

## **Grasping 286**

### Chapter 286.1 - The Opening of World Passage!

The Opening of World Passage!

Three days passed by in a flash.

The third Immemorial Divine Weapon was finally completed and it was also augmented with 18450 traces of "Hardness" Spirit Seal.

However, when Ning Fan got out of the Yuan Yao World, he immediately began to gather different kinds of ancient formations aside from Spirit Seals which cost him countless immortal jade in order to turn each of them into high quality formation compasses. Because of that, all his wealth was nearly expended!

Nobody knew why he needed the formation compasses. Although he did not have sufficient immortal jade to create them, he still managed to gather thousands of different types of formation diagrams.

The female corpse was following him from behind. After Lu Wan'er went out from her secluded meditation, the number of women following behind him increased to two while he was travelling around the nine divisions of the Second World to gather the formation diagrams.

Having the dragon corpse as the driver, the speed of the Golden Flame Chariot was nearly on par with the speed of a Void Refinement Realm expert!

In an instant, it could travel one hundred thousand li\* and in a single day, it could move 30 million li\*.

Within one year, Ning Fan had gone to every single division. Occasionally, he would take action and plunder their immortal jade. As a matter of fact, without needing him to plunder, the rulers of the demon cities where the Golden Flame Chariot went would automatically present gifts to him when they noticed that the driver of the chariot was a Half-Step Void Refinement Realm refined corpse.

As such, while Ning Fan was travelling, he was gathering formation maps and producing the formation compasses using immortal jade to perfect his third Immemorial Divine Weapon.

This divine weapon could be said to be the weapon in which he spent the most effort.

On the fifth year after the battle on the Cloud Platform, Ning Fan rode on the Golden Flame Chariot to return to the Luo Yun Province because he had received a notice from Lu Daochen that the World Passage has been initiated!

Lu Wan'er was at a loss for words.

Ever since Ning Fan ended his seclusion, she had been staying together with Ning Fan for more than a year while accompanying him to travel nearly every part of the Second World.

However, the journey was too boisterous. At first, there was only the female corpse who interfered with the "wonderful thing" between the two of them. Afterwards, Ning Fan actually let all the women in his Cauldron Ring out and placed them in the Golden Flame Palace within the chariot for them to breathe some fresh air and kill their boredom.

Lu Wan'er knew that they were all Ning Fan's female cauldrons. But she was unaware that the way Ning Fan treated his cauldrons was not strict at all. As for those cauldrons, she wondered where Ning Fan captured them from. Each and every single one of them were loyal and devoted to him so much so that they were willing to consider themselves as the female guards of the Ning Family...

Towards his enemies, Ning Fan was cold and merciless but towards his loved ones, he was not stingy at all.

Along the journey, he had also collected a lot of pills. Those of high grades were shoved into Lu Wan'er's pouch while those of lower grades were distributed to the Harmonious Spirit Realm and Gold Core Realm cauldrons.

Moreover, there were numerous alluring women who needed to break through the bottlenecks of their cultivation pleading Ning Fan to practice dual-cultivation with them...

Due to dual-cultivating with his cauldrons, creating the formation compasses and some other reasons, there would at most be one night out of ten where Ning Fan could spend time with Lu Wan'er.

"Isn't your harem a little too large..." Lu Wan'er muttered, as if she was complaining.

"They'll come in handy in the future... I have this hunch!" Ning Fan gave her a slight smile.

The higher one's cultivation level, the deeper insights they have towards the interactions between heaven and mankind. Therefore, in lots of times, the intuitions of higher level cultivators would always come true.

Lu Wan'er did not argue with him. She knew that Ning Fan might have a lot of women by his side, but those who really moved his heart were only a few.

Aside from that, judging by what she had seen, she could imagine how many bloodsheds that Ning Fan had gone through in order to obtain so many female cauldrons with such cultivation levels.

"If I am not by your side, they would be able to keep you company for me..." Lu Wan'er sighed. She had spent quite some time with the female corpse now and she knew that the latter's importance to Ning Fan was not any weaker than hers.

However, even though Ning Fan owned more than one thousand female cauldrons, there was not a single one of them who truly understood Ning Fan's heart. The female corpse did not have high intelligence. It was difficult for her to console Ning Fan when he was worn out.

"You are unique... Besides, aren't you leaving with me?"

The World Passage had been opened. After entering the Third World, Ning Fan should leave this place right away after fulfilling his promise.

He was willing to bring Lu Wan'er with him. However, he was reluctant to let Lu Wan'er be away from her home only to stay inside the Cauldron Ring which was dim without natural sunlight every single day.

But if he leaves Lu Wan'er in this world, he could not feel assured that nothing would happen to her. He had killed so many people and now, all the beings in the Second World knows that Lu Wan'er was his woman. He was worried that someone might seek revenge on her...

"The current me do not have the qualifications to follow you on your journey and walk by your side. I will only become a burden to you... I want to stay here and cultivate the spirit augmentation technique. About my safety, you can be rest assured. I have the protection of my brother, master and even Elder Sister Wu Yan... As for Sister Wu Yan, do you really have ways to help her?"

"Mm..." Ning Fan did not intend to speak much. He still could not set his mind at ease in regards to the matter of Lu Wan'er's safety.

"Let me tell you a secret. I'm sure you won't be worried anymore... Do you know why the Spirit King Palace hopes to rope my master in?" Lu Wan'er's large round eyes sparkled.

"Hmm? I feel strange about this too. The reputable Spirit King Palace will actually take a fancy to a Mid Divine Transformation Realm Demon General? Not only Wu Yan but also that haughty Imperial Concubine Zi seem to be extremely dreadful towards your master."

"Imperial Concubine Zi said that the Lord Spirit King has set his eyes on my master's talents in spirit augmentation. Within one hundred years, they will send someone to guide my master to the Land of Demons and grant him a 'Second Grade Star Land'. Besides, they promise that within one thousand years, they will help him attain the Life Immortal Realm by any means necessary! Hehe. Therefore, not even the prince of the Demon World would dare to offend my master as he possesses such status... The Life Immortals in the Upper World could break free from the limitation of lifespan. There is no end to their longevity. They are beings who are also feared by the Void Fragmentation Realm old monsters in the mortal world... If my master breaks through to the Life Immortal Realm, I will then ask him to help you eliminate that evil Emperor Moksha and avenge you!" Lu Wan'er spoke in a serious manner.

“Life Immortal Realm... Talents in spirit augmentation...” Ning Fan’s eyes narrowed slightly. He could not understand why the Spirit King Palace would value Lu Daochen’s spirit augmentation technique. However, if what Lu Wan’er said was true, it seemed that she would be much safer staying by her master’s side.

Each of my enemies are all way stronger than my own cultivation level. Perhaps someday I would die because of my failure in defeating them.

Lu Daochen, however, is a popular person who is being regarded highly by the Spirit King Palace. Moreover, Lu Wan’er’s potential in spirit augmentation is not weak too. Presumably, it won’t take long before her talents are spotted by the Spirit King Palace and she would also be given the opportunity to become an immortal.

If that’s the case, having her stay by my side would in turn bury her opportunity in becoming an immortal.

Regarding the feuds that I created in the past... Once the news about Lu Daochen being recruited by the Spirit King Palace is widely publicized, even the True Spirit Races from the Upper World won’t be daring enough to touch the demons of the Luo Yun Tribe anymore.

The members of the Ice Owl Race would not hurt Lu Wan’er and offend Lu Daochen just for the sake of a Divine Transformation Realm junior as it would only establish a heavy enmity with the Spirit King Palace!

Let’s just take the bossy Imperial Concubine Zi for example. No one dares to lay a finger on such supercilious woman. That just proves how prestigious the Spirit King Palace is.

“Spirit King Palace... It just strengthens my will to abduct Imperial Concubine Zi and save Wu Yan. I will only let Wu Yan return to the Spirit King Palace alone this time. As such, she won't need to be imprisoned for ten thousand years. As for the disappearance of Imperial Concubine Zi, I must make it a mystery that can't be solved! Then, with Lu Daochen's protection within this Second World as well as Wu Yan's help from the external side, Wan'er's safety would be guaranteed. Besides, it is very likely that she would break through to the Life Immortal Realm in just hundreds or thousands of years...”

Ning Fan's mind was flooded with thoughts. In the end, he did not persuade Lu Wan'er to leave with him.

Since she is able to peacefully cultivate under the aegis of her brother and master, there is no point in making her follow me wandering from place to place and endure hardships.

Being able to stay together with one's family is truly a bliss...

“Family...” Ning Fan bitterly smiled. Staying together with his family was just a wishful thought to him.

It seemed that he was destined to lead a busy life full of adventure.

The female corpse remained silent all this time while sitting on a bluestone outside the Golden Flame Place doing her embroidery.

Meanwhile, Mu Xiaohuan was chewing on a small biscuit with her eyes open wide while looking at the pattern of the embroidery in a daze...

It was a picture of two butterflies. One of them looked ordinary, as if it were looking for a place of peace and serenity while the other one was half black and half white...

When Ning Fan noticed that pattern, a hint of nostalgia surged within his heart.

“Lu Wu, Star Palace, Medicinal Garden... I wonder if there is anything that could allow the female corpse to regain a bit of her memories or recover a little of her intelligence in the Third World...”

A ray of golden light flashed past the sky above the province, moving straight to the southern part of it.

Half a month later, the Golden Flame Chariot landed on the southern region of the Luo Yun Province. It was an area that bordered with the territory of the Feng Yun Tribe called Extreme Autumn Field.

The Extreme Autumn Field was actually a field covered in snow. Rows of demon guards who were clad in thick marten coats and heavy armors were stationed there. As soon as they noticed the arrival of the chariot, nearly ten thousand of them had a change in their expressions. Every single one of them put down their weapons and cupped their fists.

“I am Feng Han, a Demon General from the Feng Yun Tribe<sup>1</sup>. Greetings to General Bei from the Luo Yun Tribe!”

Chapter 286.2 - The Opening of the World Passage!

The Opening of the World Passage!

Among the ten thousand troops, there were four hundred Nascent Soul Realm Demon Soldiers. The one leading them was an Early Divine Transformation Realm general.

The Feng Yun Tribe was ranked third among the nine divisions. In the past, the Demon Generals of that tribe used to put on airs when facing anyone from the Luo Yun Tribe.

However, ever since the battle on the Cloud Platform, the reputation of the Luo Yun Tribe was greatly increased because of Ning Fan. Besides, there were quite a number of demons who suggested to adjust the rankings of the demon tribes by making the Luo Yun Tribe as the first division, replacing the position currently held by the Pure Flame Tribe. However, their suggestions were rejected by Lu Daochen with a laugh.

In the past, the Early Divine Transformation Realm general Feng Han would never show a friendly face towards any generals of the Luo Yun Tribe.

Today, however, he felt fear that was so strong that it was suffocating since he was standing right in front of the Golden Flame Chariot.

A Half-Step Void Refinement Realm refined corpse of a black dragon?! A refined corpse at such a powerful cultivation level is just responsible for pulling the chariot?!

Feng Han was obviously afraid of the black dragon. A single collision with that creature was all it takes to send him to hell.

Without needing Ning Fan to reveal his face, Feng Han was already exceptionally respectful towards him.

The female cauldrons had long been kept by Ning Fan into his Cauldron Ring.

Now, there was only Lu Wan'er following behind him. Yes. The female corpse was also kept by him.

Ning Fan lifted the golden curtains of fire and took a look outside of the chariot. His single glance made the aura emanated by all the demon soldiers including Feng Han to shrink for a moment.

That look on his face was not fierce but it had the supreme prestige of a high-level being.

