wang Wei paid the 100,000 points to use the [First Room], followed by his authority to kick whoever was in there. He also spent an additional 1 million points to guarantee his rights for the next hundred years. In other words, even if Tian Xuan surpassed him in the list, he cannot disturb Wang Wei's usage of the first room for the next hundred years.

The room's interior was a void with a floating cushion. He observed everything, and a look of realization dawned on him. The energy absorbed from the participants' [Existence] was not used for nefarious purposes — at least not all of them — its primary purpose was to power the towers and possibly the entire trial.

'That's one mystery solved,' Wang Wei thought, and with a thought, the void turned into a luscious prairie with the cushion lying under a tree. He summoned his Bodhi Tree and Immortal Peach Tree to bless his comprehension, placing them around the cushion before sitting down.

'This is so easy — even too easy,' Wang Wei instantly thought. The complex process of understanding the Dao was reduced to a process as complex as multiplication and division. His cultivation reached 87% in just five years, and he immediately retrieved a pill.

'It almost feels like a waste to use it now,' Wang Wei thought as he swallowed it. His spirit elevated to a higher level, and in mere seconds, his cultivation reached 89.999%. 'Next is the bottleneck.' He could easily break the bottleneck by removing the seals in his Sea of Consciousness that contained his previous epiphanies or knowledge nourishment, but it would be a terrible waste to use them now.

The energy released from the cushion transformed as it nourished Wang Wei's body and soul, making the comprehension of the Grand Dao Source easier than addition and subtraction.

Time flowed like a river, and on Wang Wei's 97th year staying in the Dao Tower, he heard a breaking sound, followed by a drastic increase in aura: his understanding had reached 90%. He opened his eyes and immediately controlled the joy he felt. He was not a Paragon yet; this was just a great turn in that direction.

'It's almost time to leave, so let's check how many points I have left,' Wang Wei thought, and he immediately wanted to curse. "These vampires," he uttered with gritted teeth. These towers did not only require an entrance fee; every minute spent inside burned points like crazy. Wang Wei only stayed for 97 years, and three-quarters of the points he had were gone.

"This is just daylight robbery," he complained. Now that he understood this place's cost, he wouldn't waste a second. Three years wasn't enough to make any meaningful improvement, so Wang Wei chose to study the unique power of this trial. He observed how it influenced his [Existence], hoping he could recreate it. No, he would be satisfied with a copy with a quarter of the effect.

Time flies when you focus intensely on a task. As soon as the hundredth mark arrived, he received notifications he was no longer the number-one and had to vacate the [First Room]. Wang Wei chose to leave the tower, meaning he did not bump into Tian Xuan.

The first thing he did outside was send more meat puppets to hunt since the previous batch had already collapsed. He hadn't received any reports from Red Mask or Yan Jie, so he flew directly into the Essence Tower and took the first room.

...

"Damn it, damn it, damn it to hell — I've been hunting for over a hundred years, and I'm still ranked third," Ji Changming cursed as he waved his hand to annihilate the mountain range before him. However, such destruction could not quell his wrath, so he attacked more ferociously. Unfortunately for him, the trial greatly limited the destructive capabilities of even peak Boundless Paragons, let alone him.

"Don't these bastards know who I am?" he yelled as he continued his path of destruction. Ji Changming was already on edge when he realized he might fail his mission to get information about the Eternal Ascension World due to a stupid lock on these people's bodies and souls, but now, he was humiliated by ranking third.

How can he explain this failure to the Palace Master? How much jeering will he receive from his clan members and competitors? He could not accept this. No, he refused to accept.

As he floated in the void with his face red out of anger, Ji Changming suddenly opened his palm to receive a talisman. "The Plum Daoist entered the Essence Tower? Damn it, I told these idiots to keep an eye out when he enters the hunting area. Why are they sending me such useless news?" He crushed the talisman, deepening the red veins on his neck in the process.

"I can't allow this humiliation," Ji Changming said through gritted teeth. He flew directly to the Battle Tower. The only way to wash away this shame is to claim the top spot in the tower and challenge those two. If possible, it would be best for them to agree to a life-and-death battle so he can kill them.

## Chapter 1437 Opening The Gate of Flesh

Wang Wei checked who was the first person in the Essence Tower, fearing it would be Mongke. However, it was someone else. 'Is it he still hunting? Probably trying to amass enough points to stay in the tower for a long period.'

Mongke didn't have to worry about using other towers, so it made sense that he planned to stay in this tower for as long as possible, pushing his cultivation to the peak.

