

Grasping 531

Chapter 531: The Power of Void Ignition!

Ning Fan stood on the ancient sword while countless dead and injured devil armies and ghost troops were scattered all over the land.

Fresh blood dyed the land red. Immense killing qi covered the vast sky. Everywhere was filled with deafening fighting sounds and cries of pain!

The area within ten thousand li* (500m per li) was filled with carcasses and bones. The strength of the ghost army that Bone Sovereign commanded was diminishing gradually. After all, they were one million plus troops lesser than Ning Fan's army.

Seeing that his ghost army was slowly losing ground, Bone Sovereign's face turned grim.

Today, he was a set of grey robes. He still had the body of a young man. His face had great resemblance to that of Wang Yao in the past but it was widely different from his original look.

His eyes flashed with ferocious red glow. He already realized that his ghost army would not be able to take Ning Fan down.

Forty years ago, Ning Fan was just a Harmonious Spirit Realm cultivator.

Forty years later, he actually became a Void Refinement Realm expert!

Even though Bone Sovereign was unwilling to accept the truth, he had to admit that Ning Fan's natural talent in cultivation was not something that he could rival.

However, no matter what, he could not let a Void Refinement Realm ant to go too far in bullying him!

That's right! To him who was a Void Fragmentation Realm expert, a cultivator at the Void Refinement Realm was just an insignificant ant!

Two hours later, five million ghost troops completely perished. As for the six million devil armies that Ning Fan summoned, there were still two million plus left. The stench of blood pervaded the entire Seventh Region.

As Ning Fan undid the magic technique, all of the remaining devil armies vanished into dust.

Ning Fan stared at Bone Sovereign quietly. He had won the first battle against the huge army!

"Where are my five thousand Divine Transformation Realm cultivators? Form the 'Seven-Pointed Bone Sacrifice Formation'!"

Seething with fury, Bone Sovereign barked an order to command the five thousand Divine Transformation Realm ghosts to establish the formation.

All of a sudden, the five thousand Divine Transformation Realm turned into rays of light and began moving. Half of them moved into the sky while the other half occupied the ground. They divided themselves into seven groups to surround Ning Fan in seven different directions.

Every one of the Divine Transformation Realm ghosts made a hand seal at the same time and a diagram of white skeleton emerged beneath everyone's feet.

Rays of white light from the diagrams connected into one and a massive shadow of a white skeleton tortoise appeared in each of the seven directions.

Seven white skeleton tortoises were the seven star angles of the formation which enabled the formation light to be connected to each other, forming into a gigantic seven-pointed star grand formation!

By just standing inside the formation light, Ning Fan already felt the yin qi corroding his bones. His entire magic power was nearly frozen into ice. His body became stiff and hard, rendering him unable to move a single muscle.

The Seven-Pointed Bone Sacrifice Formation was really impressive. Its power was already close to that of an Immortal Void Grand Formation. Even if an Absolute Void Stage expert is trapped within this formation light, they would not be able to escape with ease. Once they were turned into ice by the power of the formation light, even their primordial spirits would perish, causing a certain death to them!

When the seven-pointed star formation made a rotation, Ning Fan's long hair and blood were instantly frozen. Even his Sea of Consciousness was beginning to freeze!

When the seven-pointed star rotated for the second time, Ning Fan's Sea of Consciousness was literally frozen and it already became difficult for him to think!

Ning Fan seemed to have seen the rough and bumpy cultivation path that he had travelled his entire life but then his thoughts began turning blurry. Even his consciousness was about to be turned into ice.

Illusions began clouding his vision. He felt like he was in a world of ice where he was the only person left and he was going to freeze to death alone in this place.

Each time the seven-pointed star made an additional rotation, Ning Fa's life force would drain by a small portion.

Forty years of killings. Five hundred years of loneliness. All the heart-warming and sad memories were going to be buried under the world of ice gradually!

"No!"

Ning Fan suddenly opened his eyes and glared at the seven-pointed star formation.

The formation was indeed powerful as it could freeze his physical body, his cultivation base, and his memories... However, his stubborn will for survival was so strong that even the Heavenly Dao could not freeze it!

The heavens could collapse, the earth could be overturned, Dao could vanish and life could be eliminated but only his stubborn will would never be extinguished. Even if he would die one hundred times, he would never regret clinging to that stubborn persistence!

“Void Ignition!”

Ning Fan’s ten fingers moved swiftly. His black hair danced wildly in the air. Suddenly, a massive diagram of black flame appeared below his feet. Countless black void fire rings had been ignited in every direction, melting the ice around him!