Feng Han's mind suddenly had a wrong impression that the person who was standing in front of him was not the Early Divine Transformation Realm Ning Fan but an old ancestor of a True Spirit Race with unfathomable cultivation level!

The first benefit the four drops of ancestor blood brought Ning Fan was making him give off a terrifyingly intimidating aura towards the demon race.

Feng Han cupped his fists and lowered his head, not daring to meet Ning Fan's eyes again. He then uttered with great respect, "The venerated demons from the Upper World and the Honorable Demon Generals of the nine divisions are all waiting at the western region of the Extreme Autumn Field for your arrival. The ancient formation has already been completed. Everything needed for the sacrificial

ceremony has been prepared. Now, the only thing left is the map pieces in your hands. After that, you can then ascend the World Passage and enter the Third World!”

“Mm. The western region, huh. You’ll drive the chariot for me. Lead the way!”

Ning Fan’s words startled everyone at the scene. He wanted Feng Han to be his driver. That actually was beyond Lu Wan’er’s anticipation.

Thousands of demon guards of the Feng Yun Tribe were stunned. However, they did not regard Ning Fan’s words as a humiliation. In stark contrast, they considered it as an opportunity. Each and every one of them looked at Feng Han with a hint of admiration and envy.

As for Feng Han, his facial expression was filled with excitement. Without any hesitation, he moved one step forward, cupped his fists and agreed to Ning Fan’s request.

“Yes!”

In fact, his eyes were blazing with enthusiasm. He had never expected that he would have the honor of riding on the Golden Flame Chariot.

The Golden Flame Chariot which was pulled by a Half-Step Void Refinement Realm black dragon moved with incredibly high speed which no one could see clearly with their naked eyes. It was said that whichever demon city it arrived, no one would know when it came nor when it went. Moreover, among the nine divisions, its unbelievable speed became widely spread making it almost like a chariot that would only appear in fairy tales. Feng Han had been dreaming to experience a ride on the chariot to witness how fast it could actually go.

The Feng Yun Tribe mainly cultivated the element of wind. As for Feng Han, the main attribute he cultivated was speed. Despite him being just an Early Divine Transformation Realm expert, he already possess speed equivalent to that of a Mid Divine Transformation Realm expert.

Feng Han had imagined that if he could take a ride on the Golden Flame Chariot even only once, it would certainly be very beneficial to his comprehension of speed.

Therefore, he did not think it was a shame to drive for Ning Fan but... it was an honor to do so instead!

Lu Wan'er was left speechless once more.

She did not know why her husband was able to command a Demon General from an enemy tribe like his own subordinate and make the latter take heed of his instructions without any objections.

What made her truly be at a loss for words was seeing how Feng Han was actually wearing an enthusiastic look on his face, as if he could not wait to drive the chariot for Ning Fan.

“Ning Fan, you have figured out that Feng Han wanted to take a ride on the Golden Flame Chariot in order to gain some insights at first glance, right?” Lu Wan'er's bright eyes blinked. She was a woman of intelligence. Therefore, she instantly understood why Ning Fan would say those shocking words just now.

“I didn’t think that much... If he were to refuse, I would then have a reason to kill him and seize his treasures. Recently, I’m running out of immortal jade...”

Ning Fan shook his head and laughed. No one knew whether what he said was true or not.

If Lu Wan’er had known about his deeds in the Demon Sinister Forest, she would then find out how benevolent Ning Fan was in this Land of Slumber.

The massacres he committed were not many actually.

Well, there was no way he could have slaughtered more demons. Each of the Honorable Demon Generals were astute. Like the Earth General, in order to resolve his previous offenses, he took the initiative to give Ning Fan a large sum of compensation amounting to hundreds of millions of immortal jade as an apology. As such, regardless of how atrocious and ferocious Ning Fan was, he would find it pointless to annihilate the Lie Tu Tribe...

In the western region of the snowfield, an extensively large formation that continuously stretched to hundreds of thousands of li\* of mountains could be seen in the distance.

Outside the formation stood countless demon cultivators, making them look as thick as stalks in a field of flax. There were innumerable demon beasts hanging upside-down within the formation. They were the offerings prepared for establishing the formation. Aside from that, there was a massive but indistinct light portal which glowed in a dark red color suspended in midair.

The light portal was still yet to activate as the only thing that was missing was the complete map.

As a matter of fact, the nine pieces of the map had concealed a trace of Lu Wu's qi which was the final key to unlocking the portal.

The closer they got to the portal, the closer they were to the moment where they would have to part with each other. Reluctance began to fill Lu Wan'er's heart. Once Ning Fan enters the portal, perhaps he would not be able to go back to the Luo Yun Province in a short period of time.

"Ning Fan..." Lu Wan'er really wanted to ask Ning Fan to stay here together with her forever. However, she knew that Ning Fan still had many important things to do.

"I'll be back!" Ning Fan stroked her cheek and gave her a gentle smile.

A ray of golden light pierced through the horizon and flashed by in the sky. Eventually, it turned into a golden chariot and landed on the snowfield.

At the moment when the chariot arrived, all the demon cultivators present were awestruck.

"Look! The chariot is really being pulled by a Half-Step Void Refinement Realm black dragon! The rumors are true! This General Bei must never be provoked!"

"Exactly! A Half-Step Void Refinement Realm refined corpse... That corpse alone is more than enough to annihilate any of the nine tribes... Lu Bei has the refined corpse. The Luo Yun Tribe has Lu Bei. In other words, we must not offend the Luo Yun Tribe!"

Each and every one of the demons held their breaths in dread as all their eyes were fixed on the chariot. Besides, quite a number of them noticed that the person who was driving the chariot at the front was actually the general from the Feng Yun Tribe, Feng Han.

The Honorable Demon General of the Feng Yun Tribe, the Wind General made a forced smile. The mighty prestige of General Bei from the Luo Yun Tribe was more than enough to make any ordinary Divine Transformation Realm being to drive the chariot... Unfortunately, it was the good-for-nothing general from his own tribe. Seeing his own general driving the chariot for Ning Fan, he could only smile awkwardly.

Wu Yan's eyes revealed a hint of admiration. When she saw Ning Fan and Lu Wan'er walking out from the chariot side by side, the admiration in her eyes grew, containing a trace of envy.

Will there be anyone who could accompany me to travel to the ends of the earth on a Golden Flame Chariot?

Will there be anyone who would kill six Divine Transformation Realm beings on the Cloud Platform out of anger just because I am hurt?

"He said that he will help me. Will he keep his promise?"

Imperial Concubine Zi's phoenix eyes turned gloomy. She could hardly maintain her composure after seeing a Half-Step Void Refinement Realm refined corpse of a black dragon in person.

“This kid actually has such a powerful refined corpse. Detestable... If that’s the case, I can’t easily take action against him in the Third World!”

Prince Qu Shun’s eyes brightened with interest. If there is anyone from the Demon World at the scene, they would definitely be stunned to find that the prince has actually revealed a raging battle intent against that man!

“This Lu Bei will be my formidable rival in my path of asking the Dao! He... isn’t just an ant!”

The potential that Qu Shun had been holding back was not any weaker than Ning Fan’s. Besides, if he really displays all of his hidden techniques and fight a life and death battle against Ning Fan now, he has 70% confidence in winning!

After all, he was an expert at the Peak Divine Transformation Realm. Moreover, he was one of the most outstanding beings among the experts at the same cultivation level as him.

The most ruthless thing he had ever done was beating up a Half-Step Void Refinement Realm old monster until he was in a grievous state!

Currently, the hostility that Qu Shun had towards Ning Fan had reduced as he gradually saw the latter as a worthy foe.

A formidable opponent was a person that must be surpassed in a fair and straightforward manner. When it comes to competing with people like that, Qu Shun would definitely not use any underhanded tactics!

“Unfortunately, you have just attained the Early Divine Transformation Realm. Besides, your main cultivation power which is magic power is only at the Half Step Divine Transformation Realm. The current you won’t be able to defeat me at all... I will give you enough time to grow and improve yourself. Someday in the future, when you reach the same level as me, I will have a fair fight with you!”

The competitive look on Qu Shun’s face gradually faded. It was then replaced by an extremely domineering look. One could only notice his lips moving without emitting any noises.

At this moment, the Divine Transformation Realm experts from the Demon World who were standing behind Qu Shun solemnly straightened up their bodies.

They had received a command from Prince Qu Shun through telepathy!

“Competing for the Star of the Celestial Emperor is our top priority. However, if you can avoid hurting Lu Bei, then do so... I have a feeling that I will meet this kid again someday in the future! I want to let him stay alive until that time and defeat him with sheer strength and power. Then, I shall use his defeat to strengthen my heart of victory which has not been broken even after one hundred battles! He is qualified enough to be my strongest adversary in my journey on the nine worlds!”

Chapter 287.1 - The Three Halls of the Star Palace

The Three Halls of the Star Palace

Ning Fan kept the Golden Flame Chariot and the refined corpse of the black dragon. Then, he walked shoulder to shoulder with Lu Wan'er facing the group of demons in a steady and composed manner.

Upon seeing Ning Fan's arrival, they all moved forward in unison and cupped their fists while their eyes flashed with reverence. If Ning Fan alone was able to cause all the Honorable Demon Generals to feel dreadful of him after killing Wang Xiao with his Wind Mist Finger, then the Half-Step Void Refinement Realm dragon corpse made them tremble in fear.

Especially the Earth General of the Lie Tu Tribe. He was the most welcoming among the Honorable Demon Generals. Because he once placed a bounty on Ning Fan's head in order to hunt him down, he was now extremely worried about himself. As such, he spared no effort in pleasing Ning Fan in exchange for his life. Moreover, he even promised to hand over his territory in the north of the Vast Meadow which was tens of millions of li\* to the Luo Yun Tribe. Hence, Ning Fan did not kill this man.

"Hehe, General Bei is finally here. We've been waiting for a long time. I heard that General Bei was touring the nine tribes in search of ancient formations. I don't know what they could do. But if you need any help, I might probably be able to lend you a hand in gathering them."

The nine Honorable Demon Generals welcomed Ning Fan together. Their actions paid enough respect to him.

Ning Fan cupped his fists and return a salute. He showed a lukewarm attitude and shook his head as a response to the Earth General's bootlicking.

"Never mind. I am almost finished in collecting all the formation maps that I wanted to collect. You don't need to worry about that."

As for his purpose in collecting the formation maps, he just chuckled and did not truly reveal it. The Earth General understood Ning Fan's implied meaning and stopped inquiring about it any further.

Ning Fan's gaze swept across Lu Daochen and Lu Jiefen. The former gave him a suggestive smile while the latter immediately turned around and went back to the troops of the Pure Flame Tribe after greeting him.

Ning Fan kindly smiled back at the former and his expression became slightly solemn when he looked at the latter.

Ning Fan definitely knew what Lu Daochen was trying to imply. All the plans he had been formulating were all for today. Lu Daochen hoped that Ning Fan would keep his promise and rescue Demon General Lu Wu in the Third World.

But what made Ning Fan feel slightly concerned about was Lu Jiefen.

This man's aura gave Ning Fan a strange feeling today...

In the past, Lu Jiefen who was a Late Divine Transformation Realm expert rarely had an equal opponent of the same cultivation level as him as he possessed the power of the Star of Bestowal. Despite that, he was still weaker than Wang Xiao, so there was nothing to worry about him.

The current Lu Jiefen, however, carried an extremely mysterious qi which was residing within his body. It actually made Ning Fan feel a sense of danger.

That qi was very familiar to him. He had felt it several times from the experts of the Demon Sealing Sect like Chuhe, Eagle Crane Elder and others.