Since the person in the first room was not an acquaintance, Wang Wei kicked them out and paid the protection fee for the first room. Although Tian Xuan should not need this room, he must be careful since the latter might do it out of spite. Additionally, he still had to watch out for the third spot candidate.

This room was customizable, like the Dao Tower, so he chose a regular room. As Wang Wei sat down, he immediately started his work. The process of opening the Gate of Flesh had three steps: two tribulations and the opening process.

He did not immediately start the first tribulation but cultivated it. Wang Wei's goal was to "perfect" his Will-Body Fusion. With his immense new observation, he could not perfect the fusion on a fundamental level, achieving true perfection in that area.

'Hmm? There are other flaws in my body,' Wang Wei thought. During the process, he noticed a few minor, almost undetectable flaws in his body and soul. Over the years, Wang Wei has pushed his mind and spirit to the limit as a means to temper his willpower. He thought he had healed all these injuries, but today's inspection revealed a few flaws that never truly healed.

'Let's see if there are other flaws,' Wang Wei thought as he continued his training. He realized the pure essence released from the tower was an excellent resource for training or modifying his [Existence]. Wang Wei fixed all the flaws in his body but not his entire existence; he did not want to be put on Grand Dao's watch list and cause more trouble for himself.

Once he becomes Half-Step Transcendent, he'll have plenty of opportunity to explore the concept of [perfection], so there is no point in causing himself unnecessary trouble. After a few dozen years of training, Wang Wei finally achieved a [True Flawless Body], so he summoned the first tribulation.

Wang Wei found himself in a dark space with an exact clone standing opposite him. The clone observed intently before showing a look of puzzlement. Wang Wei was not surprised by this. The first tribulation to open the Gate of Flesh is called the [Flaw Detection Tribulation].

The avatar before him is supposed to find the minute flaws in his Will-Body Fusion and attach them, forcing the tribulation taker to correct them. As someone who achieved [Limit Indestructibility], Wang Wei is allowed to build a Flawless Body, meaning his body will not have a single flaw that can be exploited as an Inextinguishable Paragon.

However, his [Existence Blueprint] has allowed him to go beyond normal [Flawless Body], hence why the avatar was perplexed as it could not find a single flaw in Wang Wei's body. After staring for a few minutes, the Tribulation Clone nodded to him before dissipating.

The next step started without pause. A golden magic circle appeared above Wang Wei, slowly descending from his head to his toe. The circle acted as a detector, trying to find flaws in his body and attack it. If Wang Wei did not achieve [Limit Indestructibility] and he only opened the Gate of Power with the bare minimum of 1267 tribulations, his body would have a minimum of 12 flaws. In this test, he would have to defend them to show his worthiness.

Wang Wei passed this tribulation with flying colors, so he proceeded to the final step. Opening the Gate of Flesh was not a simple matter. Wang Wei first swallowed a mouthful of Concentrated

Essence Dew as an aid. Then, he condensed the essence of his Body Refining achievements into a point before attacking the gate.

The combination of this essence, the dew, and the power from the Essence Tower was wonderful; cracks soon spread throughout the door, a sign of impending success. However, things were not simple. Wang Wei spent years attacking that door, but it could not fully open, so he added his Willpower Manifestation to the mix.

A massive chunk of the door was instantly destroyed, and Wang Wei saw hope. But that did not last long as he noticed his spirit had drastically weakened, meaning he could not stay in a state of deep concentration for too long.

'This door is not supposed to be this challenging to open,' Wang Wei thought, as he realized there were some consequences to achieving [True Flawless Body]. However, he would not regret his mission. He was not supposed to open the door before the Paragon Tribulation in the first place, but he had to for his plans. So, the more powerful his Body Refining Tribulation is, the higher his chance of success will be.

As he removed more and more chunks of the door, Wang Wei started sweating, but he remained steadfast, ignoring how tired and sleepy he felt. He was so close to the finish line that he focused all his attention on finishing the task.

Bang!

The gate's last obstacle crumbled, and a terrifying power rushed deep from Wang Wei's body. He felt as if he had broken certain limits, and the very essence of his life was dramatically elevated. At a [Existence] level, the characteristic of [Will Immortality] was perfected, followed by the designs for his physical strength becoming more complex.

Once these two processes ended, the characteristics of the [Power of Nothingness] changed, embedding themselves deeper in this [Existence]. This was good news for Wang Wei since it meant his body could not bear more of this power, but that is something for later. At an atomic and cellular level, his body transformed into a higher form. Every part of his body, including cells, tissues, blood drops, organs, bones, and muscles, became an unfathomable source of power. Even his hair follicle ascended to a higher level of existence.

