

Grasping 121

Chapter 121: Ninth Revolution Pill Refinement Master!

The first step was to draw hundreds of formation patterns on Bright Sparrow's body.

The second step was to draw the traces of Void Poison to the formation patterns. Some amount of poison would be left inside for the Gold Core Bright Sparrow to devour, whereas the rest of the poison would be sealed!

In the first step, he wasn't allowed to make any mistakes which wasn't difficult given his spirit sense and his cultivation base of Formation Dao. The second step, however, involved the process of sealing and separating the Void Poison... He didn't have much certainty in this step. Even though Bright Sparrow was in a state of stupor and had taken various kinds of 10 000-year-old spiritual herbs of fire attributes, his chance of success was still less than 70%.

Nevertheless, the stronger the suppression of fire on the surroundings of the Void Poison, the greater the success rate in sealing the Void Poison.

Ning Fan stood on a boiling hot stone, looking down at the turquoise magma below and sighed. He then held Bright Sparrow with one arm and used the other arm to cast a protective layer of Black Demon Flame around him before plunging into the liquid rock.

The deeper one went into the magma, the fiercer the fire power of the magma. Ning Fan's magical force was depleted sharply while he was defending against the fire power. He took out a 10 000-year-old spiritual herb named Xuanzhi Mushroom and took a small bite of it. Immediately, he felt invigorated.

A 10 000-year-old Xuanzhi Mushroom was a rare spiritual herb that could be eaten directly. Although it couldn't raise one's cultivation base, it could rapidly replenish one's magical force. This spiritual herb had a very high price that not even Nascent Soul cultivators could afford.

This spiritual herb was provided by Ming Luo, so Ning Fan didn't feel pain while using it. Besides, he had to save a person's life. The topic of wasting spiritual herbs was no longer worth mentioning.

Each time his magical force was emptied, it was replenished right after and every time, he condensed his magical force even more. In the magma, he suddenly stopped from plunging deeper. A third of the 10 000-year-old Xuanzhi Mushroom had already been eaten. If he continued to dive deeper, he might not have sufficient magical force to return to the top of the volcano.

The fire power in this place had far exceeded Ning Fan's anticipation. Under such heat, the Void Poison in Bright Sparrow's body began to be suppressed. Ning Fan's rate of success in sealing the Void Poison had once again increased!

His eyes were cold as he cast out the black flame, and lifted Bright Sparrow's body. As soon his spirit sense entered into her body, it began to freeze.

He had encountered this strange thing before when he was at the Rain Pond in the second level. It seemed like this was the reason why his spirit sense would freeze.

But this was not the Rain Pond of the second level, and Ning Fan had already devoured the Black Demon Flame of this land. Black fire flashed in his eyes. His frozen spirit sense melted instantly. The spirit sense in Bright Sparrow's body carefully ran along the meridians, guiding the Void Poison to the formation patterns on the surface of her body, little by little.

One, two...ten!

Twenty, thirty...until forty-three!

Ning Fan had focused all of his attention to this, not sparing even a trace of spirit sense on other things. Gradually, the Void Poison was guided to the surface, allowing him to complete the seal of the 43 veins.

It was just that at this moment, a life threatening crisis was detected from his back, along with roars of beasts. Those were the Fire Spirits formed in the volcano.

These Fire Spirits had a turquoise fiery body. Each of which was only at the Harmonious Spirit realm, however their sneak-attack had severely wounded him despite his Silvery Light Transparent Body, and almost caused the sealing of Void Poison in the forty-three Immortal Veins to fail!

“Trivial Fire Spirits...courting death!”

His glabella turned cold. He slapped the top of his skull to summon the Sense Soul Incarnation!

A figure in black stepped out of Ning Fan’s body. He and Ning Fan looked exactly alike, only the other half of his face had several abstruse marks. There were murderous intent and fury on his expression. And his half-step Nascent Soul Qi swept through the ocean of fire!

“Which of these Fire Spirits wounded me? How dare you all stop me from saving a life? Courting death!”

The incarnation of Ning Fan moved like a ghostly figure. Every flick of his finger sent out vast magical force, causing several Fire Spirits’ body to explode and die. One of the Fire Spirits left behind a kind of red spiritual bead after its body exploded. The incarnation of Ning Fan took it in his hand, and his eyes glowed coldly.

“Demonic Core...only by slaughtering a Gold Core demon can one get a demonic core. It seems like some of these Fire Spirits have already reached the boundary of breaking through to the Gold Core realm...unfortunately, you all won’t have the life to go through the core formation anymore after offending me!”

Ning Fan’s incarnation turned and said to the real Ning Fan. “You save Bright Sparrow, and I will slaughter them!”

“Rest assured.”

They were one man, one incarnation, created by dividing the soul in half. Neither of them was Ning Fan, or it should be said that they were only half of Ning Fan, like the left and right hand that would never fight with each other. In other words, they were two different parts that comprised the whole Ning Fan.

Numerous cultivators above Void Fragmentation realm liked to summon an incarnation, this was because only you yourself would never betray yourself. They had been walking the path of their cultivation with caution, and in the end, they trusted no one but themselves.

Incarnation was equivalent to oneself, and a clone was equivalent to an illusion. The profundity within it was indescribable.

When Ning Fan's incarnation went deeper into the magma, waves of wails faded gradually.

From a far distance, the human Ning Fan was composedly sealing the Void Poison for Bright Sparrow.

The wounds he suffered weren't light, but there was no time for him to treat it. As such, he suppressed his injuries forcefully to save someone's life!

"Cookie Brother...thank you...it's very kind of you..." The muzzy Bright Sparrow opened her eyes fuzzily and smiled sweetly at Ning Fan.

"There's no need to thank me. Do you feel painful?"

"No...it isn't painful at all..." Sealing the Void Poison was an excruciating process, but Bright Sparrow was able to show an unintentional smile.

She was no doubt, a tough girl.

"Endure a little longer. Once the Void Poison was sealed, I will refine some cookies for you." Ning Fan said in a coaxing tone. Bright Sparrow's eyes were filled with anticipation and the pain she felt subsided.

"Yes."

Fifty, sixty...ninety-nine...

Due to Ning Fan's injuries, he wasn't able to perfect the sealing of the Void Poison, however he completed the ninety-nine seals ultimately. The final seal would lock all of the other seals. From then on, 90% of the Void Poison in Bright Sparrow's body would be locked on the formation patterns on the surface of her body and the other 10% of the poison would be locked inside her body and be dispersed at a slow speed, allowing Bright Sparrow to refine them.

He only lacked the last seal to succeed, but Ning Fan's eyes had turned grim, because he couldn't seal it no matter what!

He found out that there was another seal hidden inside of Bright Sparrow's body. It was a Pill Seal!

In order to prevent anyone other than the owner of the high grade pill himself from devouring the pill, the owner had implanted a Pill Seal in her. If this pill fell into someone's hand and that person didn't know that there was a Pill Seal in it and consumed it, the Pill Seal would be activated, instantly turning the pill to ashes.

This was the style of action of numerous experts - if one couldn't obtain it himself, then he wouldn't let others get it as well.

Bright Sparrow was a Pill Devil and a Pill Seal was planted inside her body . This confirmed Ning Fan's unamusing guess - Bright Sparrow was created by a Pill Master! It was that Pill Master who had planted the Pill Seal in her body!

It was this Pill Seal that had prevented him from laying the final seal!

"Cookie Brother...what's wrong...?" Bright Sparrow blinked her eyes several times. The sealing of the Void Poison in her body was about to be completed. She was gradually regaining her consciousness, returning to her normal state.

"Nothing's wrong...it's just a mere Pill Seal...planted by a mere Ninth Revolution Pill Master!"