It was a unique qi that could only be found on the members of the Demon Sealing Sect!

“As expected, Lu Jiefen definitely must be closely related to the Demon Sealing Sect. Today, he seems to have improved much of his power using some kind of secret technique... Apparently, the Pure Flame Tribe and the Demon Sealing Palace have been scheming for a long time now to obtain the Star of the Celestial Emperor.”

Ning Fan’s mind was filled with thoughts but his expression remained as usual...

The Secret Realm of the Broken World was first discovered by the Giant Devil Sect. However, it was then secretly reported by the Demon Sealing Sect to the Immortal Demon World. Only then did the members of the Land of Demons know about it and sent demons to the mortal world in order to open the World Passages.

Demon Sealing<sup>1</sup> Sect... , The two words “Demon Sealing” seemed to be hinting at something else.

The Demon Sealing Sect and the Pure Flame Tribe...

Ning Fan didn’t know what their plans were. However, since he had a lot of trump cards to protect himself, he was not afraid of the Demon Sealing Sect playing tricks on him.

Lu Jiefen...No matter what, I will definitely get the Star of the Celestial Emperor in the Third World!

Ning Fan shifted his gaze away and followed Lu Daochen to join the Luo Yun's troops.

Today, although Lu Daochen was smiling, his expression had a hint of solemnness that was rarely seen.

"I shall entrust the matter regarding Demon Marshal Lu to you now!" Lu Daochen communicated with Ning Fan using telepathy.

He then slapped his storage pouch and handed over a silver jade box which was densely covered with dust to Ning Fan.

Ning Fan spread his spirit sense and his eyes widened slightly. Immediately, he kept the jade box.

What was tightly sealed inside was an ancient silver key .

He could tell that it was the Key of the Star Palace!

It was the most crucial thing in obtaining the Celestial Emperor Star. In actual fact, it was much more important than the map. Before the day the World Passage opens, Lu Daochen was obviously not rest assured in handing it over to Ning Fan.

However, what Lu Daochen could only do was to believe in Ning Fan. Therefore, he gave that precious item to Ning Fan and place it in his custody, hoping that he could keep his promise.

“Don’t worry!” Ning Fan replied. Even though he only uttered two words, they were loud and clear.

Ning Fan might be a temperamental and crafty person, but if the person he was dealing with did not betray him, he would never go against his words.

Lu Daochen nodded with satisfaction. He then lifted his head and looked at the illusory blood-red gate above the sky with mixed feelings.

“The World Passage is going to open...When the blood-red gate completely solidifies, you shall then combine the nine pieces of the map into one to draw out the qi of Demon Marshal Lu and activate this gate! With the Star Palace’s map, you will know about everything within... It’s all on you now!”

“Mm.”

After Ning Fan arrived, the sacrificial ceremony began.

Firstly, hundreds of thousands of demon beasts were killed on the formation map that had been established and used their blood as offerings. In their screams and shrieks of agony, their blood glowed, turning into rays of blood light and fused into the giant gate.

There were nearly one hundred flamens from each of the tribes at the scene and each and every one of them prostrated themselves on the ground and kowtowed towards a humongous statue of a six-legged golden beast that was situated at the center of the formation while chanting the ancient demon mantra.

Almost ten thousand offering vessels were arranged at the eyes of the formations. When the power of the formation rotated, every single one of them gave out vague white light.

A vast and powerful aura force spread out from the six-legged golden statue, encompassing the vicinity of hundreds of thousands of li\*.

Under the tremendous aura force, every one of the Nascent Soul Realm experts felt it was hard to maintain their pose. Only when they bent their knees to the ground and worshipped the statue were they able to remove the aura force that was pressuring them. As for the Divine Transformation Realm Demon Generals, all of them could face that aura force without losing their composure.

However, when that aura force swept across Luo Yun's troops, Ning Fan took a step forward. His purple star flashed, neutralizing the incoming force with a claw of his hand to protect Lu Wan'er from being affected by it.

That scene startled countless demon experts present... However, before they could even question what he had done, a heavy rumble suddenly reverberated from the sky. At this moment, the bloody giant gate was fully congealed and gradually split open into a gap!

However, the gate was not completely open was because it lacked the map!

Ning Fan realized that it was now time for him to act. However, he still remained at his position. He knew that once he enters the Third World after the World Passage is open, he would probably not be able to return to the Second World again. The next time he can reunite with Lu Wan'er again would be unknown.

“Go ahead... This time, the members of the Luo Yun Tribe who would enter the Third World would only be my master, brother and General Lu Ao. The other generals will stay in Luo Yun Province. Therefore, you don't need to worry about my safety.”

Lu Wan'er might be smiling broadly on the surface, but her eyes contained a deep reluctance. She knew that the moment Ning Fan sets his foot into the Third World, it would be the moment the both of them would part from each other.

Forcibly, she resisted the urge to cry, but her shoulders were shivering.

“Hurry up and go! Must you see me cry first before you leave?!”

“If every hatred and enmity I have are finally settled... I'll be back!”

Ning Fan's eyes flashed with determination. Taking a step forward, he vanished into a cloud of purple smoke and flew into the sky!

Standing before the gate, he slapped his storage pouch and produced the nine map pieces.

The nine pieces of the incomplete map were originally broken and torn. However, when Ning Fan exerted his power on the map pieces on his hand, the torn marks on the map pieces disappeared as they formed into one.

Just as the map was completely assembled, a ray of golden light shot out from the map, shining on the giant gate.

The golden light carried a majestic aura force. Although it was not as strong as the six-legged golden statue, it was comparable to a Void Refinement Realm expert. At the moment the golden ray appeared, a golden mark surfaced on the foreheads of the nine Honorable Demon Generals at the same time. However, they disappeared in a flash.

“Demon Marshal Lu!” Lu Daochen’s eyes looked a bit misted as he uttered with excitement. The qi that he was feeling right now belonged to his previous master, Lu Wu!

As for the other Honorable Demon Generals, some of them seemed to be reminiscing their memories while some of them were sighing sentimentally. Among them, only Lu Jiefen revealed...a hint of greed in his eyes!

“If I successfully obtain the Star of the Celestial Emperor, my clone in the Pure Flame Tribe can definitely break through to the Half-Step Void Refinement Realm. Once I reunite it with my original body in the outer world... I can then break through to the Void Refinement Realm! When that time comes, I can dominate the entire Internal Endless Sea and be invincible among the nine tribes!”

At the moment when the golden marks on their foreheads disappeared, the giant door opened!

However, what they saw inside the giant gate was just a boundless realm of void!

In the space of emptiness, there were rays of starlight which congealed into a path. At the end of the path, it was connected to the Void Realm where a gigantic labyrinth was situated! It was a building made of starlight!

“What’s that?!”

Their countenances changed greatly. Each and every one of the demons felt shocked when they caught sight of the scene from the other side of the portal.

This is the Third World? Shouldn’t it be the land where the Demon Marshal is slumbering? Shouldn’t it be made up of wild lands and a giant egg where the Demon Marshal resides?

The Egg of Slumber was a self-sealing method displayed by the experts of the demon race. Through that method, one would be sealed within the egg without being able to cultivate. The egg was meant for one to slumber. However, it only had the heaven-defying effect of disregarding time. A lot of ancient demons who were awake after slumbering within the eggs for countless years could still maintain their original age.

Based on common sense, Demon Marshal Lu Wu should be slumbering in the demon egg.

However, what they saw in the Third World was not a demon egg but an empty world with only a maze made of starlight.

Why?! What had happened?!

Everybody including Prince Qu Shun, Imperial Concubine Zi and Lu Jiefen and the others were greatly surprised.

They didn't understand why and there was no explanation. Behind Ning Fan, there were already 49 beams of light dashing to the sky and went right in the Third World.

At the scene, only Ning Fan and Lu Daochen who had already known the truth did not express any astonishment.

Ning Fan turned back and gave Lu Wan'er a final look. Then, with clenched fists, he turned around facing the portal and stepped into the star path!

At the moment he set his foot onto star path, he seemed to be guided by the starlight and was teleported to somewhere within the Star Palace somewhere.

The remaining 49 people set their feet onto the star path successively and were teleported to different places.

When the fiftieth person entered the portal, the giant gate was gradually closed.

“I can’t see him anymore...” Lu Wan’er could no longer forcibly hold her smile. She gently turned around and hid in a corner while tears began to stream down her cheeks.

“I’ll cultivate hard and diligently. I’ll improve my spirit augmentation technique to gain recognition from the Spirit King Palace and obtain the opportunity to become an immortal like my master...When that time comes, I will be the one who protects you and you won’t have to drift around without having anyone to depend on...Ning Fan, I’ll wait for you... You must stay safe...”

...

Chapter 287.2 - The Three Halls of the Star Palace

The Three Halls of the Star Palace

The starlight before his eyes was flowing swiftly. Even with the Fu Li’s eye, Ning Fan was not able to see through the thing shrouded by starlight.

Its speed is too quick... The speed of this starlight is at least six hundred thousand li\* per second...

Its speed was six times faster than that of the Golden Flame Chariot which was pulled by the black dragon! The speed of the starlight was probably on the same level as a Half Step Void Fragmentation Realm expert’s.

After being devoured by the starlight, Ning Fan had been teleported by the starlight for ten days. Ten days later, the starlight vanished. When Ning Fan opened his eyes and scanned his surroundings, he realized that he was now in a bright silver hall.

Silver bricks and silver tiles. The grass and trees around that hall were all in silver color too.

Ning Fan placed his palm on the wall of the hall. Immediately, a massive repulsive force was inflicted by the wall, greatly disrupting the regularity of his breath. He retreated tens of steps backwards from the wall continuously and his eyes narrowed with seriousness.

The wall of the palace had an extremely powerful force that prohibited anyone from touching it or going through it.

That force was the power of starlight!

So this place is the Star Palace...

The paths within the palace were complicated and confusing. The dangers lurking around the palace were hard to detect. However, Lu Daochen had given Ning Fan a map of the palace. Although it was just a general map, the labels on it helped Ning Fan instantly understand where he was right now.

“If I’m not wrong, this should be the one of the six compounds of the Hall of Humans...”

Ning Fan took out the jade slip that was given by Lu Daochen once more and placed it on his glabella. While studying the map, Ning Fan muttered to himself in a low tone. "The Star Palace is a vast labyrinth. According to Lu Daochen's categorization, there are three domains from the internal part to the external part – the Heaven Hall, the Earth Hall and the Human Hall.

The Human Hall is situated at the outermost layer of the Star Palace. There are six mazes here which are arranged in the shape of a hexagon. Lu Daochen named them as the six compounds.

After going through the six compounds, then I will arrive at the three palaces of the Earth Hall.

The Heaven Hall would be at the end of the three halls. However, the structure of the Heaven Hall extremely resembles the medicinal garden of the Celestial Emperor that I've seen in samsara.

As for the location which is labelled by a red dot, it is the place where the remnant soul of Demon Marshal Lu is trapped. It is within the Heaven Hall."

Ning Fan then kept the jade slip.

"I wonder where the others are teleported to by the starlight..."

When he spread his spirit sense, he realized that just the size of the compound he was in was already more than millions of li\*. What was more troublesome was that the network of paths within the compound was tangled and full of traps. With the existence of the traps, ordinary experts would

definitely be unable to fly at their full speed. Moreover, each and every step they took must be extra cautious.

Within ten thousand li, there was not anyone else. Although there was not any sign of a person, Ning Fan managed to find some thousand-year-old spiritual herbs. Moreover, some of them had even reached ten thousand years old and they could be used for concocting Fifth Revolution pills.