'What is this?' Wang Wei thought as he noticed a resonance between the Gate of Ascension, Gate of Power, and Gate of Flesh. It was so subtle that Wang Wei only noticed it because he observed it because he directly saw his [Existence].

'The Fourth Gate does not appear randomly but through the resonance of the previous three gates. That's why Grand Dao removed it, to cut off Body Refiners' Transcendent Path,' Wang Wei realized. The three gates represent the ultimate potential of the flesh, and only by combining them can the fourth one be created, allowing the flesh to transcend all rules, power, and limitations.

'That's good news,' Wang Wei smiled. With this information, he now had a clearer path forward. The transformation took some time, but with the aid of the Essence Tower, the process was drastically accelerated. After only 200 years, everything ended.

Wang Wei stood up from his sitting position and clenched his fist. He punched forward, generating countless shockwaves. "Elder Fiendgod Realm First Heaven, which also equals 91%." It was a little low for Wang Wei's liking; if he had more time, he might have polished his foundation to reach the Third Heaven.

Luckily, he had a [Flawless Body], meaning cultivating in the Elder Fiendgod Realm would not require him to eliminate his flaws. He only needs to increase his willpower and strength. 'I'm not an Inextinguishable Paragon, meaning I'm slowly approaching the limit of cultivation of the Old Era,' Wang Wei thought with a wide grin. His breakthrough had many significance, including getting one step closer to closing the gap between his wife. Additionally, becoming a Paragon is also a significant step in his cultivation journey.

'It's been a long way to get here, but we also have a long way ahead of us,' Wang Wei gave himself a pep-talk. He then restrained his aura before leaving the tower.

His first act was to check the current situation outside; he was now third on the list. 'Ji Chengming? That arrogant guy? So, he's probably from the Desire Heart Palace.' It made sense that the Ji Clan or the palace would be interested in the situation of Eternal Ascension World. 'However, why did they send such a useless candidate?'

Ji Chengming was a person who was easy to read. 'Maybe this is a person he's putting on, or the Ji Clan are too sure of themselves.' Wang Wei shook his head as he paid that bastard no mind. He looked at the Tribulation Tower and checked the record of who was using it.

'As expected,' he muttered. If nothing unexpected happens, Tian Xuan will be this trial's first Paragon. Wang Wei was not in a hurry since he still had plenty of chances, so he flew to his residence.

"Lord," Red Mask stated as she slowly floated from a shadow in the room's corner.

"What did you find?"

"It's as you expected. Many were secretly spies," Red Mask responded before handing him a list of the spies and the world they've contacted.

"No one contacted Tian Xuan's world, but a few contacted the Ji Clan," Wang Wei noticed the most important aspect. "Hmm? It says here that there is a group you failed to gather information from?"

"That's right."

"Were you careless?"

"Not at all, and I was using your full power to ensure success," Red Mask reported truthfully, "but I was still discovered."

"It seems many underlying secrets and machinations are going on in this trial," Wang Wei commented. "And our world may not be their primary target."

"It appears so," Red Mask nodded. "Sir, what do you want me to do? Do I try again?"

"No...Hmm?" Wang Wei looked in the distance, surprise flashing in his eyes. "How unexpected!"

## Chapter 1438 Boundless Paragon (I)

A terrifying sound emanated from the Tribulation Tower, followed by a vision of golden auspicious clouds and Heavenly music. Anyone who saw these visions would know they were celebrations for the birth of a new Paragon—albeit the most rudimentary vision due to the trial's location.

All the participants had their eyes on this tower as the visions symbolized the birth of the first Paragon — the first Boundless Entity. However, the Eternal Ascension World's participants were shocked because many recognized the person's aura: Emperor Kong.

'I didn't expect he would be the first,' Wang Wei thought. He, along with many, thought Tian Xuan would have this honor, but it seems fate had other plans. Wang Wei and everyone else waited, and after a few hours, Emperor Kong — no, Paragon Kong — appeared outside the tower.

Wang Wei immediately squinted after seeing Kong. 'He's severely injured. He must have pushed his Tribulation to the limit to ensure he was the first. Did he want the destiny for the first position? It's hard to say whether the risk is worth it.'

Wang Wei's detection was proven to be correct when Kong called Lin Fan to touch their token, presumably to exchange points. Then, he rushed into the Life Tower with the utmost haste. 'An anomaly has just occurred in this trial,' Wang Wei thought. 'Does this mean something? Is it useless? Or the signs that many more unexpected things are expected of this trial? Interesting. Let's see what happens next.'