While the sea of fire raged, Ning Fan’s life force drained rapidly. The black flames around him suddenly turned into one million black fire butterflies!

At this moment, the Seven-Pointed Bone Sacrifice Formation had stopped rotating!

At this moment, the icy cold qi in heaven and earth had dispersed completely!

The five thousand Divine Transformation Realm cultivators who were controlling the formation coughed out blood. All of them stared at the one million black butterflies in disbelief as they felt an indescribable fear within them!

All twelve Void Refinement Realm guards turned pale with shock. They sensed the danger of certain death from the black butterflies. All they could feel was their primordial spirits were also going to be ignited by the void flames!

Bone Sovereign’s furious eyes widened. Only after staring at those black butterflies in bewilderment for quite some time did he gnash his teeth and reluctantly said, “T-This is... an immortal technique?! No. It isn’t. However, it’s already extremely close to the grade of an immortal technique... How can this be possible?!!!”

Immortal technique! It was a supreme technique that only beings who had successfully become an immortal could display!

Bone Sovereign could not see through the exact grade of this technique but it gave him a sense of danger!

When Ning Fan changed his hand seals, the one million black butterflies with their bodies fused into a huge black fire butterfly.

The wings of the butterfly were so large that they could cover the entire sky. Its body was burning with void flames. Despite the flames that were burning its wings, it also wanted to eliminate its enemies!

The gigantic butterfly aimed its wings at the seven white skeleton tortoises and flapped them violently!

After just flapping its wings for the first time, half of Ning Fan's total magic power and essence qi had been exhausted. Rings of black flames spread out and the seven white skeleton tortoises all disappeared into ashes!

The second flap! The gigantic butterfly aimed its wings at the five thousand Divine Transformation Realm cultivators. By just flapping its large wings, every last one of them was already burned to ashes by the fire rings before they could even react!

The countless layers of formation light of the Seven-Pointed Bone Sacrifice Formation shattered one after another!

At this moment, the gigantic butterfly aimed at Bone Sovereign's direction and flapped its wings for the third time!

Bone Sovereign's expression instantly changed. He turned into a ray of grey light and soared into the sky directly. He managed to get out of the attack range of the gigantic butterfly.

As for the twelve Void Refinement Realm guards in front of him, however, none of them managed to escape!

Among the twelve of them, there were 6 Void Glimpse Stage cultivators, 4 Void Inquiry Stage cultivators and 2 Void Pierce Stage experts!

Even so, none of them could escape alive under the third wave of attack from the butterfly and all of them were turned into ashes!

Exterminate!

Ning Fan's magic power and essence qi were completely depleted. He even suffered a backlash from the immortal technique – Void Ignition.

No matter what, he could not command the butterfly to flap its wings for the fourth time. Otherwise, he would even make himself disappear into ashes! It was already his limit to command the butterfly to flap three times!

Afterward, he activated the Lifestealer Technique and absorbed all the blood qi within ten thousand li* (500m per li) of the battlefield which was converted into essence qi. In just an instant, his essence qi was already recovered to its peak!

As long as the sea of blood still existed in this battlefield, he would never run out of essence qi. This was the most terrifying part of the ancient devil technique – Lifestealer Technique!

Ning Fan had slaughtered all the ghosts in the entire Seventh Region all by himself and Bone Sovereign was the only one left!

Bone Sovereign's eyes glared at Ning Fan with terror and doubt.

He did not believe at all that Ning Fan's ability would be so terrifying where he could incinerate all his subordinates with a fire technique after forty years!

If it wasn't because he managed to escape swiftly, he would be injured by the third wave of attack.

He had no choice but to admit that the current Ning Fan was already at a level that deserved his respect!

“Very well! That burning butterfly technique is indeed impressive. I’m afraid even an Absolute Void Stage expert might not necessarily be able to withstand the third wave of void flames just now. However, it’s still not enough for you to fight me using this technique alone!”

“My body has serious injuries now. My cultivation base has fallen to the First Heavenly Layer from the Fifth Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm. Unless you command the butterfly to flap its wings for five times or more, you certainly won’t be able to kill me with it!”

“I suppose this is already your greatest technique. You can die next! White Bone Dao – The Dance of Bracken Ferns!”

Bone Sovereign sneered and abruptly formed a series of hand seals. Countless white bony projections suddenly sprouted up from the ground across the mountains and rivers within the Seventh Region!