Spiritual herbs did not need to be cultured with care and they could stay around forever, endlessly increasing their age. The longest lifespan that a tuft of spiritual herbs could live was affected by multiple factors such as its type, the concentration of the spiritual qi, the existence of spiritual land or spiritual spring and so on...

At the sides of these spiritual herbs which were still in the middle of growing, there were thick ashes and dust. They were left by the spiritual herbs millions upon millions of years ago. They had grown to the limitations of their age and eventually wilted and turned into ashes of herbs because the spiritual qi of this land was not able to fulfill their needs.

“These spiritual herbs are precious. I must not miss them if I find any of them later...”

The purple star in his left eye flashed and the power of his sight improved. He called out his Fu Li demon wings. Travelling with that pair of wings, his speed would be comparable to that of a Peak Divine Transformation Realm expert.

He placed one foot forward and instantaneously transformed into traces of purple clouds and floated to ten thousand li away.

Flying above the sky outrageously like that had of course triggered multitudes of traps. Volleys of arrows made of starlight shot out from the dark heading directly at him. However, with the power of True Sight granted by his Fu Li's eye, he could easily avoid each and every one of the sneak-attacks by simply moving his body.

It was not difficult to evade the traps. Even so, Ning Fan's heart did not feel calm.

After travelling for just a brief moment, a sense of imminent danger suddenly surged within his heart.

The walls surrounding the palace shot out countless rays of starlight which carried a strong demon intent. It was as if the starlit sky had fallen upon him, pressuring him to the point of being unable to breathe.

An irresistible starlight bound Ning Fan's limbs, restricting his movement. In a flash, he disappeared along with the starlight. At the next moment, Ning Fan was teleported back to his original location by the starlight.

"Prohibited airspace?!"

Ning Fan's facial expression changed. Most of the labyrinths and historical remains had similar prohibitions. When the cultivators try to fly above the sky, they would then be forcibly sent back to their initial locations. The starlight of this place had clearly been fused with a domineering demon intent which carried the command of prohibiting the use of the airspace, disallowing anyone to fly within this palace.

It was completely beyond Ning Fan's expectation that this Star Palace actually had such restrictions.

If that's the case, does it mean that I have to travel this boundless Star Palace on foot?

He tried to flap his demon wings once more. However, the starlight which was fused with demon intent immediately encircled his body and suppressed him, causing him to be unable to move his wings for even an inch.

His gaze was filled with an unprecedented sternness.

“This Star Palace must have been planted with a demon intent by someone to prohibit cultivators from travelling using flight. I wonder if this demon intent that prohibits flying could be cancelled off using the power of another intent of the same grade.”

Ning Fan remained silent. He dismissed his Fu Li wings and trod forward with slow and heavy steps. Meanwhile, his body was gradually surrounded by a trace of moist qi.

Within the palace, rain suddenly began to fall upon a small area.

The Divine Intent of Rain!

When he was filled with the rain intent, he could obviously feel that the force that was prohibiting his flight was weakened by a great deal. When he summoned his Devil Intent of Evil Luo Mountain and his Demon Intent of Fu Li, the force of that restricted his flight was no longer forceful. Besides, Ning Fan could fly above the sky using half of his full speed.

In spite of that, the power of his current intent realms was still nowhere near enough to completely offset the power of the demon intent which restricted his ability to fly.

Even so, Ning Fan could ascertain one thing: his divine intent was able to offset some of the effects of the demon intent of the Star Palace.

If that is how it is, as long as my divine intent is strong enough, I will be able to suppress the demon intent and lift the restriction that was imposed on flying!

At the same time, he also realized that even though his Divine Intent of Rain was being restrained by the demon intent of the Star Palace, it was gradually transforming and improving with a notable speed.

“Interesting... Under the suppression of the demon intent from this Star Palace, my Divine Intent of Rain is actually refining itself!”

Condensing divine intent was just the first step. After comprehending the divine intent, Divine Transformation Realm experts would need to fuse their divine intents into their magical techniques. By doing that, the power of the magical techniques could be greatly enhanced.

Aside from that, after one condenses their divine intents, they would still need to cultivate their divine intents to achieve Small Accomplishment, Large Accomplishment, Perfect Accomplishment and eventually combine themselves with the divine intents, uniting the intangible and reality!

For Divine Transformation Realm experts, raising their magic power was not the only way to break through in their cultivation. Most of the Early Divine Transformation Realm experts who failed to advance into the Mid Divine Transformation Realm in their entire lives was because they failed to comprehend any divine intents.

In other words, in order to break through to the Mid Divine Transformation Realm, a Divine Transformation Realm expert not only needed sufficient magic power but they also need to cultivate their own divine intent to the level of Small Accomplishment. In order to break through to the Void Refinement Realm, one's divine intent must at the very least attain Big Accomplishment to comprehend to bypass their bottlenecks!

Ning Fan's Divine Intent of Rain was just in the initial stages of development since he had not deliberately cultivated it before after congealing it.

But today, due to the suppression of the demon intent from the Star Palace, his Divine Intent of Rain seemed to have been compressed and refined and now, it was moving towards the level of Small Accomplishment!

It was a rare opportunity because this Star Palace was actually fused with the demon intent of the Celestial Emperor. Although it was just a fragment of his demon intent, his aura force still remained. It was absolutely a great chance to cultivate and temper his own divine intent with its help.

"Lu Daochen once said that if I obtain the Star of the Celestial Emperor, I should be able to break through to the Mid Divine Transformation Realm. As such, in order to successfully achieve that advancement, I shall take advantage of this opportunity to temper my divine intent. Since the Key of the Star Palace is in my hands, other than me, no one else would be able to obtain the inheritance of the Emperor Star. Apart from that, judging from the current situation, I don't have to be in a rush with my journey... This is a great chance to use the demon intent of the Star Palace to refine my divine intent!"

...

In the other compounds of the Human Hall, each of the Divine Transformation Realm experts emerged after one another. When they noticed the complicated network of paths and traps of this world, each and every one of them wore a solemn look.

A majority of them entered the Third World with the purpose of awakening the Demon Marshal while the others harbored the intention of seizing the Star of the Celestial Emperor from the Demon Marshal.

However, none of them had expected a labyrinth made of starlight would emerge in front of their eyes.

What was more strange about it was that each of the halls and palaces were established with the demon intent of that prohibited flying.

Fortunately, after they summoned their respective demon intents, most of them were able to fly above the sky with at least one tenth of their original speed.

Somewhere outside a dilapidated wall, Imperial Concubine Zi's phoenix eyes became as gloomy as dark clouds. She did not expect the Third World to be in this condition.

"Detestable! Why does this place where the exiled creature slumbers turned out to be like this?! In this matter, how should I know whether we can still search for enough remnant ashes of the emperor's medicine... If I can't accomplish the mission assigned by the Spirit Empress, I will die for sure!"

Slowly, she took out a purple luopan (compass) and sneered.

“My Demon Intent of Purple Cuckoo has already reached the level of Small Accomplishment. With that, I can at least fly in this place at half of my original speed! Hmmph. I shall first find where the other imperial concubines are at! As for the spiritual herbs at this place, since they grew up here, perhaps they could satisfy the Spirit Empress. It’s better that I gather some of them...”

At the end of a palace with deathly stillness located somewhere in the six compounds stood a gigantic door shining with brilliant silver light.

An Early Divine Transformation Realm Demon General cautiously inched forward to the gate. As he pushed open the door, he was sighing in relief.

“Unexpectedly, the Third World is actually a vast labyrinth. What is more unexpected is that this place actually has a restricted airspace. Luckily the place where I was teleported is much nearer to the center of the world. Mm... It should be the central domain after this gate is opened. Hehe. If I am able to find the slumbering Demon Marshal Lu Wu before the others, the Star of the Celestial Emperor would be mine. Then, I will have the qualifications to break through to the Mid Divine Transformation Realm... After I achieve that advancement, of all members of the Angry River Tribe, I will be the strongest person after the Honorable Demon General!”

This general was a member from the fifth division, Angry River Tribe.

By luck, he was directly sent to the interchanging point between the Human Hall and the Earth Hall.

As he pushed open that heavy giant gate and stepped one foot forward, a few silver shadows which were asleep inside the poorly lit palace were awakened by him.

“Any intruder of the Star Palace shall die!”

The voices that came out of the few silver shadows did not sound fluent. At this very moment, the Demon General’s countenance was filled with great shock.

“Divine Transformation Realm spiritual puppets?! Why are there so many of them?! Ahhh!”

A loud wail of pain echoed through the palace as the giant door shut.

Within the Heaven Hall, the nine Honorable Demon Generals exchanged looks of surprise with each other. All nine of them were teleported by the starlight to this place at the same time.

After all, they were old monsters who had been in the cultivation world for countless years. A moment later, they immediately regained their composure and began to figure out the current situation which they were facing.

As for Lu Daochen, his countenance changed. If he was not wrong, this place must be the Heaven Hall labelled by him on the map without a doubt.

“The Heaven Hall! According to my predictions, anyone who enters the Star Palace should by right be transported to the Human Hall. Why are we, the nine Honorable Demon Generals, were sent straight to the Heaven Hall?”

\*Roar\*

A deep and formidable roar of a beast reverberated from the other side of a sealed giant gate which separated them from another palace. It carried an aura force so intimidating that Lu Daochen felt chills running down his spine. All the thoughts inside his mind were interrupted.

The aura force spread along the air along with a gust of black wind. As it blew against them, all nine of them were caught off guard, causing them to lose their balance. Immediately, they flew backwards, avoiding a direct confrontation with the aura force.

If it was not because of the sealed giant gate that reduced the power of the roar, it probably would be able to inflict heavy damage on the nine of them.

“It’s master! No... It isn’t! This is...” Lu Daochen’s facial expression looked astonished.

It can’t be wrong. Lu Wu’s remnant soul should be sealed in a place within the Heaven Hall.

But what is the creature residing inside that palace?!

“Lu Daochen! What are you hiding from us?! Why would the place where Demon Marshal Lu slumbers became like this? Is it really Demon Marshal Lu who is currently locked up inside that palace?!”

Lu Jiefen’s face was unpleasant. However, within his fearsome gaze, there was a hint of dread.

Could it be that Demon Marshal Lu who is supposed to be asleep has awoken?

But if he has awoken, why is the palace filled with such intense qi of death? Don’t tell me...

“Demon Marshal Lu is dead! And...” Lu Jiefen’s facial expression drastically changed.

Chapter 288 - Intent Realm of Small Accomplishment

Intent Realm of Small Accomplishment

The walls of the Human Hall was emanating starlight. Each of the bricks and tiles were bright and transparent like glass.

The complicated paths led to different palaces which were not built in an orderly manner. Instead, they were built according to a strange and confusing formation. Any ordinary Divine Transformation Realm experts who loses their way within the hall would be trapped within one of the palaces as they would keep returning to their starting area without being able to discover a correct path.

Somewhere outside the palaces, heavy footsteps could be heard from afar.

The sound of footsteps was slow and calm, as if each of steps was made after carefully considering things.

However, every area that person passed by would cause a drizzle to fall.

Even though it was just a bit of rain, whenever the droplets of rain fall upon the spiritual herbs, they would immediately turn as sharp as knives and cut each of the spiritual herbs. Then, all of the herbs would be gently kept into the storage pouch by the owner of the sound of the footsteps.

After a month, he had only travelled for thousands of li\* on foot. However, the comprehension he obtained throughout the whole month caused his Divine Intent of Rain to undergo the transformation of misty rain.

Ning Fan did not utter a single word. When he lifted his finger, thousands of rain drops immediately transformed into hazy mist that was both foggy and illusory.