Wang Wei returned his focus to Red Mask. "Where were we? Oh, yes, you don't need to pay more attention to these people. They will eventually reveal themselves, and then, we will decide whether to intervene in their plans or be a bystander."

"As you wish," Red Mask nodded.

"Your next task is to help me hunt," Wang Wei continued. "I don't want to be disturbed during my tribulation, and I must use two towers simultaneously."

"I'm ready, sir, but there is another minor matter you might want to address?"

"Did Yan Jie come by?" Wang Wei asked.

"No, the last I heard, he was still fulfilling his task."

"Oh? He's not in a hurry to compete?"

"He seems to have taken your comment to mind and wishes to truly temper his sword between life and death."

"Not bad," Wang Wei commented. "So, what minor problem were you talking about?"

"The second rank, Ji Chengming, publicly challenged you and Tian Xuan. He said some nasty stuff about you two to lure you into fighting him."

"Is that so?" Wang Wei muttered, not surprised Ji Chengming would do such a thing. However, it's still hard to determine whether this is his genuine personality or a persona.

"If nothing unexpected occurs, Tian Xuan will be the second Paragon and Tian Xuan will be the third. Their ego and pride should be at their peak after the breakthrough, and they will need a way to test their current strength. I just need to stay out of it, and they'll fight each other.

"Your task will be to record their battles since I may not be responsive," Wang Wei ordered. "Wait, don't just record them — use this." He raised his hand to condense a golden eye. With this thing, Wang Wei hoped he could peek at these two's [Existence] since it was easier to do during battles due to energy leaks or mistakes in concealing their information.

"No problem," Red Mask responded, and the two flew to the second hunting area to start one of the largest massacres of the Bestowal Monsters. Wang Wei did hold back as he also used his meat puppets. If not for the rules that he could not use his Creation Lives to hunt, he would have released another massacre in the first-level area.

In a hundred and thirty years, Wang Wei not only returned to the first spot, but his accumulated points were five times that of Tian Xuan.

Swish!

Red Mask appeared out of nowhere to cut a little assassin into million pieces, and Wang Wei calmly observed. "No matter how much I look, I still find it fascinating." In his eyes, this man had died, including the collapse of all his [Avatars] and the existence of his [Vault]. This trial was not a joke since the suppression of these participants's [Eternal Characteristics] meant they truly died.

'This should be the power of transcendence — being able to influence [Existence] directly,' Wang Wei analyzed. He was so glad he asked Grand Dao for that specific reward since this technique benefitted him too much.

"Sir, there is an entrance token," Red Mask stated.

"Finally?" He's been hunting for so long but only received an additional 5000 years of lifespan. "If I get first place, I'll have six tokens — not bad." These tokens will be extremely valuable whether he traded with the sect or others. Wang Wei suddenly sensed something and looked in the distance.

"Finally," he uttered. He's been waiting so long, and Tian Xuan finally finished his transition. Now, he can use the first room. Under normal circumstances, Wang Wei wouldn't mind lowering his requirements a little and using the second room, but Ji Chengming had taken that room, and Wang Wei wanted a potent tribulation for his plan to work, so he could not accept using the third room.

"Let's go," Wang Wei said before returning to the Safety Zone. Tian Xuan's aura immediately locked on him. 'Such obvious hostility? Did he become confident after his breakthrough?' Wang Wei thought while ignoring this poor provocation. Despite Tian Xuan's great background, he doubted the latter would dare break the rules and attack in this safety zone. So, Wang Wei went about his business by entering the Tribulation and using his authority and points to get the first room.

The Tribulation Tower had no customization ability since everything would be destroyed in the tribulation, so there was only a cushion floating in the void. As he sat down and had the intention to start his tribulation, a potent Will descended in this room, checking his body.

It first checked his comprehension, ensuring it had reached 90%, followed by checking whether his soul and luck had reached the requirements. Then, Wang Wei's mind was taken to a room with golden pierces of lights.

'Infinite Permanence,' Wang Wei thought. These lights represented a new branch of the Eternal Path/ Eternal Characteristic, which started by comprehending [Eternal], followed by [True Self], and now, [Infinite Permanence].

'Infinite means without bounds, endless, or without limits. The mind must become infinite or capable of holding all things to evolve the true self to a higher level

'Permanence means remaining unchanged indefinitely. With the power of these two, infinite will remain constant and unchanging for all eternity in my [Existence]. With an infinite mind, I will have an infinite soul and an infinite body — I will be boundless.'