Ning Fan's face darkened. Seventh Revolution Pill Masters could refine Void Fragmentation Pills. Ninth Revolution...Ninth Revolution Pill Masters must be a very renowned individual among the True Immortals. But why did he still create a Pill Devil when he was already a Ninth Revolution Pill Master? What was that Pill Master trying to do? Could it be that he wanted to refine a pill that was beyond Ninth Revolution?!

There were no grudges between him and that mysterious Pill Master, but since he had already developed a certain relationship with Bright Sparrow, he couldn't let Bright Sparrow be eaten by that Pill Master one day.

Even though Ning Fan didn't have any Ninth Revolution concoction technique, he had various means to break the Ninth Revolution Pill Seal.

The coldness in his eyes immediately vanished and he smiled at Bright Sparrow as if nothing had happened.

"Don't worry. The one-hundredth seal will be ready in a minute. From this day onwards, you will be free from it."

Ning Fan took out a mortar and pestle, and began grinding the spiritual herbs.

An hour later, the Pill Seal was destroyed! The one-hundredth seal had taken shape.

In an instant, Bright Sparrow's momentum soared. Her petite body floated gently and the magma began to undergo some sort of gradual transformation.

Her Qi rose from early Gold Core, to intermediate, late and then to the peak of Golden Core realm!

A hint of supreme and cold majestic aura was slowly forming in her eyes. The hint of majesty wasn't suited to her at all!

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Meanwhile, in the extreme east of Rain Immortal World, within the Endless Sea, amongst 103 000 islands, on a massive floating island, the statue of a goddess suddenly glowed black in color.

At this moment, the face of the experts on the island was filled with surprise.

“Deity, it’s the Deity! Deity didn’t abandon us. Deity’s back!”

An old priest of Spirit Severing realm knelt with shaking feet in front of the goddess statue. All other experts followed and knelt!

If one looked closely, one would discover that although each of these cultivators was human, the veins condensed inside of them were neither Immortal Veins nor Evil Veins...but Demonic Veins! This was a vein that not even the human race of the Immemorial times could condense!

Each of their body radiated powerful demonic aura. However, being a dignified Spirit Severing Old Monster, he was still kowtowing in front of the statue unceasingly.

This was because the statue was someone that they had worshipped and served. She was the Princess of Immemorial Dark Sparrow.

Her name was Si Cang!

Chapter 122: The Incarnation! White Fan and Dark Ning!

A few hours later, Ning Fan carried the soundly asleep Bright Sparrow, and leaped out of the magma onto one of the rocks.

After helping her put on her clothes, he stared indifferently at Bright Sparrow, carefully studying the little girl.

Pill Devil...a devil raised by a mere Ninth Revolution Pill Master... Ning Fan only said these two names to comfort Bright Sparrow, however he couldn’t help being shocked by it in his heart.

Ning Fan had broken the Pill Seal of Bright Sparrow planted by a supreme Ninth Revolution Pill Master, the owner of Bright Sparrow. Perhaps, he was going to offend an incredibly ruthless and scary individual in the future.

The way Bright Sparrow was in a deep sleep was no different from any mortal little girls... 90% of the Void Poison had been sealed up, turned into criss-crossing marks of formation branded on her chest. The remaining 10% of the Void Poison was sealed in her demonic veins. She had already broken through into the peak Gold Core realm even before the poison was fully refined. If this 10% of Void Poison was thoroughly refined, it wouldn't be hard for her to break through to the Nascent Soul realm, and there was even a possibility for her to reach the Spirit Severing realm!

The origin and future of Bright Sparrow had far exceeded Ning Fan's. She had awakened with a bit of Dark Demon Force, which was a unique power of the Dark Sparrow of Royal Clan that could deter other groups of demons. This was a situation that, perhaps, not even the Ninth Revolution Pill Master who raised this Pill Devil had expected.

The Pill Devil's body was immune to fire and water, and the Dark Sparrow of Royal Clan had unlimited demon path. It wouldn't be long for her to reach the Nascent Soul realm and not too far to reach the Spirit Severing realm as well. Once she reached the Spirit Severing realm, she would be able to break the seals on her own and refine all the Void Poison in her body. When that time came, a new Void Fragmentation expert would probably emerge in the Rain Immortal World.

The memory of Ancient Chaos in Ning Fan was like reaching the sky in a single jump to any ordinary experts, but comparing this inheritance to Bright Sparrow's, the difference was like day and night. In the Four Heavens Immortal World above, descendants of Fiendgods like Bright Sparrow could be found everywhere.

The Heavens was divided into four parts and was called the Four Heavens Immortal World, whereas the Earth was separated into nine worlds, and the Rain Immortal World was only one of them. Although Moksha was a powerful expert amongst the Nine Worlds, he wouldn't be a worthy figure anymore the moment he reached the Four Heavens...

Ning Fan gradually close his eyes to settle his state of mind. At any rate, he would never lose to Moksha Emperor. As for those descendants of Fiendgods in the Heavens, he would not necessarily lose to them!

Afterwards, the pair of black wings behind Bright Sparrow's back dissipated. Only then did Ning Fan let out a sigh of relief when he confirmed that there was no sequelae after sealing the Void Poison. In other words, he had succeeded despite only having 70% rate of success.

Instead of feeling excited, he felt that it was only reasonable and expected. If he failed, he would die. Therefore, he couldn't fail.

He was still above the magma along with Bright Sparrow, waiting for his Sense Soul Incarnation.

His Sense Soul Incarnation had gone into the magma to hunt the Fire Spirits, but it had yet to return after quite some time.

Due to the urgency of the matter earlier, he didn't care about the instability of his incarnation the moment he summoned it to ward off the Fire Spirits. His incarnation had already left his body for several hours. Perhaps it had already exploded? But Ning Fan hadn't felt any of that...which was strange...

No, he had felt extremely strange from the moment his incarnation exited his body. Not only the incarnation had no signs of exploding, it even harmonized itself and Ning Fan's true self. Moreover, the current Ning Fan was no longer wearing the black cloak. He only wore a white robe. As for his incarnation, it was wearing a black robe

This was a situation similar to the intersection of Yin-Yang Fish, separating the black and white.

Each time the separation occurred, it wasn't just a simple separation process, but a complete separation of character, body and sea of consciousness!

After the black form left the white-robed Ning Fan, he gradually discovered that his sea of consciousness had disappeared from the top of his skull! Any ordinary cultivator who lost his sea of consciousness would die instantly, but despite losing his sea of consciousness, Ning Fan's body was still in one piece and could still use his spirit sense.

As for his character, it had been divided into two from the moment the black Ning Fan exited his body. The white-robe Ning Fan had an amiable smile on his face, he was the sunny side of Ning Fan's character, whereas the black-robed Ning Fan was full of murderous intent the moment he emerged; he was the ruthless and merciless side of Ning Fan's character.

On the rock, Ning Fan, no, the white-robed Ning Fan fell in contemplation. This time, the Sense Soul Incarnation was different from all the previous times! Why would it be so...? It seemed like all of these happened only after he entered the Dark Sparrow's Grave...

Thinking back to the scenes of incarnation, something struck the white-robed Ning Fan.

When the black-robed Ning Fan emerged, his face seemed to have some kind of queer lines...He wasn't paying much attention to it at that moment, but thinking to it now, it finally dawned on him that it was the Divine Rain Intent! No, it wasn't just the Divine Rain Intent. It seemed to have the Qi of Yin Yang Locket as well...

It seemed like the Yin Yang Locket had integrated with the Divine Rain Intent. Could this be reason the incarnation had changed qualitatively?!

There was the division of disposition, sea of consciousness and physique. The white-robed Ning Fan had inherited Ning Fan's physique, Yin Yang Evil Veins, magical abilities, and his amiable and sunny character. The black-robed Ning Fan had inherited Ning Fan's sword sense and ruthlessness, and the murderous intent of the Immortal Emperor.