Suddenly, his eyes turned serious and his aura force experienced an abrupt change. Billions of drops of rain scattered and disappeared, leaving only 999 dark red rain droplets above the sky.

He then opened his mouth and inhaled. The 999 blood-red rain droplets were directly sucked into his mouth. Afterwards, he smiled.

“In order to enhance one’s intent realm, the first step is to ascertain the direction of cultivation. The cultivation for the Divine Intent of Rain is about the droplets of rain. Throughout the month, I have condensed a total of 999 droplets of ‘Natal Divine Rain’. If I manage to condense one thousand drops of them, my Divine Intent of Rain would probably achieve Small Accomplishment! Condense!”

Ning Fan held his hand high and grasped the air above. Countless misty rain intent surged into the sky and fell down in the form of rain.

When each drop touched the ground, it caused fog to rise. Ning Fan then extracted a trace of the fog and condensed it within his palm. One day later, countless traces of rain mist were congealed into a drop of dark red rain.

That drop of bloody-red rain was powerful enough to eliminate an Early Nascent Soul Realm expert!

As he swallowed it down, a concentrated rain intent built up within his body. After that, bloody rain droplets began to pour down heavily, turning into a hazy mist.

“It’s complete! My rain intent has achieved Small Accomplishment! If it wasn’t for a unique place like this Star Palace, it would be extremely difficult to cultivate my rain intent to the level of Small Accomplishment... I wonder how much power my magical techniques would be enhanced after fusing my current rain intent with them!”

Ning Fan randomly displayed the Ice Rain Technique. Actually, he no longer used this technique anymore as it was just a mere Spirit Realm technique. Now, he just wanted to test its power to see how strong it had become after his rain intent had improved.

However, with just a single attempt, Ning Fan's eyes slightly widened in surprise. A thousand drops of blood-red arrow-like ice rain were shot out. After fusing his divine intent of Small Accomplishment, his Ice Rain Technique was able to wipe out one thousand Early Nascent Soul Realm experts at a time. When all the projectiles were combined into a single attack, it was probably even strong enough to put an expert of the Early Divine Transformation Realm in a grievously wounded state!

Being able to enhance a Spirit Realm magical technique to the point of injuring a Divine Transformation Realm expert. Divine intent of Small Accomplishment is indeed exceptional.

If there are ten thousand drops of rain, then wouldn't I be invincible among the experts below the Void Refinement Realm?

After achieving Small Accomplishment for his divine intent, the restraint of the demon intent from the Star Palace upon his ability to fly greatly weakened. Perhaps it would not be as easy as before to make use of the suppression from the demon intent to cultivate his rain intent.

He withdrew his rain intent and dismissed the rain above the sky as he closed his eyes. When he reopened them, his body was filled with a strong devil qi. Each step he made would splash countless virtual shadows of black dust and ashes.

"My rain intent has reached the level of Small Accomplishment. It will be difficult to improve it more for now. It is truly unfortunate. But I can take advantage of this opportunity to improve my devil intent... Sixth Grade Devil Intent, the Devil Intent of Evil Luo Mountain. Just causing dust to fly in the air with every step I take is nowhere near enough!"

Ten days later, the dust which he caused to rise turned into shadows of stones the size of his fist.

Half a month later, for every step he made, there would be shadows of large black rocks growing out of the land by his sides.

One month later, wherever he goes, virtual shadows of black hills could be seen.

At first, the hills were just as tall as ten zhang\*. However, under the continuous refinement of his devil intent every day, the hill grew taller and eventually became 999 zhang\* tall massive mountain.

Ning Fan stopped, no longer taking any step further.

With a single thought, a black evil mountain emanating ferocious qi rose abruptly out of the ground beneath his feet, reaching a height of 999 zhang\*.

“The Devil Intent of Evil Luo Mountain... This intent is about cultivating the height of the mountain. Using my devil intent to congeal the mountain, my ‘Natal Devil Mountain’ has grown to 999 zhang\* tall in a month! When it reaches the height of 1000 zhang\*, my Devil Intent of Mountain will then achieve the level of Small Accomplishment!”

Standing at the summit of the mountain, Ning Fan expelled traces of devil qi from his body, condensing it into the hill below his feet. Inch by inch, its height gradually increased.

When it had grown as tall as one thousand zhang\*, Ning Fan opened his eyes. Spreading out his devil qi in all directions, he dismissed the shadow of the hill and landed on the ground. He then lifted one of his

palms in the sky. When he activated his devil qi, a thousand zhang\* tall devil mountain immediately emerged!

“Fall!”

The force of that falling mountain was extremely terrifying!

At the moment it crashed onto the ground, the vicinity of hundreds of thousands of li\* around the Star Palace shook violently!

Ning Fan’s eyes lit up!

“If my ‘Natal Devil Mountain’ grows to ten thousand zhang\* tall, the force from that strike would be enough to eliminate a Half-Step Void Refinement Realm expert!”

After his devil intent attained Small Accomplishment, it was difficult to improve it using the demon intent of the Star Palace.

After dispersing his devil intent and devil mountain, Ning Fan took a step forward and spread his purple wings. The color of his hair became dark purple, a pair of horns grew out of his head and his body began to be covered with dark purple scales.

It was the demon form of Fu Li.

“Demon intent is decided by demon blood. Since the Fu Li Race has gone extinct, I have no idea what grade this Fu Li’s demon intent would be ranked... But I presume that it must not be any weaker than the dragon or phoenix bloodlines. The cultivation of this demon intent is about one’s demon form!”

Recalling Li Ban and the other generals who easily displayed their thousand zhang\* large demon forms, Ning Fan smiled bitterly.

“Apparently, Li Ban’s demon intent has already attained the level of Small Accomplishment. If it wasn’t because of my interference, he would have long broken through the Mid Divine Transformation Realm.”

“Cultivating the demon form is inevitable. However, if my Fu Li’s demon form enhances its power through increasing the size of the body, it will be opposing the path of my body refining techniques. An enlarged body might have astonishing strength, but a smaller and more refined body could focus all strength at one point and thus, its explosive power is much stronger... As such, if I refuse to enhance my Fu Li’s demon form based on its size, which aspect should I start?”

As Ning Fan was recollecting the unique characteristics of the Fu Li demons, his eyes gradually became clear.

“Demon wings! Yes. Instead of increasing the power of my Fu Li’s avatar, I could choose to increase its speed... Therefore, I shall condense the ‘Natal Demon Wings’ for my demon intent. It’s for the best!”

Within a period of a month, Ning Fan intended to use his Fu Li demon intent to congeal one thousand black plumes and add them onto his wings!

His cultivation level might not have increased but his ability greatly improved.

...

In the blink of an eye, three months had passed. Within that period of time, some demon generals had managed to enter the Earth Hall one after another.

Naturally, the danger hidden at the end of the Human Hall had gradually surfaced from the dark...

Somewhere inside a giant door, two demon generals were battling arduously with four silver beast shadows.

The four silver beasts were at least a thousand zhang\* large. If one took a closer look, each of them had four horns on their heads. They had only a single eye and armed with large protruding fangs like those of a hungry wolf. Every one of them emanated Early Divine Transformation Realm auras!

Wild Beasts!

The four of them were all Wild Beasts. Originally, they had been slumbering for innumerable years within this palace. However, after the giant door was opened, they were immediately awakened.

“Intruders of the Star Palace shall die!”

However, facing the attacks from the four Wild Beasts, the two demon generals were calm and composed as they could deal with their attacks without any pressure.

Between the two of them, the white-robed demon general who had a handsome appearance gave out a flash of blinding light and immediately showed his demon form. After turning into a thousand zhang large\* five-tailed lightning fox, he showed no signs of losing even though he was facing two Wild Beasts at a time!

When the lightning fox howled, thunder rumbled and lightning struck. Under the attack of the fox's lightning, the two silver beasts were gradually losing ground, showing signs of defeat.

Seeing the conditions of the Wild Beasts, the demon fox became more collected and laughed loudly.

“So this is the Star Palace? Interesting. I'm really eager to know why the land where Demon Marshal Lu slumbered would be turned into this Star Palace! Based on the compass, it sensed that Lord Cloud General has already ventured much deeper within. I wonder if he has managed to find Demon Marshal Lu... As for Lu Bei, could he be facing some troubles? According to the compass, it shows that his position is still very far behind us... Hmm. Apparently, my brother-in-law is unable to join us to hunt these four Wild Beasts in time. It's really unfortunate for him. If he were here, perhaps he could wipe out the four of them with just a sword attack!”

This demon fox was none other than the demon avatar of Lu Wan'er's brother, Lu Sheng!

The red-armored demon general beside him was even more ruthless and savage than him. Without transforming into his demon form, he resisted the Wild Beasts by just literally using his physical body.

His magic power was closely approaching the Mid Divine Transformation Realm while his body refining realm had just broken through the Second Level of Jade Life Realm not long ago. The strength of his punches was similar to an attack of a Mid Divine Transformation Realm expert. The Wild Beasts were unable to match him at all.

Every time he sent the silver beasts flying one thousand li\* backwards with his punch, he would then burst out into violent laughter. At the same time, the two Wild Beasts that were confronting him were getting more and more severely injured.

“Mere Wild Beasts... How dare you block my path?! You are just courting death!”

\*Bang\*

Another punch was thrown, landing on one of the beasts' head. The force of his punch then crushed its bones from its skull to its whole body, causing its thousand zhang\* large body to lie powerlessly on the ground like a pile of mud while emitting angry roars.

The red-armored man did not utter much. He lifted one of his legs and stomped on the beast, turning it completely into a pile of bloody meat!

The next moment, his piecing cold gaze fixed on the remaining Wild Beast. He performed a hand seal and immediately, a thousand zhang\* large fire crab's pincers emerged within the palace. Brutally, it snapped at the Wild Beast, directly cutting it in half!

From the lumps of meat, he took out two silver demon pills and let out a hearty laughter. Although the battle had consumed much of his strength and demon power and had even inflicted some injuries on him, his eyes were still filled with ferocious battle intent.

“Brother Lu Sheng, the defense of your Lightning Fox’s Nine Transformations is rather excellent. However, its attack seems to be a little weak. I have already killed 2 beasts in a row!”

“How can I even be compared to you...” The demon fox forced a smile. His demon pupils turned serious and his virtual shadow flashed. Countless rays of lightning were summoned out from his body, turning into eight lightning shadows of a giant fox. Each of them emanated the aura of a fake Wild Beast.

Eight out of the nine were illusory and only one of them was real. The nine demon foxes initiated deadly attacks towards the two Wild Beasts. The result of the battle would be decided very quickly.

Among the eight illusions, six of them were destroyed. However, the two Wild Beasts were already bitten to death by the demon fox.

“It’s done!”

The demon fox dismissed his illusions and dispersed his demon avatar, returning to the form of a white-robed young man. Holding two demon pills dripping with fresh blood in his hand, his countenance remained tranquil.

Even though his face was pale and his demon power was more or less expended, he was feeling quite delighted with his results.

After all, he and Lu Ao had obtained two demon pills of Wild Beasts each!

“Lu Bei has missed such a great opportunity. What a pity... Fine. I have two demon pills in my hands. I’ll just give him one. Let’s remain here and treat our injuries while waiting for his arrival. Then, we shall enter the next hall together!”

Lu Sheng kept the demon pills with a slight smile. As he was planning to sit down in a meditative pose, his smile hardened at the next moment.

The giant door from that other entrance was open!

Three grim and malicious shadows slowly walked out with cold smiles.

“Two Early Divine Transformation Realm experts actually killed four Wild Beasts. I have to admit that the both of you are strong. Unfortunately, no matter how strong you may be, you are still just ants from the mortal world! Hand over the four demon pills and your corpses will be left intact!”