Wang Wei understood [Infinite Permanence] with record time due to his previous background and the help of the trial's energy. However, he was not happy. His intuition warned him that if he used that understanding to break through, the chances of becoming a Boundless Paragon would drastically decrease, and even if he succeeded, he wouldn't have much potential left.

'I'm missing something,' Wang Wei thought as he continued his comprehension. Time was clicking, but he was not in a hurry; he took time to find what he was missing.

'If it were that simple, people who cultivate Infinity Dao would easily become Boundless,' Wang Wei analyzed. 'So, there is more to the [infinite] aspect.' Just like when he first absorbed the Heaven Will, Grand Dao had to display the concept of [Infinite Permanence] before him to comprehend, so Wang Wei placed all his focus.

'The only constant and eternal thing between Heaven and Earth is change,' Wang Wei comprehended. 'What I need is not merely the concept of infinity, but infinite change, infinite opportunities, infinite growth, and infinite potential. Once these things are engraved into my [Existence], bound to forever remain a part of me through [Permanence], then I can truly become [Boundless].'

Wang Wei felt something clicked in his mind, and followed by some kind of transformation. His eye technique allowed him to see new building blocks being added to his [Existence]. However, there seems to be a lack of energy or power to complete the transformation.

'It's not that there is no energy, but something is blocking it,' Wang Wei realized after close observation of his [Existence]. And he did not have to think long to know who was responsible — Grand Dao. Of course, the latter was not suddenly attacking him. All participants must experience this process. Before they pass the other tests and prove to be worthy, they cannot transition into a higher life.

Wang Wei took a deep breath to steady himself. He did not hesitate to activate the tower's ability to reduce the effect of the next tribulation. He only wanted the Immeasurable Tribulation to be as destructive as possible and was fine with any aid for the others.

His spirit appeared in this darkly lit corridor, with a walking passage and no end in sight. "This place reminded me of the [Road of Heart] from the Void Shattering Realm," he commented. He took a second deep breath before he started walking.

## Chapter 1439 Boundless Paragon II: Time Washing Tribulation

Wang Wei did not hesitate to walk on this endless path. The first thing he noticed was his vision was useless, and he was not only referring to his [Existence Sight]. All his normal and extraordinary senses were useless as he only saw an endless darkness and a bit of light that was barely enough to show the path.

"Is Time useless here?" Wang Wei talked to himself. "No, useless, but stretched out and distorted. A single second in this place might feel like billions of Yuan Epochs."

Wang Wei walked forward, talking to himself to distract his mind. Although he did not mind the solitude, this approach was an excellent way to ensure his mind remained sharp for the duration of this Time Washing Tribulation. However, Wang Wei soon noticed an anomaly.

"My memory is eroding," Wang Wei muttered. His memories were not disappearing but fading; in other words, their effects on his personality and being were slowly being stripped away. "If I let it happen, my personality will forever change into Heaven knows what."

Now he knew the problem, Wang Wei set out to solve them. Instead of talking to himself, he started reviewing his memories from his time on Earth to his reincarnation; he did not miss a single memory, even indulging himself in the happier and more exciting ones. This method proved effective as Wang Wei quelled the fading, but that was only for a moment.

The interesting thing about time is it can change anything. After indulging in his memories over and over, Wang Wei soon felt the process was meaningless. It did not matter how many times he relived his sexy time with his wife after doing it more than a million times; the process inevitably became boring and a chore.

"It's fine if it's a chore. I can just consider it like a job back on Earth," Wang Wei muttered. He repeated this tedious task over and over without an end. It did not matter whether billions, trillions, or quintillions of yuan epochs had passed; he reviewed his memories and preserved his personality, ambitions, love, and everything else he held dear.

Before this test, Wang Wei could have proudly said his mind was harder than steel, and he had long conquered the negative emotions known as loneliness; he could even push himself and said he did so with the Pagoda Trial. However, this tribulation showed an even more horrifying level: loneliness with boringness.

It was difficult to describe the pain of repeating the same task without stopping for infinity. At many points, he felt he was just a robot whose sole purpose was to repeat these tasks. He almost believed his free will and agency were non-existent, and his sole purpose in this world was to do this task. Such a thought induced tremendous fear in a man who pursued absolute freedom.

The good news is he survived and held on to his humanity. He preserved his memories, personality, and all his dreams and ambitions. Additionally, there was an additional benefit: he had learned a new form of torture. In the future, when he meets powerful Inextinguishable Paragons who do an excellent job protecting their timeline, he'll torture them with his own version of this tribulation to break their willpower.