Each of the white bony projection was several ten thousand zhang* (3.33m per zhang) tall. They were sharp like blades and massive like mountains!

Each of the tall mountains were penetrated from the bottom as those projections shot up from the ground!

The land of the entire Seventh Region cracked and swayed violently. Even the ghosts in the first few regions could feel the effect of the terrifying magic technique coming from the Seventh Region!

Chi *Chi* *Chi*

Bony projections that were thick like raindrops pierced into the sky from the ground. In the next instant, countless inverted bony projections also appeared in the sky. They actually sprouted from the sky to the ground!

It looked like two iron sieves that were full of sharp needles were pressing toward Ning Fan from two directions.

Ning Fan did not have a path to retreat at all. The entire Seventh Region was within the attack range of Bone Sovereign's technique.

Even if he possesses a cultivation base at the Absolute Void Stage cultivation base, he certainly could not withstand a single attack from Bone Sovereign. After all, it was a genuine Void Fragmentation Realm attack!

"You're dead!" Bone Sovereign's laughter resounded in the Seventh Region like thunder clap and it echoed to the Sixth Region.

The hair on Ning Fan's body stood up. At that critical juncture, he hurriedly patted his storage pouch and took out a fiery-red figurine that was as large as his palm.

"That might not necessarily be true!"

The figurine grew in the air and instantly turned into a fire giant that was ten thousand zhang* (3.33m per zhang) tall!

Ning Fan kept his ancient golden sword and stood at the shoulder of the giant.

The giant's eyes were vacant. However, it was filled with respect for Ning Fan. When Ning Fan gave it an order, it suddenly stomped on the ground and hurled its fists at the sky, crushing all the bony projections coming from both directions!

Even if these bony projections could kill Absolute Void Fragmentation experts, they certainly could not kill this fire giant.

It was because this fire giant was the Void Fragmentation Realm puppet Ning Fan subdued that day. It was the Dao Guardian – Giant Zhi Huo!

After Bone Sovereign's magic techniques were broken, it aggravated his injuries, causing him to move backwards for several continuous steps in midair. Every step he took would break the space. In every step he took, he would cough out a mouthful of fresh blood!

His eyes flickered with blood-red light as he glared at Ning Fan. His face was filled with disbelief.

"A Void Fragmentation Realm puppet?! There is no way this can be true! Why a mere Void Refinement Realm ant like you can have a Void Fragmentation Realm puppet to protect you?!"

"You don't have to know it. Zhi Huo, kill him!"

When Ning Fan gave that order, Giant Zhi Huo took a step forward and pointed a finger at Bone Sovereign.

Bone Sovereign saw that the situation was turning bad for him and hurriedly turned into a ten thousand zhang* (3.33m per zhang) tall white skeleton giant. He unhinged his jaw and roared, producing multiple white skeleton sound waves to attack Giant Zhi Huo.

"White Bone Dao – Bone Devil Sound!"

In the past when Bone Sovereign made a clone out of Wang Yao's identity, he had killed countless cultivators of Yue Country using this technique. When Bone Sovereign used this technique with his true body, its power became even more outstanding.

However, in Giant Zhi Huo's eyes, this technique was nothing!

He lifted one of his fingers slowly and the sky within two hundred thousand li* (500m per li) was sealed off by fiery-red tribulation clouds!

The sky seemed like it was burning and the Seventh Region seemed to have become a steamer. The sound waves were neutralized by Giant Zhi Huo with a single finger!

“I’m Zhi Huo. I’ll land the tribulation upon you under my master’s order! The Heavenly Dao will be the cauldron and you will be the pill... Refine!”

All of a sudden, a column of intangible flames fell from the sky, enveloping the white skeleton giant which Bone Sovereign had transformed into. The flames then grew into a massive burning pill cauldron, trapping Bone Sovereign within.

As the sea of flames within the pill cauldron rose, Bone Sovereign immediately let out a violent cry of agony.

He could not believe the fact that Ning Fan not only possessed a Void Fragmentation Realm puppet but that puppet also had extraordinary combat power. It actually could use the flames of the heavenly tribulation as a method to attack its enemies!

“This is certainly impossible! I don’t believe it!” Bone Sovereign lost his temper. The red glow in his eyes shone more brightly.

He was Bone Sovereign and he wanted to break this tribulation cauldron!

Chapter 532: The End of Bone Sovereign!

The fire cauldron that Giant Zhi Huo summoned was transformed by the heavenly tribulation flames. Thus, its power was extraordinary.