From the moment they were separated, the one that was standing on the rock wasn't Ning Fan anymore, but half of Ning Fan's self! The black-robed Ning Fan was no longer an illusion. He had solidified, and made up the other half of Ning Fan.

Therefore, when the black and white Ning Fan merged together, only could they become the true Ning Fan, like the combination of Yin and Yang!

With this thought in mind, the white-robed Ning Fan showed a faint smile.

A trace of his Dao Heart had integrated into all the Divine Rain Intent he had acquired along the way. It had condensed out a trace of Divine Intent of his own. And, under the ability of the Yin Yang Locket, the Divine Intent had been branded on his Sense Soul Incarnation.

The incarnation was fully solidified and created the black-robed Ning Fan. This meant that this half-step Nascent Soul incarnation could be released at any time in the future! This black-robed Ning Fan alone was powerful enough to fight ancestor-level experts of Yue Country!

The harvest of entering Dark Sparrow's Grave this time was humongous!

“I just don’t know if there will be any change after the two of us merged together again...”

The white-robed Ning Fan stood, crossing his hands behind his back. He was still waiting on the rock with his eyes open and a light smile on his face. Then, he felt a tingle in his heart and the black-robed Ning Fan emerged from below, treading up the magma.

This was the Sense Soul Incarnation of Ning Fan, the black-robed Ning Fan!

“Are the Fire Spirits eliminated?” The white-robed Ning Fan asked with a smile.

“En.” Black-robed Ning Fan had a cold expression, as though he had never once smiled. With a flick of his sleeve, hundreds of warm red-colored demonic cores appeared and were handed to his other self.

The white-robed Ning Fan didn’t speak much. He kept the demonic cores and studied black-robed Ning Fan with curiosity.

“From now on, neither I nor you are Ning Fan...we are only half of Ning Fan.”

“En.” The black-robed Ning Fan answered coldly, staring at his white-robed counterpart the way he would stare at himself in the mirror.

Immediately, both of them made a step forward and fused into one in the formation brilliance!

As the light faded, Ning Fan turned back into a white-robed and black-cloaked young man. After a moment, he opened his eyes and revealed a satisfied smile.

“Interesting...”

Whether it was the white-robed or black-robed Ning Fan, both of them were him. One was Yin and the other was Yang. One was hot, the other was cold. One was white, the other was black. One was lively, the other was deathly...

The cultivation of Sense Divine Art was the main reason for this. The acquisition of the Divine Rain Intent was just an accidental while the Yin Yang Locket was the key to this ultimate cause of change!

This was something that only Void Fragmentation old monsters could master - the ability to incarnate! Today, it was fully mastered by Ning Fan!

He smiled and looked at the soundly asleep Bright Sparrow, carried her in his arms, then leaped and hurtled straight out of the volcano in a flash!

“The white-robed and black-robed aren’t Ning Fan if they are alone. So they can’t be considered Ning Fan anymore. After the separation, the white-robed is called White Fan and the black-robed is called Dark Ning!”

White Fan and Dark Ning...this was the Dao of Yin Yang!

Chapter 123(1): Avoidance

Ning Fan flew out of the volcano without any intention of stopping and headed for the heart of all trees of the ninth level!

In the continuous rain, he landed on top of a 30 thousand meters tall tree. This tree blotted out the sun and the sky, towering like a giant peak. It was precisely the body of Old Man Ming Luo.

As he landed on the tree, a spirit sense even stronger than a Void Fragmentation fourth layer swept past him. Knowing that Bright Sparrow was safe and uninjured, the voice in the spirit sense heaved a sigh of relief.

“Come into this old man’s tree trunk.”

An indifferent voice was heard from the massive tree, and immediately, the tree trunk in front of Ning Fan cracked open, revealing a 30-meter large door.

This tree was the Ming Luo Tree, the true body of Old Man Ming Luo. The Void Fragmentation fourth layer small geezer earlier was merely a part of Ming Luo Tree demon soul.

His true body was the tree, grown from the dark underground, which was why he hated the glow of fire so much. Moreover, his roots had grown so deep underground that he couldn't pull them out. Also, the Qi of his true body was extremely strong. He could've easily killed that Void Fragmentation fourth layer Snake Lin with his current power.

He couldn't leave the ground and could only use his tree spirit to look for Bright Sparrow. This explained why the demons in the eighth level could take advantage of him. If those demons ever dared to come messing around in the ninth level, Ming Luo would turn all of them into fertilizer!

Ning Fan was left speechless when he thought about the true strength of Ming Luo. This also reminded him that this Ming Luo still owed him a favor. If he asked Ming Luo to help him exterminate Moksha Emperor, Ming Luo would be less likely to refuse it. Unfortunately, Ming Luo's true body couldn't leave the ninth level, and his clone's strength was limited. If he ever climbed his way up to the higher levels of the grave, his clone's cultivation base will drop. There was no way he could ever leave Dark Sparrow's Grave.

Just like what Ming Luo had said, he only had one way of leaving Dark Sparrow's Grave - that was by burning his demon soul and break the law of the Heavens and Earth at the expense of his life!

Ning Fan smiled wryly at this idea. Asking Ming Luo to kill Moksha Emperor was indeed somewhat unrealistic. Besides, Ning Fan would prefer to take the life of Moksha Emperor himself. Of course, that would only happen if he already had the strength to execute Moksha!

Within the tree, the paths bent in various ways towards the world of the tree heart. In the heart of the tree, there was an extensive wooden palace. A short old man in black clothes could be seen from the distance. He greeted Ning Fan hastily as soon as he saw him.

"All of the Void Poison is suppressed?!" He sounded extremely excited as he looked at the soundly asleep Bright Sparrow in Ning Fan's arms. His face was full of affection.

"Fortunately I didn't fail in the task," Ning Fan said plainly.

“Good! Good! Bring Bright Sparrow to her room, let her rest and her Demonic Yuan to recover!”

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After putting Bright Sparrow on the bed, he gazed at the short little old man outside with a dignified look.

This short old man was no doubt the essence of Ming Luo Tree. He was a Void Fragmentation expert in the ninth level of Dark Sparrow’s Grave. In front of his true body, Ning Fan felt so insignificant. The true body of Ming Luo was even a few notches stronger than Moksha Emperor. After fulfilling Ming Luo’s request, based on this old demon’s character, he certainly wouldn’t return kindness with vengeance, but things in the world was hard to predict. Ning Fan had to be on alert as he was now in a dangerous situation.

He grasped a trace of the true soul under his sleeve. This was precisely the soul of Ming Luo. With an indifferent tone, he said: “I have fulfilled Senior’s request. So, can I ask for my third request from Senior now?”

Ning Fan’s eyes didn’t show any trace of carelessness. This was his Dao of Discreet. Once he detected any signs or suspicious movement from Ming Luo, he would crush Ming Luo’s true soul instantly, dealing a massive damage to Ming Luo’s cultivation base!

“Hehe! Little Friend has saved Bright Sparrow. Just tell me if you have any more request! Don’t worry, I, Ming Luo, always do things honestly and openly. I will never break the promise I made.”

Ming Luo said with confidence, as though he had forgotten how he had sneak-attacked Ning Fan.

Ning Fan glanced at Ming Luo in a strange way, but didn’t remind the old man of what he did to avoid embarrassing the old man.

It seemed like this Ming Luo loved his face pretty much...

Before saving Bright Sparrow, Ning Fan had put forward three conditions. First, he requested Ming Luo to give him a trace of his true soul. Second, he requested to use Ming Luo's 10 000-year-old spiritual herbs to treat Bright Sparrow's poison.

From these two requests, it rather seemed like Ning Fan was the one who suffered the loss. Which was why he held his third request so that he could use it to give the old man a hard time.