Wang Wei continued walking forward; he had long lost hope of seeing the light at the end of this path. He could not distract himself from his task, and he had to prevent the task from consuming him. With all these things on his plate, he abandoned looking ahead to see if he was close to the exit.

Luckily, he did since this tribulation had just started. When Time failed to erode his memories, it did not give up. Instead, it targeted something else — his emotions. One of Wang Wei's core personality is his love for his sect and all its people. He considered them his people and thus had some level of affection for everyone — including the lowest of maids.

The tribulation started with these people. When reviewing his memories, Wang Wei had subtly become indifferent to these people, and he did not even notice it. In his mind, these people become nothing but aids, and their importance to him or the world in general was so small that it made them insignificant. He convinced himself it was more than enough that he remembered their faces and names.

Once he became indifferent to these "minor individuals," Time became bolder and more potent, targeting the people he already hated or indifferent to — like his grandfather, Yu Yong. Then, without knowing it, Wang Wei no longer cared about his enemies that did not have a great impact on his life or that he respected.

The next target was people he loved but mostly respected because they were his elders. There has always been a seniority and power dynamic between him and these people, forming a barrier that

prevented Wang Wei from forming deep bonds with them. These people included Origin One, Sword One, and his former Dao Protector Yan Chen.

Wang Wei's view on these people slowly changed to appreciation and care for their years of dedication to the sect and the protection they provided to his growth to being indifferent to their presence. In his mind, they were people of different worlds. He would never meet these people again in his life, and even if they did, the difference between them would be so vast that it was impossible to have any meaningful relationship, so it was pointless to be attached to their existence.

Wang Wei was in a weird situation. His eyes indicated he was reminiscing deeply about his past and everything he's experienced. Simultaneously, his eyes showed no affection for these memories. On the contrary, his eyes become colder with each passing moment.

The next thing he lost was not his enemies/competitors, with whom he had a slight friendship developed out of respect. No, the next target were people whom he respected tremendously as elders and had a deep bond with; to be precise, he lost his feelings for Ancestor Wucheng.

Wang Wei was walking aimlessly like a zombie, reviewing the time when Wucheng sacrificed his life to protect him. However, he felt nothing, except maybe Wucheng was doing his job as a Dao Protector. His sacrifice guaranteed the sect an era of prosperity, unlike anything the lower dimension had ever seen.

Wang Wei was about to move on when he paused. "Something is wrong," he said in a hoarse voice; he sounded as if he had spent too long not talking and no longer knew how. He reviewed the memory again, but he could tell what was wrong; he was far too gone and could not tell.

However, Wang Wei did not give up and chose to listen to his intuition. Since Wucheng was the source of this anomaly, he chose to review all the memories associated with him. And out of pure logic, he realized what was wrong.

'He is supposed to be my favorite ancestor, but I don't feel anything for him,' Wang Wei muttered. 'Now that I think about it, I also don't feel much about the other ancestors. These people have been instrumental to my success, but how I feel about them seems ungrateful beyond words could describe.'

That's when it dawned on him — he was losing his emotions. Wang Wei did not hesitate to sit down and enter a deep meditative state, reviewing his memories for the umpteenth time, focusing on the emotions associated. He was immediately scared of how cold and indifferent he had become. The

worst part was the loud voice in the back of his mind telling him it was alright if he remained like that.

'If I can lose my feelings for Ancestor Wucheng, I can lose the ones for my mother, father, and even Wu Hong,' Wang Wei thought to quiet the damn voice. 'Plus, how dare a mere tribulation dictate how I feel? How dare it try to mold me into something I'm not?'

Wang Wei's rebellious nature derived from his obsession to be free was instantly aroused, quieting all doubts or suggestive murmurs in his mind. He focuses intently, slowly regaining all his lost emotions and even intensifying some. Although Wang Wei did not cultivate Six Emotions Seven Desire Dao, he had the Soul Dao, which also involved Emotion Manipulation.

When Wang Wei opened his eyes, he immediately discovered the surroundings were brighter than before. Additionally, he saw an illusory door in the distance, presumably the exit. He calmly walked toward it while remaining on guard.

He had read countless records about the Time Washing Tribulation, and he knew much. Most people will face a similar tribulation to what he did, with minor variations. However, things will become different once the exit shows up. This part of the test has more room for variations, and it's when the unexpected could occur.

'I hope nothing too bad,' Wang Wei thought. He had reached the point in his life where he must expect the unexpected; he expects things to go wrong. So, he can only hope whatever is coming is not too bad.