Each spark of flames contained an ancient rune, making it difficult even for Bone Sovereign to tear the cauldron apart and escape alive!

In the critical moment between life and death, Bone Sovereign’s right eye shot out a blood-red lightning ray. It was an intent realm power called the Absolute Realm. It was a power that Bone Sovereign learned from his past encounters with the heavenly tribulations and it contained a power equivalent to the heavenly tribulation!

When the heavenly tribulation lightning and the heavenly tribulation flames clashed, the pill cauldron broke with a loud bang. The remaining red lightning of the Absolute Realm instantly struck the Giant Zhi Huo, inflicting serious damage to the latter!

Bang

As the pill cauldron was broken, Bone Sovereign finally got out alive. However, he had suffered an extremely severe injury and his cultivation base regressed once more, causing him to be left with only the Void Pierce Stage power.

He could no longer maintain his giant form and already returned to the appearance of a young man in grey robes.

As for Giant Zhi Huo, nearly half of his puppet body was destroyed after receiving Bone Sovereign's Absolute Realm power head-on. It was evident to see how powerful Bone Sovereign's attack was!

Giant Huo's cultivation base was at the First Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm and he rarely had an opponent among experts at the same level as him.

Bone Sovereign, however, was once an expert at the Fifth Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm. Even if his cultivation base had fallen to the same level as Giant Zhi Huo, his strength was slightly stronger than the latter!

After taking an attack from Bone Sovereign, the giant already could not continue fighting anymore, unless it was fully repaired.

Even so, Bone Sovereign's eyes still contained deep astonishment!

"I understand now. That Void Fragmentation Realm puppet of yours is the Dao Guardian that controls the heavenly tribulations! You're a madman to actually capture a Dao Guardian and turn it into your puppet. You've thoroughly offended the First Ring Heavenly Dao of the Nine Worlds in the mortal realm!"

Ning Fan did not care about what Bone Sovereign said. He just glanced at Giant Zhi Huo who was severely damaged and let out a faint sigh.

Bone Sovereign was not an ordinary person. When he was in his best condition, he was an expert at the Fifth Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm who was comparable to Moksha Sovereign.

It was already rare for Giant Zhi Huo to successfully weaken Bone Sovereign's cultivation base. Since it could no longer be used at the moment, Ning Fan would keep it first and repair it later to use it in the future.

Faced with Bone Sovereign whose cultivation base had fallen to the Void Pierce Stage, there was no need for Giant Zhi Huo to act as Ning Fan alone already sufficed!

After making a flick of his sleeve, Ning Fan turned the giant into a tiny figurine and kept it in his pouch.

Then, he summoned his Eight Black Burning Wings and touched his glabella to draw his Separation Slayer Sword.

He dashed straight toward Bone Sovereign in a flicker of travelling light and swung his sword in the plainest style.

"Strength!"

The sword light went straight at Bone Sovereign's forehead carrying a massive force that could overturn mountains and fill up oceans!

Bone Sovereign raised his fist and threw a punch at the sword light. His punch also carried a vast force that could break mountains.

When Ning Fan's sword light and Bone Sovereign's punch collided, both of them shattered.

However, the moment the sword light was neutralized, it abruptly shot out countless hidden black fishing lines.

It was just like what Fang Si did during their fight on that day – hiding the black fishing lines within his magic technique.

The black fishing lines gave out a qi that would instill anyone with fear. Bone Sovereign did not dare to underestimate them at all as he instantly retreated ten thousand li* (500m per li) backward. However, his right arm was still punctured by the fishing lines.

All of a sudden, the life force of his right arm was completely drained as Death Qi completely engulfed it, rendering it to disintegrate into ashes suddenly!

“Ah!”

Bone Sovereign let out a cry of pain. He already lost his right arm within seconds.

He held his broken arm and looked at Ning Fan with terror in his eyes. He did not expect that Ning Fan would actually know the mysterious fishing lines technique that could erode everything aside from the Void Ignition Technique.

As a Void Fragmentation Realm sovereign being, he had extremely high pride in himself. Even so, he had to admit that he definitely was not Ning Fan’s opponent in his current condition!

If he makes a careless mistake, he, a dignified expert at the Fifth Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm, would die in Ning Fan’s hands today!

“Absolute Realm!”

Bone Sovereign’s right eye shot out a blood-red tribulation lightning which multiplied into one million rays and attacked Ning Fan.