Since Ming Luo had already agreed to let Ning Fan offer three requests, Ning Fan wouldn't be polite about it.

"My third request... I suppose Senior can already guess what is it...I want Ming Luo Fruit!"

"Sure enough, you want Ming Luo Fruit. Alright, this old man will grant you this request! However...how many Ming Luo Fruits do you want? Currently, I only have three in my hands. If you want four fruits, you will have to go into my Ming Luo Mirage and pluck it..." Ming Luo's eyes turned stern as he gazed at Ning Fan.

"Ming Luo Mirage?"

"That's right! There are countless of Ming Luo Fruit growing in the mirage. But I can't go into the mirage now as Bright Sparrow is still unconscious. As for you, I can make an exception this time by opening it for you!"

Ming Luo's tone was flat as if he was talking about a casual matter, but Ning Fan's expression had changed slightly.

The memory of Ancient Chaos had mentioned about the place that grew Ming Luo Fruit - the Ming Luo Mirage. However, any outside races would never be allowed to enter the illusory world. The fact that Ming Luo was willing to make this an exception indicated his sincerity.

Rumor has it that the illusory force could ignore one's cultivation base. The number of Ming Luo Fruit one could pluck would solely depend on one's determination, totally unrelated to one's cultivation base. Even a Void Fragmentation cultivator would likely be affected by the illusion playing in his heart, and might end up with not a single Ming Luo Fruit.

With the true soul of Ming Luo in Ning Fan's hand, he wouldn't need to worry that Ming Luo would do something to harm him.

Since there was a chance to obtain more Ming Luo Fruit, Ning Fan wasn't foolish enough to decline it.

"Please open the mirage for me, Senior."

"Yes. For the sake of saving Bright Sparrow, this old man will remind you once more. Once you enter the mirage, don't be too greedy. As long as you close your eyes and wait for the illusory force to fade, you will be able to get one Ming Luo Fruit. Young man, never be too greedy. Four Ming Luo Fruit is already considered plenty."

"Thank you, Senior, for reminding me. I will keep that in mind. However, I still want to try my best to get as much Ming Luo Fruit as possible."

"Alright...if you are eroded by the illusory force, I will get you out even if I have to use force."

Ming Luo shook his head. Although he praised Ning Fan's boldness, he didn't think that this young man could even get half of the Ming Luo Fruit if this young man pushed his luck.

The power of the illusion was the bane of the human heart. Those who cultivated Evil Dao would be affected even more by the illusory force. Plus, this young human also seemed to be cultivating the Evil Dao, which would make it very difficult for him to resist the power of the illusion.

Ming Luo had already concluded in his heart that Ning Fan would find nothing in the end, but despite that, he still opened the illusory world as a reward for rescuing Bright Sparrow.

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Chapter 123(2): Avoidance

Ming Luo made a ten-fingered incantation gesture. After seeing a ray of light, an abstruse spatial zone appeared outside the palace of the tree heart, which vaguely radiated a very strong illusory force. Then, Ning Fan stepped into it!

After the time it took for half an incense stick to burn, Ming Luo's expression changed all of a sudden.

He sensed that Ning Fan had already broken the mirage and had gotten his first Ming Luo Fruit!

"This kid has actually obtained his first Ming Luo Fruit!"

Ming Luo gradually switched back to his grim expression. It seemed like he had underestimated Ning Fan...

The fact that Ning Fan could obtain a Ming Luo Fruit proved that he was person with persistent heart. Despite being an evil cultivator, he was still able to pluck a Ming Luo Fruit. This kid is extraordinary!

"Unfortunately, this kid won't be able to get a second Ming Luo Fruit. In Ming Luo Mirage, every next fruit that one plucks will only become harder to get due to the increasing power of the illusion. Since the birth of the race of Ming Luo Tree, countless powerhouses have already entered the Ming Luo Mirage, if this kid, given his young age, can pluck his second Ming Luo Fruit in the mirage...however, from the ancient times till today, no more than 100 individuals had achieved that..."

Ming Luo spoke in a soft tone, but before his voice faded, his eyes showed a look of surprise as he could sense that Ning Fan had gotten his second Ming Luo Fruit in the mirage!

Even those young righteous cultivators who practiced Profound Sect Cultivation Law would find it difficult to resist the illusory force of the second Ming Luo Fruit!

Given his age that hasn't even reached 20-years-old, if he can pluck a third Ming Luo Fruit...he will no doubt be regarded as a proud son of Heaven!

Ming Luo's heart began to be filled with certain anticipation about Ning Fan's following result.

However, an hour had passed and Ning Fan had yet to pluck his third Ming Luo Fruit, as though he had been already trapped by the power of illusion.

Ming Luo sighed slightly. It seemed like he had overestimated this kid...

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In the mirage, Ning Fan was holding two Ming Luo Fruits, standing in the vast rainbow-colored world.

Rivers flowed in the sky, mountains hung upside down in the sky and beasts were moving upside down in the sky. The world in the mirage was influencing one's common sense.

Thousands of rainbow-colored fruits that seemed partially imaginary and real drifted in the air. Only a few of these fruits were real, the rest were fake.

If one plucked the fake fruit, one's body would be invaded by the illusory force.

Once Ning Fan entered the mirage, he cast the First Level Heart Law of Yin Yang Transformation. The cultivation law of Immortal Emperor had tremendous resistance against illusions. As soon as he circulated this cultivation law, he discovered a true Ming Luo Fruit and plucked it, but immediately after that, the surrounding power of illusion was doubled, making the identification of Ming Luo Fruit difficult for him once more.

Fortunately after a moment of contemplation, he was able to discern the trace of a true Ming Luo Fruit at last and plucked it into his chests, and again, the power of illusion was doubled.

At this stage, even with the First Level Heart Law of Yin Yang Transformation, he couldn't see through the genuineness of the fruit.

At this time, an idea rose in Ning Fan's mind - he might as well bet on it, but then, he was wrong.

The third Ming Luo Fruit in his hand was a fake. Once it was wrapped by his fingers, it instantly burst into rainbow-colored mists, enveloping Ning Fan completely.

Ning Fan's countenance changed. He immediately lifted his guard knowing that the illusory force had invaded his body. His eyes swept around but discovered no unusual occurrence.

However, he smelled a scent in the air and all of a sudden, innumerable images of female naked bodies emerged.

These illusory images burst back into colorful mists after Ning Fan harrumphed coldly, but a split second after that, the mists recondensed to form the image of a familiar girl.

This young female wore a fox-fur robe, her hair combed into a maiden bun. She was staring at Ning Fan in a charming and touching way.

"Brother Fan, if you can cut off Zhihe, you will be able to break free from the power of illusion, or even get a Ming Luo Fruit...it's just that, are you willing to do so...?"

This 'Zhihe' was undoubtedly the formation of the illusory force...

"Zhihe..."

Ning Fan closed his eyes which was now filled with a trace of desolation.

The current 'Zhihe' was merely an illusion and Ning Fan only needed to summon the Separation Slayer to slash, and break it...It was just that...he couldn't bring himself to make the strike even though it was only a fake image.

The power of illusion targeted one's innermost feelings. Clearly, it was no longer an illusion, but a Heart Devil!

“If this slash was made, not only could I get a Ming Luo Fruit, this would also be very beneficial to my future in Gold Core realm that needed to abandon one’s sentiment. It’s just that if this slash was made, it would be a kind of blasphemy to Zhihe...So I’d rather not want this Ming Luo Fruit!”

A hint of resoluteness was shown in Ning Fan’s eyes. At this moment, even his last trace of greed for the Ming Luo Fruit had dispersed, leaving behind only determination.

Just as the moment the thought of greed faded, ‘Zhihe’ exploded into colorful mists once more. Additionally, the clouds of mist that were enveloping him dissipated rapidly.