#### Chapter 1440 Boundless Paragon III: Unexpected Visitor

Wang Wei continued his walk. His mind was temporarily free from the mechanical task of preserving his emotions, so he looked around, thinking about this test. An idea suddenly flashed in his mind, but it was too quick, and he did not immediately catch up. Wang Wei was about to focus on realizing whatever inspiration was coming, but something unexpected occurred that required his attention.

"It's you!"

"Long time no see," said a young man with the same visage as Wang Wei, except with a natural smirk and evil aura surrounding him.

"Aren't I too old to be having Heart Devil," Wang Wei asked calmly.

"I feel the same, but here I am," the Heart Devil sighed. Wang Wei looked at him before ignoring him. He continued walking, trying to catch the idea that eluded him.

"Don't be like this," the Heart Devil said. "Since I'm here, I must do my job."

"No one is stopping you," Wang Wei replied calmly. The Heart Devil walked side by side with him. "There is no point in attacking your character since you seem content with who you are — both the good and all the bad." Wang Wei said nothing.

"Maybe start with your relationship," it continued. "You consider many of your peers a friend, but you have no hesitation manipulating them or hurting their factions. I guess you probably wouldn't hesitate to kill them if they get in your way."

"That's how friendships in the cultivation world are," Wang Wei said calmly. "Factions are placed above everything, including interpersonal relationships."

"That's true," the Heart Devil nodded. "Let's take your ancestor, for example. Although she has a great relationship with Wu Hong, she would not hesitate to cut her down if it meant protecting the Dao Opening Sect."

Wang Wei did not take the obvious bait of trying to get him riled up. He simply nodded.

"But shouldn't you know better?" The Heart Devil continued after not eliciting any reaction. "You're not the same as these people. You have knowledge about another civilization with different values. So, shouldn't you be better than them?"

"What can I say? I have been assimilated," Wang Wei shrugged.

"So, that's it? You just used this weak reasoning to justify who you've become? Who you are!"

"Isn't it normal for me to become like this?" Wang Wei responded. "If I grew up as a loose cultivator and had to struggle for everything in my life, I may have preserved more of my morality and values from Earth. I might even have tried to change the cultivation world."

"However, I was born with a golden spoon. The world and system were designed to give me all the best advantages. So, isn't it normal that one of the aspects of my assimilation is that I acquired the values and mortality of the cultivation world?"

"No, no, no — you are speaking as if you have no free will," the Heart Devil countered. "As a man who pursues being 'free and unfettered,' shouldn't you resist this kind of assimilation? Shouldn't you be angry that such an aspect of your life has been slowly eroded over time?"

"That's where you made the mistake — you assume this was not a choice," Wang Wei stated. "I knew long ago assimilation was inevitable and actively chose which part to allow. I know that trying to change the system and preserving more of myself from Earth would make my goal of freedom a hundred times more challenging, so I chose to integrate into the system and used it to my benefit."

"So, you chose the easy way out."

"I chose the most efficient method — the one with the highest chance of success."

"But at what price?" the Heart Devil countered. "Even if you finally achieve your goal, the 'you' then will not be the same you from Earth."

"Tell me: do you think I can achieve my goal without sacrificing anything?" Wang Wei asked.

"It's possible."

"Be realistic."

"I stand by this statement — it's possible, albeit very challenging."

"Alright, let me rephrase my points in another way," Wang Wei stated. "Do you think I could perfectly preserve the person I was on Earth? The cultivation world's primary theme is power

acquired through violence. It's a path destined to be full of death, meaning the moment I killed my first person, the innocent young man from Earth was gone."

Wang Wei has never forgotten his first kill. Although these prisoners were insignificant in the grand scheme of things, he still remembered their eyes vividly when the last light of life disappeared.

"That's different," the Heart Devil rebutted. "You were just adapting to this world."

"I can use the same argument," Wang Wei countered. "My decision was not to abandon my former self but mold it to adapt to this world. The core of who I am is still there, just now in a new package that allows me to thrive in this world."

The Heart Devil sighed: "I can't argue with your golden tongue. However," his eyes shone with a cunningness that indicated he hadn't truly conceded yet. "Since you value your sect or the system so much, what would you do if they turn on, let's say, your best friend — Li Jun. Would you support the sect or him?"

"That answer is obvious — I would choose Li Jun."

"It's not to me," the Heart Devil responded. "I thought you value the benefit of the system above everything — including your morality?"

"That's not what I said. I said I chose it because it benefits me the most."

"But your choice contradicts that."