Two shadows walked out from the dark and revealed themselves. Both of them were wearing black armor and they were experts of Mid Divine Transformation Realm. At first sight, Lu Sheng recognized them. They were the last two Divine Transformation Realm experts brought by Wang Xiao. Immediately, Lu Sheng’s face was filled with seriousness!

“You are demon generals from the Upper World. You want to kill us and seize our treasures?!” Lu Sheng coldly uttered.

“So what if we are going to kill you?! We are afraid of Lu Bei, not ordinary demon generals of the mortal world like you! Spiritual puppet, appear!”

As the taller black-armored demon general shouted that command, the third shadow loomed from the dark. From its aura, it was a Late Divine Transformation Realm gimmick puppet!

Lu Ao’s eyes turned gloomy.

This battle is going to be fraught with grim possibilities.

“Lu Sheng, you quickly escape from this door. The compass shows that Lu Bei is just behind this door. I’ll help you to hold them back!”

“Ridiculous! I, Lu Sheng is also a demon general who has gone through thousands of battles. As a demon general of the Luo Yun Tribe, how could I turn my back on my comrade?! Blood Ignition!”

Without hesitation, Lu Sheng actually ignited his demon blood!

He was fully aware that if he does not fight with all his might today, he will certainly die fighting against two Mid Divine Transformation Realm experts and a Late Divine Transformation Realm puppet!

“Demon avatar appear!”

In a flash, Lu Sheng turned into a thousand zhang\* large lightning fox. This time however, the body of the fox was blazing with blood light!

“Oh? Interesting. A mere ant from the mortal world has actually achieved Small Accomplishment for his demon intent and cultivated his demon avatar to one thousand zhang\* large! If you consume enough demon pills of Wild Beasts, it won’t take too long for you to advance into the Mid Divine Transformation Realm. Unfortunately, you won’t have the chance anymore! Spiritual puppet, kill!”

Like a black squall, the jet-black spiritual puppet hurled a punch at the lightning fox!

Chapter 289.1 - A Big Present of Spiritual Puppets!

A Big Present of Spiritual Puppets!

When the two black-armored demon generals shouted a command, the black spiritual puppet immediately turned into a black line and rushed towards them. Although it just threw a normal punch, it created a strong gust that nearly caused the hollow space before him to collapse. Its momentum produced waves of black air blasts.

All of a sudden, the spiritual puppet had already appeared in front of the demon fox and landed its punch on him!

The demon fox's pupils dilated in shock. It was impossible for him to evade that strike in time. Upon impact, he let out a shriek of pain and his bones were all broken.

However, after his body was pulverized, there was no fresh blood flowing out from him. Instead, there were flashes of lightning which engulfed his presence. Standing a thousand zhang\* away, Lu Sheng whose white robes were now stained with blood reappeared with a deathly pale face. His expression was exceptionally serious.

"A Late Divine Transformation Realm spiritual puppet. It sure is hard to defeat it... If I didn't use my wind lightning phantom body to withstand its punch, I would have died just now. The strength of its single punch is more than enough to take my life..."

He had summoned eight clones using wind lightning. However, when he was dealing with the Wild Beasts just now, six of them were destroyed. Now, the spiritual puppet had destroyed another one, making him have only one more left...

Before he even had the time to contemplate his next move, the spiritual puppet transformed into a cloud of black smoke, emerging in front of his body and landing another punch on him!

Lu Sheng's eyes were filled with surprise. It was at this moment when he was at his weakest as he had just exhausted his strength. He could not reactivate his remaining clone once more to take this punch.

If it lands on my back, I will definitely not survive it!

“Be careful!”

A red shadow flashed past and stood behind Lu Sheng. Facing the incoming attack from the Late Divine Transformation Realm spiritual puppet, he showed no signs of fear.

One of his hands was covered with jade-colored flames, emanating the aura of the Second Level of Jade Life Realm. Without reservation, he hurled that fiery hand and collided with the punch from the spiritual puppet.

“Blood Ignition!”

Lu Ao was also putting his life on the line!

The power of his palm was nearly comparable to that of a Mid Divine Transformation Realm expert’s all-out attack. However, as soon as his palm met the puppet’s punch, his palm collapsed immediately like rotten wood!

A sudden tremor spread throughout the air. With a loud bang, Lu Ao was severely injured by the punch of the spiritual puppet. As for Lu Sheng who was worn out, he was sent flying away while spurting blood from his mouth by the shockwave of the collision.

Looking at the two grievously injured beings, the two black-armored demon generals wore evil smiles.

“Aren’t the members of the Luo Yun Tribe very proud of themselves? Apparently, other than that Lu Bei, the other generals are just useless beings who can do nothing other than feasting and drinking...”

“Detestable...” Lu Sheng and Lu Ao stabilized their stance with difficulty. If it was not because their opponents had a Late Divine Transformation Realm spiritual puppet, the two of them would not have suffered such a terrible defeat. Moreover, if they fought in that desperate manner earlier, they would at least be able to inflict heavy damage on them.

Unfortunately, their opponents were just too cunning. They only used their spiritual puppet without involving themselves as if they had already seen through Lu Sheng and Lu Ao’s intentions.

Although there was only a single puppet, the both of them were already unable to cope with it. Besides, there were still two Mid Divine Transformation Realm experts awaiting the proper time to take action. Therefore, for Lu Sheng and Lu Ao, they had no chance of winning at all.

“We are probably going to die here today...” Lu Sheng’s tone was calm but his eyes were blazing with a frenzied battle intent.

“As generals, death is inevitable. So what is so scary about it?!” Lu Ao harshly wiped out the blood stains on his beard and smiled while his eyes were burning with anger.

The light from their blood ignition became brighter and stronger. The black puppet took a step forward and mercilessly threw another punch!

They could not take it. They could not receive that punch head-on at all... But just like what Lu Ao said... as generals, what was so frightening about dying?!

The two of them had made up their minds to detonate their demon souls at this moment as their final attacks before they died!

The punch of the black puppet formed into a massive squall that enveloped the vicinity of ten thousand zhang\* around them, tearing the space apart.

The two black-armored demon generals from the Upper World leered at Lu Sheng and Lu Ao. They were looking forward to see the two of them die and then obtain their demon pills without needing the slightest effort!

However, just as the puppet approached them with his deadly punch, Lu Sheng who was determined to sacrifice himself suddenly revealed a look of astonishment.

He untied the compass on his waist and took a closer look at it. On the surface of the compass, a mark glowing in purple light was moving towards them with an unimaginable speed.

“He has come!” Lu Sheng yelled surprisingly.

“Who has come?!” Lu Ao’s eyes sparkled with curiosity. At the next moment, the heavy stone gate at the northwest entrance was pulverized to pieces by a dark purple shadow!

Upon seeing that sudden explosion, the two black-armored demon generals from the Upper World were shocked. In a flash, the purple shadow had already flown in front of the black puppet, congealing into the physique of a young man!

The young man had a pair of horns on his head. His body was completely covered in purple scales and his long black hair was dancing in the wind. On his purple wings, there were a thousand shiny black plumes which were sharp like swords! As he just reached out his hand and bent his palm upwards, a jade-colored shield surged and the shadow of a mountain slowly loomed. Emanating an indomitable aura, he used that to block the incoming punch!

Although his body refining realm was just at the Second Level of Jade Life Realm, when the puppet's punch collided against his palm, the sound of mountain crumbling echoed throughout the air. This young man with immense devil qi had actually blocked the punch of a Late Divine Transformation Realm puppet!

"Anyone who hurts the members of the Luo Yun Tribe shall die!"

From his palm, one thousand droplets of rain glowing with blood light shot out like darts and flew as fast as shooting stars. When they landed on the chest of the black puppet, deafening sounds of bombardment were heard, making the earth below their feet quake.

Although they did not manage to completely break the black puppet's defense, the immense strength of the volley of projectiles had struck it down to the ground from the air. A large pit was formed on where the black puppet fell.

What made everyone present feel weird was that even though the puppet had just made contact with Ning Fan only once, the spirituality within its eyes were gone. On the left part on its face, a black mark the shape of a crescent moon slowly emerged.

“Lu Bei! It’s you!” Lu Sheng’s facial expression was immediately filled with delight. As for Lu Ao, he discontentedly stopped himself from detonating his demon soul and literally fell to the ground on his buttocks due to exhaustion. However, the joy within his eyes was hard to conceal.

Having him here, it will be difficult for the both of us to die here today!

On the other hand, the two demon generals from the Upper World are certainly doomed!

However, what made Lu Ao feel amazed was that Ning Fan actually came in his demon form. Besides, judging from the aura of his demon form, Ning Fan’s demon intent had attained the level of Small Accomplishment!

“It can’t be wrong! During the battle on the Cloud Platform five years ago, I’m sure that he had just attained the Divine Transformation Realm. Presumably, he completed his Third Bloodline Awakening in recent years. For demon cultivators, they could only congeal their demon intents after completing their Third Bloodline Awakening. In other words, this kid has managed to congeal his demon intent and cultivate it to the level of Small Accomplishment within just five years! He is indeed a monstrously talented person. Lord Honorable Demon General’s foresight is really always keen and sharp!”

As for Lu Sheng, he did not think that much like Lu Ao. After calming his feeling of surprise, he warned Ning Fan, “The two generals seem to be extremely proficient in controlling puppets. You must be extra cautious...”

Carelessness contributed to major setbacks just like the saying goes, ‘A single wrong step causes one to die in the Wujiang River’. Innumerable experts who had attained high cultivation levels usually lost their

lives because of carelessness. In a way, Lu Sheng's warning was actually out of good intentions in this case.

"Don't worry! They can summon as many puppets as they want. None of them would be effective on me!"

Ning Fan trod towards them in his demon body with purple wings. His eyes were filled with pride and dignity as if he was the person who could disregard the Heavenly Dao!

His formidable aura force which was on the level of Half-Step Void Refinement Realm pressured the two black-armored generals to the point of nearly suffocating. Immediately, both of them were panic-stricken.

"I am Xu Wei. This is my brother, Xu Dian. We are the demons of the Puppet Spirit Race. Before this, we had no idea that General Bei is here. We are sorry for our offense! We will leave now! We hope the general can have mercy on us!"

The black-armored general who was named Xu Wei was literally horrified at this moment. He could feel that his control over the Late Divine Transformation Realm puppet was completely gone after the black colored crescent mark appeared on its face!

Without a doubt, it showed that Ning Fan had managed to subdue a Divine Transformation Realm puppet without much effort!

What is that technique?! I haven't even seen or heard of it before!

“Have mercy on you? If I am a few seconds later, would the both of you show mercy on them?!  
Hmmp!”

Ning Fan spread his wings and disappeared, leaving only his afterimage at the place he was standing just now. With an incredible speed, he emerged behind Xu Dian and slapped harshly on his head.

It was just a single smack. However, Xu Dian felt as if there was a one thousand zhang\* tall mountain falling upon him. His face was filled with surprise which was replaced by horror as he knew he could not react to it at all. When the tremendous force impacted his head, his skull was literally smashed to pieces!

\*Bang\*

His skull exploded into blood mist while his lifeless corpse fell upon the ground. However, there was no sign of his demon soul.

Ning Fan emitted a light hum of surprise. Xu Wei then took a step back, patted his storage pouch to produce another spiritual puppet. His brother’s demon soul was attached to that puppet.

Puppet Substitution! It was the innate life-keeping ability of the Puppet Spirit Race. At the moment one’s demon body was destroyed, they could immediately substitute their bodies with a puppet by transferring their demon souls to a spiritual puppet nearby.

Ning Fan's eyes sparkled with interest.