Ning Fan instantly made a stomp in midair and a massive Tai Su Lightning Diagram emerged beneath him. The diagram took in seventy percent of the tribulation lightning from Bone Sovereign. At the same time, Ning Fan spread out his sword sense to eliminate the remaining thirty percent of Bone Sovereign's Absolute Realm tribulation lightning.

Ning Fan certainly could not withstand those tribulation lightning rays if Bone Sovereign were to use it on him when he was at his peak.

However, when Bone Sovereign, who was currently at the Void Pierce Stage, used that ability, it was nothing scary.

After cancelling Bone Sovereign's Absolute Realm attack, he did not take it easy at all.

It was because there was also a secret trump card of Bone Sovereign coming after that Absolute Realm attack.

There was a weapon hidden behind that Absolute Realm attack and it was going to sneak attack Ning Fan.

That was a golden pen that was covered in flames and frost!

As the golden pen moved, it drew a golden rune in the air which was also surrounded with flames and ice.

Ning Fan had no idea what pen it was nor what rune was that.

That golden rune then became ten thousand zhang* (3.33m per zhang) large and fell directly on Ning Fan's head.

The aura force from the golden rune alone could make Ning Fan's magic power stagnant, making him difficult to breathe. He also lost the ability to move his body as it seemed to have been nailed to the sky.

Ning Fan managed to raise his Separation Slayer Sword with great effort. He activated the maximum potential of 'Strength' and thrust it into the golden rune above him.

Upon the collision of two massive forces, the golden rune was broken while Ning Fan's arm lost grip of the sword due to the extreme vibration from the collision. Even the bones of his arm were nearly fractured!

That golden rune actually carried the power that was extremely close to that of an Absolute Void Stage attack!

"That golden pen looks rather familiar. It felt like I'd seen it somewhere before..." In the Profound Yin World, Luo You began pondering. She was ready at every moment to give Ning Fan a hand when he was in grave danger.

"I don't know what that golden pen is. However, I do recognize the flames and ice on it... They are the Earth Blazing Flame and Mending Heavenly Heart which are both ranked first in the lists of Earth Flames and Heavenly Cold Qi..." Ning Fan's expression became grim.

"This is an immortal pen that I picked up at the entrance of the Eight Region. Each stroke it makes can produce a golden rune which contains unfathomable power. How many runes can you withstand with your cultivation base?"

Bone Sovereign pointed at the golden pen in the sky, commanding it to make two strokes consecutively. In the next instant, two golden runes emerged.

The two golden runes were already equivalent to an attack from a common Absolute Void Stage expert!

The two of them turned into ten thousand zhang* (3.33m per zhang) tall and fell down on Ning Fan. If he tries to take the golden runes head-on again this time, the muscles and bones of his entire body would certainly break!

Bang

As the golden runes crashed into Ning Fan, the land and heavens were crumbled. The place where Ning Fan was originally standing was turned into ruins!

Bone Sovereign stared at Ning Fan who was no longer visible in his eyes and laughing mockingly.,

“Do you think you’re worthy of becoming my enemy with your such insignificant power? You’re literally seeking your own death!”

“Is that so?”

Countless black shadows suddenly flew into the sky from the ground and condensed into a black-robed young man with black hair. The left part of his face had strange demonic lines. Blood was flowing out from the corners of his lips.

At the crucial moment before he was struck by the golden runes, Ning Fan summoned his Primordial Lightning Armor and used his incarnation.

His Primordial Lightning Armor was crushed to pieces by the golden runes. Even though he managed to use his incarnation to withstand the attacks from the two golden runes, he could not avoid taking a serious damage.

“Humph! It’s beyond my expectations that you actually could escape my killing blow by dispersing using your incarnation. However, even though you weren’t killed by the two golden runes, you won’t be able to withstand the attacks of three golden runes! With my Void Pierce Stage magic power, I can produce three golden at most using the golden pen. Even an ordinary Absolute Void Stage expert will find it difficult to withstand the combined power of three golden runes!”

“You’ll die for sure!”

Bone Sovereign burst into laughter. He pointed a finger at the sky, attempting to activate the golden pen to draw three golden runes.

At the next moment, however, his face turned pale. He surprisingly realized that the golden pen had lost its functions and it could not be activated!”

He raised his head and stared at the golden pen above. To his surprise, the flames that were covering the golden pen originally had vanished into thin air!

Because of the disappearance of the flames, the golden pen lost its power and could not be activated anymore!