The fog of illusion was finally gone, then a Ming Luo Fruit appeared at the spot where it vanished. Instead of feeling delighted, Ning Fan seemed dismayed.

“Slashing sentiment, slashing the Heart Devil...although I choose not to slash away Zhihe this time, it’s only for the sake of avoiding the confrontation...I wonder if I can avoid this incident again while I’m forming the core...”

“However, I finally know the way to pluck the Ming Luo Fruit. The way is to have no thoughts at all! I, Ning Fan, will never be able to achieve this state no matter how hard I try...even though Ning Fan can’t do this, Dark Ning can!”

Ning Fan muttered to himself. A moment later, he patted the top of his skull, and immediately, a white and black-clad Ning Fan emerged.

The white-clad was White Fan and the black-clad was Dark Ning.

The white-clad had a smile on his face, but was instantly enchanted by the power of illusion, whereas the black-clad Ning Fan had a heart like rock. None of the temptations could shake his heart.

“Plucking these Ming Luo Fruits? Humph! Who cares if they are fake or real? Just pluck them!”

He waved his hands violently among the countless drifting Ming Luo Fruits and plucked out ten of them. As soon as it happened, a heaven defying power of illusion rolled towards the black-clad Ning Fan, but he just stood there motionlessly.

“I’m heartless! You can’t enchant me! Break!”

The force of illusion broke and crumbled before his very eyes!

...

In the outside world, even after a long time, Ming Luo still couldn’t see Ning Fan obtaining the third Ming Luo Fruit, which he felt that it was a pity.

The closing time of the mirage was nearing, but Ning Fan still showed no signs of leaving the illusory world.

“What is he doing in there...? Whatever it is, he must have been trapped in the fog of illusion after plucking two Ming Luo Fruits. I think I will have to save him out of the mirage.”

Ming Luo shook his head. As he was about to get Ning Fan out with force, his eyes turned stern all of a sudden, and with startling speed, it turned to shock that grew stronger and stronger!

“He has gotten the third Ming Luo Fruit...wait, the fourth, the fifth...this-this...”

Ming Luo’s expression seemed blank. For the first time in his life, he discovered that Ming Luo Mirage was showing the signs of collapsing before its closing time.

“What has that kid done in the mirage?! To cause the mirage to crumble in advance!”

With a loud blast, a white and black ray of light shot out of the mirage and turned into a youth with white clothes and black cloak. In the next moment, the mirage closed with a loud crash!

“It’s a pity...black-clad Ning is being somewhat unruly...otherwise, I can pluck a few more Ming Luo Fruits. Now I only got 10 of them!”

“Huh...you have plucked 10 Ming Luo Fruits in the mirage?!”

Ming Luo’s face was zombie-like and full of disbelief.

In the history of Ming Luo Tree Race, those who could pluck ten Ming Luo Fruits in the illusory journey were experts above Nascent Soul realm. And no matter how monstrous the Nascent Soul expert was, the expert would need to be hundreds of years of age... even if the expert cultivated the inter-generational force of Lost World Palace by slowing the time in the outer world, it would take hundreds of years of honing...

Without hundreds of years of experience, one wouldn’t able to resist the power of illusion of ten Ming Luo Fruits.

But Ning Fan only had the skeletal age of 20. Because of this, Ming Luo was puzzled.

If Ming Luo knew that the black-clad incarnation of Ning Fan wasn’t affected by the enhancement of the mirage, he would definitely feel even more astonished.

“It was just through sheer fluke.” Ning Fan showed a wry smile.

When he was being invaded by the Heart Devil and was put in the position to slash off ‘Zhihe’, he avoided it.

But next time, would he be able to avoid it again the moment he broke through to the Gold Core realm?

Because his Heart Devil is Zhihe...

Chapter 124(1): Refinement; Ming Luo Fruit!

The fact that Ning Fan obtained ten Ming Luo Fruits was unbelievable to Treant Ming Luo. Ning Fan immediately went into seclusion in the heart of the tree after that.

The wounds that were caused by the Fire Spirits were healed.

His dazed mental state that was caused by the power of illusion had recovered.

After a long time, Ning Fan gently exhaled a breath of foul Qi, waved his palm to produce a blood-red demonic core. His eyes sparkled.

Fire Spirit demonic core...human cultivators absolutely couldn't take the demonic core directly. It has to be refined as a pill before consuming, but there's an exception for the Five Elemental Demonic Cores - namely, metal, wood, water, fire and earth. If these five types of spirits have unlocked their spiritual intelligence and turned into demons, the demonic core inside of them could be swallowed directly by a human cultivator, however there's restriction on one's cultivation base...if a human cultivator wants to devour the demonic core of any of the five elements, his cultivation base must be one realm higher than the master of the demonic core...

Ning Fan was in silence. The Fire Spirit demonic core belonged to one of the Five Elemental Demonic Cores, and was the object of pursuit of countless peak Gold Core cultivators. If he refined the core with his current strength, he would surely be devoured by the demonic core due to his weak cultivation base. Even if he could refine the demonic core, his magical strength had already exceeded the highest realm before core formation, it won't allow him to advance any further.

With a slight sigh, Ning Fan's thoughts raced.

If he couldn't refine it himself, could his black-clad incarnation do it?!

The strength of the black-clad incarnation was the same as the spirit sense of his true self, which was at half-step Nascent Soul realm, and could be completely separated from his body. If he stayed in the ninth level of Dark Sparrow's Grave to refine the Fire Spirit demonic core, his spirit sense realm would probably be able to reach the extent of Nascent Soul realm!

In other words, he could break through to the Nascent Soul realm in the Dark Sparrow's Grave! The strength of the incarnation came from the strength of his spirit sense. There was only a small bottleneck for breaking through the spirit sense realm unlike the bottleneck in core formation. With so many Fire Spirit demonic cores, three months would be sufficient for him to advance his spirit sense to the Nascent Soul realm! At that time, the black-clad incarnation would possess the strength of Nascent Soul realm, allowing him to sweep across the entire Yue Country unhindered!

Ning Fan's eyes moved. If his spirit sense advanced to the Nascent Soul realm, even if he hadn't formed his core, his black-clad incarnation would be powerful enough to fight a true Nascent Soul expert!

But immediately, a trace of doubt appeared in his eyes...there were two safety concerns that he needed to consider if his black-clad incarnation were to advance to the Nascent Soul realm.

First of all, the black-clad incarnation has to form its nascent, he would need to devour the Fire Spirit demonic cores. Also, the inside of the volcano was the most suitable place for nascent formation - under the power of the fourth grade fire and overwhelming spiritual Qi, it would absolutely tremendously increase the success rate of nascent formation...however, this place was the territory of Treant Ming Luo. Although Ming Luo's hostility towards Ning Fan had reduced a lot, there was a saying that says one's heart was unpredictable. If Ning Fan chose to go into seclusion in Ming Luo's territory, there was no guarantee that Ming Luo wouldn't change his mind and do something to harm Ning Fan.

There was a solution to this problem...he still had the trace of Ming Lou's true soul in his possession. When he asked for the true soul of Ming Luo, he intended to save it for ensnaring Ming Luo later. It was true that he had asked for the true soul of Ming Luo, but he didn't promise to return it to Ming Luo even if Bright Sparrow's condition was already cured!

Nevertheless, he was still afraid that Ming Luo would want the trace of his true soul back before Ning Fan left Dark Sparrow's Grave. If that happens, Ning Fan could stand in the teleportation formation untroubled, bargain with the weak Vein Opening clone of Ming Luo to exchange the true soul for some benefits.

In that case, both of them would be even.