The innate ability of an influential True Spirit Race sure has its own uniqueness.

However, Xu Wei and Xu Dian did not feel lucky or relaxed. Their expressions were plastered with terror.

The speed that Ning Fan displayed just by travelling with his wings was clearly at the level of Void Refinement Realm!

This kid is just an Early Divine Transformation Realm cultivator but his speed is nearly at the highest top speed which a Divine Transformation Realm expert could reach... He is just too amazing!

However, from the cruel act that Ning Fan did just now, Xu Wei understood that he would definitely not let the two of them go after offending the Luo Yun Tribe.

"Big Brother, let's go all-out!"

"Mm!"

Chapter 289 (2) A Big Present of Spiritual Puppets!

Xu Wei slapped his storage pouch and three black shadows appeared in front of him in succession. Meanwhile, when Xu Dian performed a hand seal, five black spiritual puppets within the storage pouch of the corpse on the ground flew out as five rays of black light, surrounding the area in front and at the back of Ning Fan.

All eight of them were Divine Transformation Realm spiritual puppets with five of them being Early Divine Transformation Realm puppets while the remaining three of them being at the Mid Divine Transformation Realm. Adding Xu Wei who was an expert of the Mid Divine Transformation Realm and Xu Dian whose demon soul was attached to a spiritual puppet which had the same cultivation level as Xu Wei into the equation, Ning Fan was surrounded by ten Divine Transformation Realm experts at this moment!

“There are actually ten Divine Transformation Realm beings!” Lu Ao’s expression became stern while Lu Sheng’s face was grave. However, they did not look worried about Ning Fan.

After all, they had heard that Ning Fan possessed a Half-Step Void Refinement Realm refined corpse. Moreover, he seemed to have also deployed in the past the Early Divine Transformation Realm Stone Warrior as well as a Mid Divine Transformation Realm female corpse. In short, the fighters he had were not any weaker than Xu Wei’s.

To their surprise, Ning Fan did not act according to what they had expected by calling out his black dragon refined corpse and other fighters. Instead, he looked at each of the Divine Transformation Realm black puppets in a scornful manner.

“So what if you have a lot of... spiritual puppets?!”

The next moment, Ning Fan moved his ten fingers to perform a hand seal. An immeasurably strong aura force gradually gathered in his eyes.

With just a glance, the eight spiritual puppets which had no spiritual intelligence gently trembled as if they were afraid.

As Ning Fan continued to change the pattern of his hand seals, traces of black qi began to encircle the tips of his fingers. At the same time, a black mark the shape of a crescent moon surfaced on the left part of each of the spiritual puppets' face!

Right at the moment when the black crescent mark emerged, a strange yet startling phenomenon happened!

The eight Divine Transformation Realm spiritual puppets broke free from the Xu brothers' control and knelt down and kowtowed towards Ning Fan.

Even the Late Divine Transformation Realm black puppet which was blasted into the huge pit climbed out from it and kowtowed towards Ning Fan.

Xu Wei was completely stunned whereas Xu Dian began to feel terror and panic!

After Xu Dian's demon body was killed instantly, his demon soul resided within a Mid Divine Transformation Realm puppet. However, when Ning Fan completed his hand seal, a black crescent mark actually manifested on the left part of the puppet's face as well. At the emergence of the black mark, the body of the puppet no longer heeded Xu Dian's commands and knelt down at Ning Fan's direction like the others puppets!

"Why would it be like this? How could my spiritual puppet which was made using the secret arts of my Puppet Spirit Race be a turncoat? Lu Bei! What exactly have you done?!" Xu Wei shouted angrily.

“You will never know!”

Ning Fan’s eyes were indifferent and cold. This technique was of course, the Grievance Technique: Life Imprisonment, a technique imparted to Ning Fan by Luo You.

This technique was flawed as it was just an incomplete part of the technique. Even so, it was enough to allow Ning Fan directly subdue a Mid Divine Transformation Realm spiritual puppet at a distance!

Although it was difficult to subdue a Late Divine Transformation Realm puppet, if he was able to have physical contact with it, he would then have a chance of subduing it.

Xu Wei and Xu Dian were members of the Puppet Spirit Race. They had tons of spiritual puppets. However, to Ning Fan, as long as it is not a puppet of the Peak Divine Transformation Realm, there was nothing to be afraid of.

“Ten spiritual puppets. This gift sure is big... Now, die!”

When Ning Fan uttered the word ‘die’, Xu Dian’s demon soul which was staying within the Mid Divine Transformation Realm puppet was literally erased by a black power of the moon. After emitting a cry of pain, his soul flew away and scattered!

“Second Brother!”

Xu Wei's eyes were filled with fear. At first, he thought that by taking out all their spiritual puppets, they could still put up a fight against Ning Fan. However, he had never anticipated that as soon as they summoned their puppets, the situation would completely reverse...

The members of the Puppet Spirit Race were weak and feeble in nature. But they had a unique natural talent in using and manipulating spiritual puppets. In spite of that, once they lost their puppets, their talents could be considered useless...

"I'll die... I'll die! This Lu Bei was already able to kill Wang Xiao by himself. Today, he seized my ten Divine Transformation Realm puppets and kept them for himself. Additionally, he still has a Half-Step Void Refinement Realm refined corpse by his side... I'll die today!"

"Die... Haha. I really did not think that I'm going to die so soon! Fine. Fine... Then, I shall fight you to death! Blood Sun Technique: Broken Sun!"

At this moment, Xu Wei ignited his demon blood. With a hand seal, he detonated his own demon soul!

A self-detonation by a Mid Divine Transformation Realm expert was no trifling matter.

Xu Wei let out the last roar of anger in his life. It roared like thunder, shaking the entire heaven and earth. The aura of his self-detonation turned into a demonic blood light and formed a wild gust of wind. From afar, Xu Wei's body seemed to have turned into a dark red sun, radiating a blinding blood light!

An ear-splitting sound of an explosion reverberated throughout the massive palace instantly hundreds of times, as if the sky had collapsed. With Xu Wei's demon body being at the center, the blood-red sun melted into fire waves, blasting every part of the hollow space into pieces!

Xu Wei was dead! However, the force produced by his self-detonation was more than enough to cause a Late Divine Transformation Realm expert to suffer grievous injuries!

Lu Ao's countenance changed drastically. What he had just witnessed earlier was that Ning Fan actually cornered a Mid Divine Transformation expert to the point of choosing to detonate his own demon soul without attempting to resist. In his entire life, such a scene was absolutely rare!

As for my decision to detonate my own demon soul earlier, I only resorted to that means knowing that I am going to lose anyway, after fighting with all my might...

But this Xu Wei straight away detonated his demon soul without even trying to retaliate. That was enough to prove how fearful he was of Lu Bei as he did not even have the courage to fight him...

Ning Fan's eyes narrowed with seriousness. He lifted his palms high as the second blood-red star on his glabella shone. A power that erodes sunlight surged in his palms, forming a bottomless vortex.

"Eroding Yin!"

The power from the self-detonation which was capable of grievously wounding a Late Divine Transformation Realm expert was bizarrely eroded and weakened by the small vortex on his palms.

Within just a brief moment of time, the force produced by the self-detonation was greatly reduced as it could now just hurt a Mid Divine Transformation Realm expert.

Ning Fan did not utter a single word. He slapped his storage pouch and took out a dark golden snake statue which was a few cun\* long and hurled it to the center of the explosion.

As it moved along the wind, it grew and eventually turned into a massive black dragon. Its eyes were empty. Facing the force created from Xu Wei's self-detonation, the black dragon opened its mouth and sucked every last bit of it into its abdomen.

“Return!”

After blocking the power from Xu Wei's self-detonation, Ning Fan kept the dragon corpse. With a flick of his sleeve, he produced a gust of wind that blew away the dense blood mist in the air.

The hollow space recovered as a gentle breeze blew past. Ning Fan dismissed his demon form and dispersed his aura force. His black hair was flying in the wind as he stared at the ten new puppets and indifferently said, “The Puppet Spirit Race has really given me a great gift...”

Indeed, it was a precious gift. Even the generals from the Upper World could not easily have ten Divine Transformation Realm spiritual puppets, let alone experts in the mortal world. Perhaps Xu Wei and Xu Dian must be quite reputable among the Puppet Spirit Race for them to have these spiritual puppets. Sympathetically, they met Ning Fan, a person who specialized in restraining spiritual puppets. Naturally, these puppets now belong to Ning Fan.

Lu Sheng and Lu Ao were both stupefied.

The ten Divine Transformation Realm spiritual puppets were all subdued by Ning Fan! The lowest cultivation level among them was the Early Divine Transformation Realm while the highest cultivation level was the Late Divine Transformation Realm.

Moreover, he had even neutralized the power produced by a Mid Divine Transformation Realm expert's self-detonation with ease!

Lu Sheng and Lu Ao exchanged looks with each other. Both of them could notice a hint of respect towards Ning Fan from each other's eyes.

"This Lu Bei certainly is a monster. Although he is just at the Early Divine Transformation Realm, he is already this powerful. If he breaks through to the Mid Divine Transformation Realm or the Late Divine Transformation Realm, he probably will be unrivalled among the experts below the Void Refinement Realm..."

"Come to think of it, Lu Bei, do you know what this place is? According to what I heard from the Wild Beasts, this place seems to be known as the Star Palace!" Lu Ao asked.

"Wild Beasts?" Ning Fan's gaze scanned across the area and discovered the four massive corpses of the beasts which were killed by Lu Sheng and Lu Ao earlier.

However, when he took a closer look at the appearances of the beasts, Ning Fan's eyes were immediately filled with shock.

“They are not Wild Beasts!”

“What? If they aren’t Wild Beasts, why would they produce demon pills?” Don’t tell me they are something like refined corpses or spiritual puppets? I heard that some historical remains would have these creatures as the guardians of areas like these...” Lu Sheng hesitated.

“No. These four ferocious beasts are not Wild Beasts, refined corpses nor spiritual puppets. If I am not wrong, they are... star spirits! Star spirits are a type of creature that inhabits the Stars of Fiendgods which used to be the place for the strong experts in ancient times...”

However, Ning Fan was unable to understand why the creatures that could only live in the Stars of Fiendgods would appear in the Star Palace!

Once these creatures left the Stars of Fiendgods, they would immediately die.

“Is it possible that this Star Palace is one of the Stars of Fiendgods itself... If that’s the case, perhaps the demon star from the Celestial Emperor’s left eye has manifested into the Star Palace?”

Chapter 290 - Get Lost!

Get Lost!

In ancient times, there were fiendgods whose bodies were much bigger than the star domains. Each of the stars residing within their glabella or eyes were already so large that it could contain a chiliocosm.

In the world of magic, there lived a kind of abnormal creature which existed in different forms, with most of them feeding on the power of starlight. Besides, when their master needed them, they could temporarily leave their stars and fight for their master.

Since this place has long been inhabited by star spirits, this Star Palace itself was very likely to be the item which was eagerly sought after by the group of experts – the Star of the Celestial Emperor!

Ironically, many of the demons who came to the Third World harboring that intention were unaware that the item they were looking for was just right beneath their feet.

“If this Star Palace is the Star of the Celestial Emperor, how should I obtain its power and break through to the Mid Divine Transformation Realm... Perhaps I will get to know more about it after finding Lu Wu’s remnant soul! The Heaven Hall...”

Ning Fan mumbled to himself for a while. When he pointed his finger at the ten newly obtained puppets, each and every one of them turned into ten clay figurines and flew into his storage pouch.

After that, he stood guard at that area to protect Lu Sheng and Lu Ao from danger while they were treating their wounds. Seven days later, their conditions stabilized.