Moreover, Bone Sovereign had attached the cultivation of this golden pen to his life. When the flames of the pen were seized, his injuries worsened once more, causing his cultivation base to fall to the Void Inquiry Stage...

“Are you looking for this mass of Earth Blazing Flame...?” Ning Fan who was wearing black robes raised his hand into the sky and spoke with an expressionless face. He was holding a cloud of golden flames that was burning fiercely.

The moment he dispersed himself into his incarnation just now, he had secretly used the Fire Plucking Technique to seize the Earth Blazing Flame from the golden pen!

Since the golden pen had already lost its power, Bone Sovereign could no longer produce three golden runes to attack him!

Ning Fan stared at Bone Sovereign indifferently. His face was cold and merciless.

Bone Sovereign and he had multiple conflicts in the past. Today, however, everything would be resolved.

“With just a cultivation base at the Void Inquiry Stage, you’re nothing in my eyes. You can die now...”

When Ning Fan took a step forward, he vanished without a trace. It made Bone Sovereign’s hair stand on end as the feeling of danger filled him!

He would die! He definitely would die!

He wanted to withdraw the golden pen and flee but he realized that countless strange blood lines spread out from his body abruptly, completely restricting his movements!

Ning Fan's bone-chilling figure suddenly emerged behind him. He held bundles of black fishing lines in his hands and tossed them at Bone Sovereign's back.

Even if Bone Sovereign's physical body was as strong as that of a body cultivator at the First Heavenly Layer of the Nirvana Body Refinement Realm, it was still easily penetrated by the fishing lines. Death Qi covered his entire body, causing it to decay rapidly.

Bone Sovereign's eyes flashed with resentment. He knew that he would not be able to flee today no matter what and could only die.

He once died in the hands of the Sword Ancestor and was revived in the state of a ghost in this Demon Sinister Forest.

After years of grueling cultivation, he finally regained his Void Fragmentation Realm power. However, before he had the chance to question the Great Dao, he died again in Ning Fan's hands.

He was discontented!

But he felt regretful even more. He regretted messing with this young man in the past and making him his enemy. However, it was already too late for him to feel remorse.

"I'm Bone Sovereign! Even if I'm going to die, I certainly won't die in the hands of a lowly being like you! I am the only person who can kill me!"

His eyes widened with rage. He wanted to commit suicide to blast Ning Fan to death!

When a Void Fragmentation Realm expert detonates themselves, it would be difficult for one to avoid even if they hide within a heavenly dwelling space!

Bone Sovereign laughed hysterically. He wanted to perish together with Ning Fan.

“Let’s go to hell together!”

A loud bang echoed across the air. Bone Sovereign detonated his primordial spirit and died instantaneously. The force of his self-detonation, however, turned into terrifying shock waves that flattened the entire Seventh Region...

After a long time, Ning Fan reappeared above the ruins of the Seventh Region.

Unfortunately, Bone Sovereign failed to kill him. The moment Bone Sovereign blew up himself, Ning Fan directly went into the Profound Yin World and evaded the force of the explosion.

Standing above the ruins, Ning Fan’s eyes scanned across the vast and boundless land. He saw the corpses that were no longer recognizable, the remains of the remains, the sense beads, the broken treasures and the golden pen which Bone Sovereign left behind...

Ning Fan kept silent for a long while with his eyes closed. Loneliness crept inside his heart.

He harbored grudges against Bone Sovereign. Putting Bone Sovereign’s personality aside, he indeed was an extremely difficult opponent.

Furthermore, he was considered to be a person with dignity as he rather killed himself than dying in Ning Fan’s hands.

“It’s such a pity. You shouldn’t have started a feud with me. Once you’ve become my enemy, it’s either you die and I perish in the battle of cultivation... Don’t ever mess with me in your next life!”

Ning Fan kept all the spoils of the battle with a flick of the sleeve and quietly left.

The moment he returned to the Yellow Spring Demon City, the members of the entire city were so stunned that they stared at him with their mouths agape.

Bone Sovereign was dead and he died in Ning Fan's hands!

There were no survivors in the Seventh Region. Just looking at the ruins that stretched over one million li* (500m per li) alone could fill the ghost cultivators of the city with fear.

How terrifying exactly was the battle in the Seventh Region?!

"Y-You've actually killed Bone Sovereign!?" Mu Xiaoliang covered her small mouth with her hands and stood there, rooted to the ground. She could not recover herself from shock even after a long while.

The king of the Demon Sinister Forest had actually died in Ning Fan's hands... This was just too unbelievable!