However, Ming Luo had opened the Ming Luo Mirage for Ning Fan. This matter alone was enough to settle his score with Ming Luo - back when Ming Luo sneak-attacked him. Plus, no matter how thick-skinned Ning Fan was, he wouldn't use that to threaten Ming Luo at this juncture.

This also mean that he could no longer use the true soul to threaten Ming Lou, he wouldn't return it to Ming Luo for the time being, however. It would serve as his protection while his incarnation was in seclusion...So, this true soul still had a great use!

In this way, the safety issue of his black-clad incarnation's seclusion was resolved...but, that also indicated that only half of Ning Fan - the white-clad - could leave the grave. Three months later, the Extreme Yin Gate would attack Ning City. His white-clad incarnation alone wouldn't be enough to fight against the Old Monster Purple Yin.

The white-clad incarnation inherited Ning Fan's cultivation base and flesh, whereas black-clad incarnation inherited Ning Fan's sea of consciousness and sword sense.

Though white-clad incarnation still possessed spirit sense as the black-clad incarnation was still staying in Dark Sparrow's Grave, he wouldn't be able to exert the heaven defying technique - sword sense. If the black-clad incarnation could advance to the Nascent Soul realm before the attack of Extreme Yin Gate, it could certainly reverse the situation... However, if the black-clad incarnation encountered an accident during its breakthrough, he could only rely on the peak Harmonious Spirit white-clad incarnation to defend against the half-step Nascent Soul Old Monster Purple Yin. Many dangers had existed in this matter.

Ning Fan's spirit sense swept through the volcano and he knitted his brows. Due to the slaughtering of the black-clad incarnation, thousands of Fire Spirits were killed, the Fourth Grade Spiritual Fire in the volcano began to extinguish. If he missed this seclusion and chance to devour the Fire Spirit demonic cores for nascent formation, he would never find a place as good as this for his seclusion again. Not every place in the world had a sea of fire similar to this Fourth Grade Spiritual Fire waiting for you!

After all, a tiny Fourth Grade Spiritual Fire could be sold at a sky high price in the outer world!

Chapter 124(2): Refinement; Ming Luo Fruit!

"The fire of this volcano isn't fire, it's created by the demonic force and can't be brought out of Dark Sparrow's Grave. Additionally, as numerous Fire Spirits were killed, the fire is beginning to die out. If I miss this chance, it will be extremely difficult for black-clad Ning to break through to Nascent Soul realm in the future, but if I let black-clad Ning stay here for nascent formation, the white-clad incarnation will face lots of dangers..."

“Forget it. Let’s make a compromise...the black-clad incarnation will stay here for nascent formation while the white-clad incarnation will leave the Dark Sparrow’s Grave and return to Ning City. If Ning City is under attack and black-clad incarnation hasn’t broken through to the Nascent Soul realm yet...he will have to give up the chance of nascent formation and return to Ning City at once!”

Ning Fan casted a spell, then patted the top of his skull. In a flash of brilliance, the white-clad and black-clad incarnations exited his body.

Both of them had a very strong tacit understanding. The black-clad incarnation took away all the demonic cores without being told, held the trace of demonic soul and went straight into the extinguishing volcano.

As for the white-clad incarnation, he slightly sighed, patted the storage pouch to produce a Ming Luo Fruit.

This Ming Luo Fruit was the size of a lychee. Its rough surface resembled the Immortal Cave Stars in Ancient Chaos memory, but the traces of rainbow patterns densely enshrouded it, radiating a dim light that rippled with the power of illusion.

The Ming Luo Fruit was also known as the dream fruit. Consuming one fruit could allow the cultivator to obtain fifty years of dreaming. It was a way to improve one’s state of mind by immersing oneself into a dream. One dream would only take one night in the outer world, but in the dream, it would be 50 years. Although 50 years in a dream wouldn’t raise a bit of one’s cultivation base, it could make one’s mental state to converge!

“Ever since I practiced the Evil Cultivation, although my cultivation base has been rising pretty quickly, my mental state has rather been stagnant...it really takes time for one’s mental state to improve. Such improvement can’t be obtained through pills...apart from the Ming Luo Fruit, I’m afraid that there’s nothing else in the world that has the effect of raising one’s mental state. I want to be the first to take the Ming Luo Fruit in Dark Sparrow’s Grave!”

The White Ning let out a faint smile, placed the Ming Luo Fruit in his mouth and munched it.

The rainbow power of illusion instantly caused his eyelids to fall, plunging him into the dream world.

...

In the dream.

In Haining Ning Family, there was a three-year-old kid with blank eye-expression being brought into the servant courtyard of Ning Family.

Next to the emerald-green river was Haining City. Countless number of kids with the same eye expression were led into Ning Family.

Most of them were orphans and beggars. They were found from all parts of Wu Country by the cultivators of Ning Family. Their memories were erased, and they were taken as children of Ning Family. Those who were endowed with the talent for Immortal Cultivation would be called 'young master' whereas those that lacked endowment would be given the title of 'servant child'.

The three-year-old child was at the heel of a scrawny middle-aged man and was acting obsequiously. The middle-aged man had a snobbish look and said coldly:

"From now on, you are called 'Ning Fan', my, Ning Daniu's adopted child. I also adopted another child who is a year younger than you named 'Ning Gu'..."

"Oh..."

The three-year-old child replied with caution. When he heard the name 'Ning Fan' he felt extremely familiar and when he heard the name 'Ning Gu' he felt somewhat sad.

However, he didn't understand what those feelings were as he was just a three-year-old kid.

While in contemplation, the kid named Ning Fan couldn't help but come to a halt. He stood there motionless, his eyes went blank.

“Why must I be called ‘Ning Fan’...? Can I not be called this name? My mother said that my surname is ‘Yun’...”

“*Hiss!* this three-year-old kid’s memory has been erased. So how can he still remember his past...? Humph! I will need to ask Immortal Master to wipe your memory once more. This time, it has to be a thorough one...”

Ning Daniu couldn’t close his mouth due to astonishment.

Even after having his memory erased, this kid still could remember his own name. This kid is...

Ning Daniu’s eyes twitched. Could it be that this child would be a monster...? Or else how could this happen?

While he was pondering, a youth in white robe and black cloak walked over lightly.

“Ning...Ning Daniu greets Grandfather Immortal Master!” Every cultivator was an Immortal Master in Ning Daniu’s eyes!

Ning Daniu fell to his knees with a thump. He was scared, really scared. He had once witnessed an Immortal Master slaughtering 207 bandits, one after another, on a mountain. Immortal Master was the existence whom Wu Country paid homage to. Naturally, Haining’s Ning Family was also extremely courteous to the Immortal Masters. So, he, Ning Daniu, could never afford to offend an Immortal Master.

It was just that the youth cultivator didn’t even glance at Ning Daniu, his eyes fell on the kid named Ning Fan in recollection.

“You are called Ning Fan? Good name...you said that your surname is Yun?”

“En.” The child answered obediently. For some reason, the child had an instinctive sense of closeness to the youth.

“Ning Fan...perhaps, your real name is Yun Fan...Hehe...I never thought that the refinement of a Ming Luo Fruit could allow oneself to see the trace of a memory in the depths of one’s mind. It’s just that what’s the big deal in knowing one’s own surname? Every child that is adopted by Ning Family is an orphan. After all, you neither have a father nor a mother. There’s no difference if your surname is Yun or Ning.” The youth sighed.

“Oh...” Ning Fan nodded, even though he didn’t have a clue what the youth uncle was saying.

After sighing, the youth’s eyes turned stern, his Qi rolled frenziedly like a mist!

“Let me ask you, do you have the heart to defy and slash the Heaven!?”

“I...I don’t understand...” The little child seemed as though he thought of something and revealed a frightened look.

“Forget it. This is the first Ming Luo Fruit. Your heart is too puerile. It’s not the time to return to Haining and slash the Heart Devil yet.”