The compass possessed by Lu Sheng was specially made by Lu Daochen himself. From the positions of the luminous spot on the compass, Ning Fan guessed that Lu Daochen probably had already reached the Heaven Hall.

The injuries of the two generals couldn't completely recover within a short period of time. Fortunately, there was no one else at the palace they were staying in right now. Therefore, it was not dangerous for them to tend to their wounds here. Since both of them were already injured, Ning Fan could only choose to enter the Earth Hall by himself.

After pushing open the massive gate of the Human Hall, Ning Fan transformed into a cloud of purple smoke and flew into the Earth Hall. Each time he propelled forward, he would directly move for a distance of fifty thousand li\*.

The Human Hall comprised of lands and was surrounded by palaces. The Earth Hall, however, was a vast starry sea. Other than the star islands which occasionally appeared along his way, it was rare to find any place to land.

There were quite a lot of demon beasts hidden within the star sea. All of them were transformed from the star spirits. Once any living beings passed by, they would pop out and sneak attack them. For Ning Fan, naturally, there was nothing to worry about regarding the star spirits which were below the Divine Transformation Realm. By simply wielding his Separation Slayer Sword, he cut every one of them down with ease.

What made him feel slightly concerned was those thousand zhang\* tall Wild Beasts which emerged once in a while along his way.

Among those Wild Beasts which were transformed from the star spirits, most of them were basically of Mid Divine Transformation Realm. It was rare to find some of them which were at the Early Divine Transformation Realm. There were even Wild Beasts at the Late and Peak Divine Transformation Realm!

However, Ning Fan did not really hunt all of them down. He only acted occasionally to kill some of the Mid Divine Transformation Realm ones which were left alone after having been separated from its group. In that manner, throughout the four months he spent flying in the Earth Hall, he had actually killed more than ten of the Mid Divine Transformation Realm Wild Beasts and obtained some demon pills.

Of course, the danger he faced was extremely great. The riskiest occurrence of all was when Ning Fan was being pursued by a large group of Wild Beasts which was led by a Half-Step Void Refinement Realm Wild Beast. Luckily, Ning Fan straight away summoned the golden flame chariot and used it to shake off the group of pursuers without much effort. When he picked up speed and forged ahead of his path, the beasts stared at his back in bewilderment. None of them had expected that an Early Divine Transformation Realm expert would actually be able to move at a speed comparable to that of a Void Refinement Realm expert.

Each of the battles he encountered throughout the journey made his aura force become even more steady and refined. Once in a while, he would set foot on an island to assimilate the power of the demon pills and enhance his power. Within four months, he had managed to increase his demon power by 700 units.

Most importantly, after killing more than ten Wild Beasts, Ning Fan had actually obtained a Dao Fruit glittering in silver light!

The presence of the Dao Fruit was absolutely meaningful to him because it, without a doubt, indicated that his luck had truly returned.

This Dao Fruit could at the very least increase his demon power by one thousand units. At the moment when he arrived at the end of the star sea, his demon power had already reached 20150 units.

Compared to the common experts at the same cultivation level as him, Ning Fan's demon power was obviously more vigorous and forceful than the rest.

At the end of the sea, there was a star island hanging high up above the sky which stretched into millions of li\*. At the center of the island, there was a giant gate made of starlight. Anyone who entered the gate would straight away be led to the Heaven Hall.

When Ning Fan landed on the island, Ning Fan's facial expression became serious. On the exterior zone of the star island, there were lots of traces and marks left from battles. Moreover, there were a few massive corpses that belonged to Wild Beasts lying on the ground. All of them had begun to decay. Presumably, they had been dead for a few months already.

After searching for the vicinity of hundreds of thousands of li\*, Ning Fan discovered that this island had at least about one hundred types of spiritual herbs which were ten thousand years old and above. However, most of them had been taken away by someone.

The similarity between the spiritual herbs on this island and those in the Human Hall was that most of them had thick medicinal ashes beside them. However, the medicinal ashes seemed to have been collected by someone else too.

"Interesting. Mere medicinal ashes are useless in concocting pills yet someone was intentionally gathering them. I wonder who would do such a peculiar thing. Besides, the time when the medicinal ashes were collected was different from the time when the Wild Beasts were killed. Some of them were collected a few months ago while some of them were just collected recently... In other words, there must be someone else on this island!"

Ning Fan activated his All-Heaven Relic and carefully travelled on the island with his presence concealed. The closer he got to the center of the island, the stronger he could sense the qi left by the people who

had arrived before him. Moreover, judging from the qi, there were not just a few of them and apparently, all of them were females.

A few days later, Ning Fan was already approaching the central zone of the island. Here, he could feel traces of activity from somewhere nearby.

All of a sudden, a deafening roar of a Half-Step Void Refinement Realm beast echoed across the vicinity, causing countless birds which had low cultivation levels to fly out from the forest in shock like black clouds.

Moreover, a few Wild Beasts were so terrified that they scattered and fled in different directions.

After that frightening roar, a silver bear beast which was nearly three thousand zhang\* tall ran with heavy stomps that shook heaven and earth, trampling over mountains and ravines as if he was chasing after something.

In front of the gigantic bear, a woman clad in green-feathered robes was riding on a seven-colored huge crane, trying to escape from the beast with her brows knitted together in anxiety. On top of the crane, there was also a little loli who was dressed in yellow robes. She seems to have suffered grievous injuries and was unconscious.

Both of them were experts at the Late Divine Transformation Realm. The rainbow-colored crane which they were riding on was a type of extremely profound traverse technique.

However, since the woman who was controlling the crane was also injured and was running out of strength, the giant crane's speed decreased as it gradually became illusory.

When Ning Fan noticed her appearance from afar, his face turned grim and instantly dashed towards her in a ray of light.

“Imperial Concubine Wu Yan...”

Four months ago, Imperial Concubine Zi and the other imperial concubines had broken through the Human Hall and entered the star sea of the Earth Hall. After scouting around and finding that the island contained a concentrated spiritual qi as well as multitudes of spiritual herbs, she left Wu Yan alone on the island to gather the herbs while bringing the rest of the imperial concubines with her into the Star Gate.

Gathering spiritual herbs were Wu Yan’s duty at first. As such, there was no way she would reject. However, there were still many areas on the island which had yet to be explored. Most of them had quite a number of ferocious beasts residing within. Of all the beasts she encountered, many were much stronger than her and she could not possibly face them all by herself. Imperial Concubine Zi’s intention of leaving Wu Yan alone on the island was rather sinister.

If Wu Yan dies on the island, perhaps Imperial Concubine Zi would be extremely pleased about it.

The only person who was willing to accompany Wu Yan on the island was the little loli, Imperial Concubine Xi. She still had some kindness left within her heart. Therefore, she was reluctant to see Wu Yan risking her life alone on this place and hoped to stay together with her to help.

However, the two of them had never expected that the island would breed that type of spiritual medicine not to mention a Half-Step Void Refinement gigantic bear which was guarding it.

Carelessly, Imperial Concubine Xi had mistakenly entered into the den of the bear and was nearly killed by that creature. Wu Yan had to spare no effort in order to save Imperial Concubine Zi but in the end, she also suffered serious injuries.

Originally, she thought of escaping into the Star Gate. Unfortunately, after Imperial Concubine Zi and the others entered the gate, it had to wait for a few months before it could reopen again.

Feeling despair and hopelessness, the only option Wu Yan had was to keep flying in order to avoid falling into the claws of the bear. Now, she had been flying in the sky for a few days consecutively.

“Is my life going to end here...”

From top to bottom, Wu Yan’s body was drenched in sweat while her elegant appearance was covered with a hint of hopelessness.

Fresh blood was still oozing out from the wound on her chest. It was caused by a strong wind attack cast by the gigantic bear using a magical technique. Every time she took a breath in, it would tear her wound apart, making her frown and bite her lips in agony.

Her face was already deathly pale and her lips were purple.

Her vision was getting more and more blurry as her consciousness slowly slipped away. Her fingers were becoming heavier and heavier, making her unable to move them to maintain the hand seal...

As her eyelids fell and covered her eyes, the illusory giant crane disappeared into a mist of demon power.

Unconsciously, Wu Yan felt that she and Imperial Concubine Xi were like kites with its strings cut as they plunged downwards from the sky.

The frenzied gigantic bear was getting closer, crushing each and every mountain blocking its path.

Nascent Soul Realm old monsters were able to become the old ancestor of a country.

Divine Transformation Realm old monsters were able to become a venerated being of a domain!

Half-Step Void Refinement Realm experts were beings rare like the feathers of a phoenix and the horns of a qilin in the entire Rain World. Even in the Rain Palace, they were important beings who held a high position.

As for this gigantic bear, it was one of those Half-Step Void Refinement Realm beings. However, it was at a level much stronger than Dong Xu as it would be able to break through to the Void Refinement Realm anytime as long as it gets the chance!

After being chased by such a formidable expert for a few days, Wu Yan had already used up all her means and still failed to get rid of him. In such a situation, anyone would inevitably feel despair, let alone her who had depleted her demon power!

She did not complain when she was being humiliated by Imperial Concubine Zi.

She did not complain when she was bound by the rules and regulations of the Spirit King Palace.

She thought she was able to endure all the injustices in the world and bravely sacrifice herself anytime for the Spirit King Palace. However, now at the brink of death, she suddenly realized that she had a feeling of unwillingness to leave this world which she was sentimentally attached to.

“Am I going to die... I really envy Sister Wan’er... I don’t want to die...” Dizzy, she shut her eyes. But at the next moment, her appearance was filled with shock as she faintly felt that she had fallen into someone else’s arms. Moreover, the man’s smell which assailed her nostrils entranced her...

Who is this?! Who embraced me at such a moment like this?! Detestable... I am a dignified imperial concubine of the Spirit King... How could... How could my body be sullied by a mortal man...

She wanted to struggle but her wounded body could no longer move a single muscle. She wanted to reprimand that man who had touched her body but she did not have the strength to utter a single word. She wanted to open her eyes and look but she felt that her consciousness was becoming fuzzy, making her heavy eyelids unable to open.

“What do you envy Wan’er for? Your condition is really severe...” The tone of the man seemed to carry a hint of compassion.

As she heard that voice, Wu Yao suddenly had an impulse to cry out loud. Not knowing where her strength came from, she opened her eyes and shouted.

“You’ve come... I’m truly happy...As such, I can finally die with no regrets...”

“With me by your side, it would be hard for you to die even if you wish for it. Take this pill and rest for a while...”

Ning Fan bent his palm and summoned a purple cloud. The cloud carried the unconscious Imperial Concubine Xi and came to his front. He then placed Wu Yan on top of it and let her consume a pill. After that, he turned and looked at the approaching gigantic bear. His eyes were filled with absolute solemnness.

The sense of danger which the bear gave him was not any weaker than Old Ancestor Dong Xu!

If this bear was lucky enough, it might be able to advance into the Void Refinement Realm in a single go!

Even if he used up all his ten spiritual puppets, the black dragon refined corpse combined with help from Yue Lingkong and the others, he only had a fifty percent chance of winning.

That gigantic bear seemed to have also felt a sense of pressure from Ning Fan and eventually came to a halt.

“You, give me the two women!”

“Get lost!”

The purple star in Ning Fan’s left eye flickered. Without hesitation, he displayed the aura force from the four drops of ancestor blood he possessed!

At this very moment, a tremendous aura force surged and dashed towards the gigantic bear, making a look of horror appear on the beast’s visage. After hesitating for a moment, it retreated.

In its entire life, he had never witnessed such a terrifying aura force of the royal bloodline before! That aura force actually caused the beast to be afraid of hurting Ning Fan!