Mu Xiaoliang shifted her gaze to Mei Chen who was sleeping on the bed. Even though she was asleep, her brows were filled with worries. Well, she probably was still worried about Ning Fna.

If she wakes up and finds out that Ning Fan had wiped out the entire Seventh Region and eliminated Bone Sovereign, how surprised would she feel?

"Let her sleep a little longer. Besides, I need to take a good rest for now..." Ning Fan wore an exhausted smile on his face. The bones of his arm were still aching while the swellings of the immortal veins within him were yet to subside.

The damage Ning Fan took in the battle was definitely not light...

It was unknown how long he would need to treat his injuries this time.

Chapter 533: The Evening Rain Is Like Dao Which Should Be Like A Circle

Mei Chen was still asleep. Ning Fan, on the other hand, went inside the Yuan Yao World and entered the dark golden pagoda.

On the seventh floor of the pagoda, Ning Fan summoned ninety-nine natal black stars with a wave of his hand and basked under the starlight that filled the sky.

Then, he consumed a Sixth Revolution vulnerary pill and closed his eyes to begin the long recovery session.

Only after sitting inside the dark golden pagoda for three years did his injuries be fully healed. In the outside world, only half a month passed.

Ning Fan slowly let out a deep breath and opened his eyes. His black eyes were like two endless abysses. Not a single hint of emotion was visible on his face.

He recalled killing Bone Sovereign half a month ago and felt like it was a dream.

“Bone Sovereign was a strong enemy as well as the first Void Fragmentation Realm expert that I killed with my own capabilities. However, he definitely isn’t the last one... Even though Void Fragmentation Realm experts are strong as they are the strongest beings in the First Step of Cultivation, they can still be killed! Han Nietian, I’m gradually approaching your level ...”

Ning Fan closed his eyes and inspected his body internally. He discovered that his baleful qi intensified by a great deal again.

Even though Bone Sovereign committed suicide, his death was due to the battle with Ning Fan. Thus, Ning Fan more or less would be stained with some baleful qi.

All of a sudden, he remembered a common saying from the mortal realm and seemed to gain an enlightenment.

'I don't kill Bo Ren but Bo Ren died because of me...' Getting affected by baleful qi after killing someone. The ultimate principle of karma actually lies within it.

"Karma... If I can sever the karma, I can then prevent myself from being affected by the baleful qi after killing someone... When I broke through to the Void Glimpse Stage last time, the reason why I would be attacked by Giant Zhi Huo was because I've taken too many lives in my life and gained too much baleful qi..."

"In the Four Heavens, those true immortals and immortal emperors probably are unable to avoid conflicts and fights. When they fight, stars will be destroyed and millions upon millions will die. The number of people they've killed must be countless times more than mine... However, they aren't banished by the Heavenly Dao. I suppose many of them possess the methods to sever the karma and avoid the baleful qi."

Ning Fan muttered to himself. He was just thinking about these things and did not actually have the thoughts about erasing his baleful qi.

His baleful qi all originated from the killings he had committed in the past. However, he never regretted the lives he had taken. Thus, there was no need for him to hide it.

"The path that I've walked is my Dao. There is no need to regret it."

He slowly readjusted his thoughts and began inspecting his storage pouch. He gained many spoils from the battle.

Five million Gold Core Realm sense beads, five thousand Divine Transformation Realm sense beads, twelve Void Refinement Realm sense beads and one Fifth Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm sense bead...

There were plenty of broken magic treasures as well as magic treasures that still remained intact. Besides, the countless ragged storage pouches were filed with innumerable spiritual herbs that had grown in the Seventh Region for countless years.

Ning Fan scanned across them and made a rough estimation. Just one hundred thousand years old spiritual herbs alone, there were fifty tufts of them among this batch of spiritual herbs. Apart from that, there were three thousand plus tufts of fifty thousand years old spiritual herbs, seventy thousand plus tufts of ten thousand spiritual herbs and an inestimable amount of one thousand years old spiritual herbs...

These spiritual herbs were more than enough for Ning Fan to spend them lavishly.

What intrigued Ning Fan the most was none other than the items he obtained from Bone Sovereign.

Other than the golden pen, he had even gloriously seized Bone Sovereign's storage pouch.

There were indeed many excellent items inside that pouch. There was even a Low Grade Seventh Revolution vulnerary pill.

After giving it some thought, Ning Fan eventually decided to save this pill for Mei Chen to eat.