The youth made a sigh again, rolled his sleeve and brought the child Ning Fan with him under the astonished gaze of Ning Daniu and vanished.

The dream was smashed to pieces.

When the dream recondensed, it was a deserted and desolate land. It was the scene in the Demon Sinister Forest.

“In these fifty years, you will have to watch me kill...”

The youth stepped into the forest, taking the child with him, beginning his endless slaughtering!

As it was the first time the child saw blood, broken limbs and body parts, he passed out due to fear and puked countless of times, however his puerile heart was getting mature every time!

In fifty years, the youth and child never even spoke once.

In those fifty years, the youth kept on slaughtering an endless number of ghosts. It was just that every time the ghosts died, they reformed. It was because here, was the dream world.

From feeling loneliness to fatigue, then numbness towards the killings...resoluteness and coldness gradually emerged in the child's eyes.

"I wonder if I have the heart to defy and slash the sky and if I can slash the sentiment!" The child's tone was tender, but his expression was as cold as a god of slaughter!

After that, the dream of fifty years of slaughtering was broken!

...

In the ninth level of the grave, in the world of the heart of the tree, Ning Fan opened his eyes abruptly. His eyes were filled with hints of exhaustion and vicissitudes.

He closed his eyes, then settled his mental state. After some time, he opened his eyes. All the tiredness and vicissitudes in his eyes vanished, except there was an immeasurably vast difference in his expression!

The cultivation base of his mental state had been raised by fifty years!

Instead of feeling happy, he sighed.

"It's still not enough. I still haven't gotten the heart to defy and slash the Heaven...if that's the case, I'm still unable to slash my sentiments and form the core! But I won't slash the sentiments!"

Chapter 125(1): Heavenly Dao as a Circle

A single Ming Luo Fruit had raised Ning Fan's mental state cultivation base by fifty years. However, he didn't continue eating the rest of the Ming Luo Fruits after that.

His present mental state had already reached the peak of Harmonious Spirit realm, which was in line with his current cultivation base. If he went further, it would be Gold Core realm, the time when he had to confront the Heart Devil.

If that was the case, he could only take another Ming Luo Fruit again if he really formed his core.

Bright Sparrow was still in a stupor and was undergoing metamorphosis, but Ning Fan was unwilling to stay any longer in the Dark Sparrow's Grave. After so many days of being in the Dark Sparrow's Grave, the Old Ancestor of Fire Cloud Sect had perhaps already collected all the necessary spiritual herbs for concocting the Nascent Fortification Pill and Corpse Life Pill. As such, Ning Fan must return to his sect to concoct the pills and prepare to face the great war three months later!

He gave a final glance at the lethargic and petite Bright Sparrow.

This little girl had somehow given him a trace of a pleasant feeling, just like Ming Luo. Despite being the dignified Treant Ming Luo and a supreme existence in the grave, he cared so much about the little girl.

The Dark Demon Force undoubtedly had strange powers. It gave people no reason to have any malice on her.

"I'm leaving..."

He turned and departed along with Ming Luo's clone. Just as he left, Bright Sparrow's eyelashes and eyelids moved, attempting to open her eyes, but she was just too exhausted.

"Cookie Brother...Profound Treasure...Cloud Treasure...will all say goodbye to you..." She uttered these words in her dream, but Ning Fan was already out of earshot.

The dwarf Old Man Ming Luo willed the Immortal Cloud, bringing Ning Fan towards the lower levels of the grave. Ning Fan had already told Ming Luo about his incarnation's seclusion in the volcano, and that he would return the true soul of Ming Luo three months later. Ming Luo was a little hesitant regarding this matter before he brushed it aside. Given his cultivation base, the black-robed Ning Fan could never leave the ninth level of Dark Sparrow's Grave without his permission. So he didn't need to worry that the black-clad incarnation could escape the grave with his true soul.

Although it was only a small and short clone that was escorting Ning Fan, Ming Luo had been prudent this time. He had expended almost all of the power of his demon soul. The present strength of his clone had already reached Void Fragmentation Fifth Layer! He wouldn't need to fear Elder Snake Lin if he encountered him again!

The ninth level of Dark Sparrow's Grave contained rain that was created out of magical technique of divine intent.

The eighth level of Dark Sparrow's Grave contained heaven defying rain hidden with the lofty aspiration of defying and slashing the Heavens and also incorporated the meaning of 'defiance' in Que Shenzi's life.

As Ning Fan was leaving the grave, he observed the rain once more. Due to it being a different time now and him having a different objective and mental state, the rain became different once more.

The rain remained in Ning Fan's heart for a long time. From the rain of the eighth level, he had gained the confidence of slashing his Heart Devil. The only way of forming the core without slashing away his sentiment was to have such a state of mind.

"The heart of defying and slashing the heavens..." The white-clad Ning Fan slowly closed his eyes, immersing himself into the rain.

The seventh level of the Dark Sparrow's Grave contained lightning rain that incorporated the meaning of 'combat' in Que Shenzi's life.

The sixth level of the Dark Sparrow's Grave contained the sword rain that incorporated the meaning of 'kill' in Que Shenzi's life.

The fifth level of the Dark Sparrow's Grave contained the ice rain. It was where the Divine Rain Intent first condensed.

The fourth level contained autumn rain. The third level doesn't have any rain. The second level contained summer rain and the first level contained spring rain.

Ning Fan seemed lost in his thoughts as he stood beside the teleportation formation in the first level. The rain in the first level looked similar to the rain in the ninth level. It was like returning to the starting point after circling every level in a single round. The raindrops might look the same, but one was Yin rain whereas the other was formed out of divine intent.

The cultivation of the Divine Rain Intent was like a circle. When one integrated his Dao Heart into it and cultivated back to the original point, the cultivation would be complete. Even though Ning Fan had already condensed a trace of the divine intent, he still couldn't finish that circle of cultivation...This circle could only be completed the moment he reached the Spirit Severing realm and acquired the enlightenment of Heavenly Dao.

That was because the circle secretly contained the outline of Heavenly Dao.

After advancing his mental state for fifty years, although Ning Fan still seemed scrawny and weak, he was no longer puerile. Despite being at the tender age of eighteen, he was no longer a teenager, but a young smiling man in white.

"Senior Ming Luo, although we had some misunderstandings in the past, I have obtained plenty of benefits from you. Thanks again."

He held his fists at Ming Luo, then turned and stepped into the teleportation formation and was sent away by the void force.

"Hehe! Come back to see Bright Sparrow if there's chance...the little girl seems to like you." Ming Luo's impression of Ning Fan had improved so much after witnessing Ning Fan's means and character for a few times.

Using the sword sense to slash the soul of Elder Snake Lin.

Fifth Revolution Concoction Technique.

Suppressing the Void Poison.

Making the Ming Luo Mirage disperse mysteriously.

Also, this white-clad youth had condensed a black-clad incarnation!

Additionally, there wasn't a trace of flaw in that incarnation and its condensation was a success...not even Void Fragmentation Old Monsters could do this. But Ning Fan was able to do it!

"This kid is extraordinary and has a pleasant character. He is already good enough to match Bright Sparrow...however he still have to wait until Bright Sparrow grew older...' Ming Luo looked at where Ning Fan left and showed a rare broad smile. He was in a very good mood now that the Void Poison in Bright Sparrow's body was brought under control.

"However...how dare that little beast Snake Lin plot against me...this is a score that I have to settle!"

A cold light glinted in his eyes. It had been long since he got this angry. It seemed that he was going to spill blood in the eighth level of the grave!

...

Chapter 125(2): Heavenly Dao as a Circle

Brilliance shimmered. Ning Fan emerged in Earth Yuan Palace. Outside, Zhi He and the other girls were waiting for him.