"At the end of the day, the sect is an institution, and if its safety and even prosperity is threatened, they will sacrifice anyone. Meanwhile, I know Li Jun, and he would not do anything to endanger the sect's safety or prosperity.

"I'm aware enough to understand I'm not yet above the institution, and since they can sacrifice Li Jun for their preservation, they can do the same to me. Meanwhile, I know Li Jun would give everything to me — including his life, love, and loyalty to the sect.

"The choice is obvious."

The Heart Devil was briefly silent before chuckling: "You were right — you have preserved the essence of your former self."

"Did you really need all this talking to understand that?"

"What can I say? You are not as weak as the last time we met, so the information I can gather on you is no longer perfect," the Heart Devil shrugged. "Plus, this is a tribulation, and I need to check."

"That would explain why I feel you're not as much of a threat as before."

"Your mind and Dao Heart are not as they used to be, so cut me some slack," the Heart Devil added. "But don't count me out yet. How are things going with Wu Hong?"

"Good."

"Are you two together yet?"

"We are still figuring out our situation, but everything should be fine," Wang Wei answered nonchalantly.

"Not biting, huh?" the Heart Devil uttered as he looked at him. "Alright, let's try something else. You're about to become a Paragon. Do you know what that means?"

"What?"

"You can travel to the Prehistoric World — you can return to Earth."

"And?" Wang Wei asked calmly.

"Do you think your parents are alive? Do you even care?"

"Unless the time difference between the two worlds is extremely vast, their chances of being alive are slim," Wang Wei replied, still calm.

"So, you no longer care?"

Wang Wei looked at him: "You said it yourself — I'm a Paragon. So, I can just travel to their time period and meet them. They are mortals, so the consequences of saving them should have minimal backlash — especially if I do it correctly."

"What about Hongjun? Do you think he'll let you do as you wish?"

"How he responds to my actions will decide our relationship and how I will treat him. And in the worst-case scenario, I'll just have to wait until I'm more powerful than him before saving my parents."

"You have an answer for everything, don't you?"

"I've figured out since childhood that a powerful cultivation was the key to returning Earth and ever seeing them alive."

"Your words almost made me believe you care," the Heart Devil sneered.

"What makes you think I don't?"

"You have always been too logical about your Earth parents' affair," the Heart Devil explained.

"You spent most of your life not thinking about them because you convinced yourself with pure logic that you could see them one day once you were powerful enough. Were there never moments of doubt? Moments of hesitation, moments of fear for their unknown fate, moments of longing for the past?"

"There were."

"Well, you could have fooled me or anyone who knows you."

Wang Wei sighed: "What do you think a child with an adult mind spends his time thinking after being reincarnated into a new world?" The Heart Devil did not answer.

"At first, there was the excitement of this new and magical world. But then, none of that mattered when the loneliness of knowing you have left many people you love and care about behind. Can you understand the fear of realizing your life will never be the same again?"

Wang Wei shook his head. Reincarnation is a complex thing with many challenges. Wang Wei's early days were not only full of jovial stories about his loving parents and loyal friends. He had his demons to overcome, and since he feared the consequences of revealing his reincarnation, he had to deal with it alone.

"I had to develop a coping mechanism, or with the laws of that world, I would have developed a Heart Devil as a child," he explained. "I had to preserve their memories for my deepest intimate and personal moments; I had to think about them logically — otherwise, I would have been driven insane.

"Of course, it also helped that I eventually unconsciously repressed many of their memories."

Wang Wei remembered the first time he lost the burden of his reincarnation. His family never publicly acknowledged his reincarnation except for one time when his grandmother, Yun Yaojun, had a conversation with him at the behest of his mother. That conversation not only lifted his burden but was the key for him to fully integrate into the sect and accept his new parents as his parents.

"Hmm, I want to believe you, but something tells me you're beautifying things."

"What makes you say that?"

"Well, you didn't have the best relationship with them before your reincarnation," the Heart Devil continued. "Now, I know you have had plenty of time to think about your relationship and understand your emotions."

"What are you getting at?" Wang Wei asked with a raised eyebrow.

"I think you've abandoned these people. You no longer see them as your parents; when you see them again, you will all feel indifference. Maybe you'll repay their karma for raising you, but nothing more and nothing less."

"Maybe you're right."

"Oh?"

"You may also be wrong," Wang Wei added. "I don't know how I will respond when I see them again. That chapter of my life has yet to be written, and you are the last person who knows how it will go."

"That's—"

"I got it!"

"What?"

"The thought that eluded me — I finally caught it," Wang Wei said.