Zhi He and Lan Mei were very worried about Ning Fan. Even the eccentric Si Wuxie was slightly worried about him. However, as soon as Ning Fan left the formation light, their brows relaxed.

“Brother Fan, you have come out..., you...are you alright...? Eh? You look like a different person...” Zhi He stared at the white-clad Ning Fan and the silent smile on his face made her feel slightly strange.

In just a few days, so many transformations had taken place in his body. Although Zhi He could clearly see it and Lan Mei was slightly aware of it, they still couldn’t understand it.

Yan Bai on the other hand could sense a Qi that was as stable as a mountain from Ning Fan. Though his face didn’t show anything, he was still amazed in his heart. There was such stability in Ning Fan’s expression. It seemed as if Ning Fan’s mental state was sharply raised in the Dark Sparrow’s Grave. Not only did his mental state had risen, his cultivation base had also reached the half-step Gold Core realm from his peak Harmonious Spirit realm. Even a False Core had been condensed in his body!

“This kid isn’t far away from forming the core!” Yan Bai’s wrinkled eyes narrowed. His fear of Ning Fan deepened.

As for Xue Qing, he could sniff a trace of...the smell of 10 000-year-old spiritual herbs! The rise in Ning Fan’s concoction technique had improved his disposition as an alchemist. Others might not be able discern it, but the Third Revolution Pill Master could vaguely sense it.

10 000-year-old spiritual herbs, the disposition of a Pill Grandmaster...all of these made Xue Qing’s eyes blaze. Ning Fan’s concoction technique must have advanced again. Could it be that there was an encounter that could enhance one’s concoction technique in the lower levels of Dark Sparrow’s Grave?

“Ai...I have missed the chance...if I knew that I could enhance my concoction technique, even if I would die, I would’ve ventured below with master.” Xue Qing regretted.

In the end, he didn’t continue to guess if Ning Fan’s concoction technique had really broken through to Fifth Revolution. However, it wouldn’t be long before Ning Fan told him about the matter.

Ning Fan’s eyes swept across Zhi He. In his heart, he felt a vague trace of distinct feeling. Although it was merely a few days in the outer world, he had experienced 50 years of massacre in his dream.

“By the way, Brother Fan, what happened after you asked us to leave Dark Sparrow’s Grave...were you in danger? Old Man Qing have told us. Did you go to a very dangerous place...?” Zhi He revealed a look of worry.

Being called ‘Old Man Qing’, Xue Qing’s face turned incredibly ugly, but he could only smile obsequiously. He could only accept what his mistress liked to call him.

“En, there was a little danger...but, it’s all over now.” Ning Fan smiled faintly and touched Zhi He’s hair indulgently. It made Zhi He’s face blush in front of all people.

She was already fourteen years old. Her bosoms were already half-developed and her figure had become somewhat graceful and curvy. Putting her Harmonious Spirit cultivation base into the picture, she was no longer that silly little girl, but a young girl with enticing glimpse of beauty.

Without Zhi He, Ning Fan probably would have died in the All Pleasure Sect. Without Zhi He, he would’ve never stepped into the evil path. Since he knew Zhi He, his fate had been changed again and again...but this time, Zhi He had become his Heart Devil...

Rather than telling Zhi He everything, he smiled.

A smile is a kind of expression, unrelated to one’s mood. The fact that he smiled didn’t mean that he wasn’t worrying about something. It was just that he didn’t want Zhi He to worry.

“It’s been so long since we dual cultivate...” All of a sudden he teased.

It made Zhi He feel so embarrassed that her face turned very red, while Lan Mei’s eyes were filled with a slight envy and enmity...

As for Xue Qing, he secretly raised a thumbs up at Ning Fan.

Ning Fan was no doubt his master. Ning Fan’s skin sure was thick to have mentioned the matter of dual cultivation in front of everyone. This was exactly the same as Old Monster Han’s virtue.

...

That night, in the Dual Cultivation Palace, Ning Fan and Zhi He shared the same pillow. In the courtyard, a moaning sound that could anger someone could be heard from time to time.

Three days later, Ancestor Jing Zhuo finally collected enough spiritual herbs, then he entrusted Lady Yun Hua to bring those herbs to Sinister Sparrow Sect.

In Sinister Sparrow Sect, the last thing that Ning Fan needed to do was to concoct the Nascent Formation Pill, Nascent Fortification Pill and Corpse Life Pill. Corpse Life Pill wasn't a big deal as it was only a Third Revolution Pill, but as the for Nascent Formation Pill and Nascent Fortification Pill, they were Fourth Revolution Pills... However given Ning Fan's Fifth Revolution Concoction Technique, he wouldn't need a lot of time to concoct these two pills. Half a month would be enough to concoct these two Fourth Revolution Pills!

The only thing he needed to do was to deploy a formation, isolating the strange phenomenon during the formation of the Fourth Revolution Pill from outside. That Heaven and Earth phenomenon was just too great. Ning Fan didn't want people to know that the Revered Ning in Sinister Sparrow Sect was a Fourth Revolution Pill Master, Black Devil Ning.

Though this matter could no longer be concealed after the fight with Extreme Yin Gate, but at least for now, it shouldn't be revealed yet, in case Old Monster Purple Yin altered his plans.

The Nascent Realm Grand Formation in Dan Palace was set up by the old ancestors in the mortal world. After Ning Fan's modification, its realm became higher and all the flaws had been perfected. Also, it now had the divine effect of isolating Fourth Revolution Pill's Qi.

In this way, he wouldn't be troubled by the heavenly tribulation and would feel a lot more relieved...

Also, he specially permitted Xue Qing to enter the concoction room to watch him concoct the pills!

This matter stirred up Xue Qing's emotions. He finally had the chance to observe Ning Fan's concoction - the concoction process of a Fourth Revolution Pill!

A Fourth Revolution Pill Master would receive courteous reception from any Nascent Soul expert.

A Fifth Revolution Pill Master could turn Spirit Severing cultivators to polite people!

Ning Fan imparted the first four revolutions of the Nine Revolutions River of Vehicle concoction technique to Xue Qing.

Just as he opened the cauldron, drew the earth fire and tossed the herbs, Xue Qing was shocked to discover that five shadowy circles were condensed amongst Ning Fan's fingers. Ning Fan handled the earth fire so familiarly and concocted the Fourth Revolution Pills so easily!

"Mas-Master, you-you have broken through to the Fifth Revolution Pill Master!"

Xue Qing was stunned!

Although Fourth Revolution Pill Masters were rare, there were tens of thousands of them in the eight hundred Cultivation Countries in the Rain World. Such a Pill Master was only considered rarely precious in the deserted region like Yue Country. As for Fifth Revolution Pill Master, there were fewer than a hundred across the entire Rain World. Every one of them was regarded as a guest of honor that only the God Sovereign of the Rain World could meet!

This faintly smiling white-robed youth who was under 20 years old had already become a Fifth Revolution Pill Master?!

If the news of this Fifth Revolution Pill Master was spread out, it would surely cause a sensation in the entire pill master circle in the Rain World. Xue Qing was afraid that even the only Seventh Revolution Pill Master of Rain Palace - the Pill Saint Yun Baitian, would come to meet this genius of the Dao of Alchemy without even bothering about the thousands of miles of distance.

It definitely wouldn't be a problem for Ning Fan to break through to the Six Revolution Pill Master in this life. He would even have the chance to become the second Seventh Revolution Pill Master!

“Don’t make a fuss about it. Quickly learn from master’s nine revolutions technique. In the future, you will also have the chance of breaking through to the Fifth Revolution realm.”

Ning Fan shook his head. With Xue Qing’s stubbornness in the Dao of Alchemy, this man was destined to have a long journey through Ning Fan’s guidance. But this man had to change his easily-shocked character. His nerve had to be enhanced!