Even though Mei Chen needed to consume at least a High Grade Seventh Revolution vulnerary pill in order to be fully recovered, this Low Grade Seventh Revolution pill was still quite useful to her recovery.

Aside from the pill, there were also many other pills in the pouch.

In fact, there were four ghost sense beads at the First Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm.

Ning Fan guessed that these four Void Fragmentation Realm sense beads must be something that Bone Sovereign obtained when he ruled over the Seventh Region in the past.

It was imaginable how terrifying the massacre which Bone Sovereign had committed in the Seventh Region in the past as he even killed four Void Fragmentation Realm ghosts...

After keeping the spiritual herbs and sense beads, Ning Fan's gaze fell upon the golden pen and the Earth Blazing Flame.

The Earth Blazing Flame was originally attached to the golden pen which Bone Sovereign chanced upon at the entrance of the Eighth Region.

The number-one Heavenly Cold Qi and Earth Vein Demonic Flames were actually attached to this golden pen by someone... What exactly is the origin of this golden pen?

It's a golden pen that an immortal has used before. It isn't a high-graded magic treasure in the first place. However, after infusing it with the cold qi and spiritual flame, its power was activated, enabling it to produce golden runes with unfathomable power to attack the user's enemies. It's indeed an unusual weapon.

"Little You Er, do you remember where this golden pen comes from?"

"Let me think about it carefully..." In the Profound Yin World, Luo You was locked in contemplation. She rarely behaved like him.

She flipped through the memories within her mind. She just felt that she had heard about this golden pen somewhere before but she could not remember it at the moment.

When her eyes shifted to the Earth Blazing Flame and Mending Heavenly Heart, that piece of information suddenly rose within her mind!

"Heavenly Cold Qi and Earth Vein Demonic Flames... That's it! This is one of the rune pens of the Golden Rune Palace!"

"Golden Rune Palace?" It was Ning Fan's first time hearing that name.

"Golden Rune Palace is an ancient force located in the Southern Heaven Immortal World. It was annihilated by someone tens of millions of years ago. That's why I couldn't recall it just now... I only managed to remember it when I noticed the heavenly cold qi and earth flame."

Luo You paused for a while as if she was trying to dig out her past memories. After a while, she continued, "Golden Rune Palace is a sect of rune cultivation. The members of the sect were skilled in creating and drawing runes. Every one of them had a golden pen. It isn't just an item for creating runes but also the identity tokens of the members of the Golden Rune Palace. They wouldn't be able to enter the historical remains of the Golden Rune Palace if they didn't have the golden pen with them... Trying looking at this golden pen. Does it have a name and position?"

Upon hearing what Luo You's said, Ning Fan carefully scrutinized the golden pen. Then, he saw some ancient inscriptions at one end of the pen.

"Deacon of the Golden Rune Palace's Treasury - Zhuo Jie..." Ning Fan uttered.

"*Chuckle* My younger brother surely has great luck. Even though the Golden Rune Palace was annihilated, there were still one hundred and eight treasuries that remained sealed in its historical remains. If you ascend to the Southern Heaven Immortal World one day and head to the historical remains of the Golden Rune Palace, you can take out the treasures in the treasury which Zhuo Jie guarded in the past. That is a treasury that an immortal looked after. I suppose there are many excellent items there." Luo You chuckled as she spoke.

"Other than acting as a magic treasure that produces runes, what else can this golden pen do? In that case, if I have a chance to head to the Southern Heaven Immortal World, I'll really need to pay a visit to the Golden Rune Palace." Ning Fan nodded and said.

"It'll be better for you to possess a cultivation base at the True Immortal Realm if you really want to go to the Golden Rune Palace... The waters in that place are quite murky. You might end up dead in the historical remains if your cultivation base is weak. Do you know why the Golden Rune Palace was annihilated in the past?" Luo You stopped smiling and said with a serious expression.

"Why?"

"The progenitor of that Golden Rune Palace was the painter of the second painting out of the four ancient paintings! The reason why the Golden Rune Palace was annihilated was because it carried the secrets of the four ancient paintings!"

"The four ancient paintings again?" Ning Fan sounded surprised.

“All the four ancient paintings are specially created and they contain the Great Dao... The first painting out of the four is called the ‘Immemorial Fisherman’s Mino Painting’. It contains the ‘Great Dao of Life and Death’. If you obtain the Immemorial Fisherman’s Mino Painting at your current level and comprehend the Dao of Life and Death within it, seeing through life and death, ascending to the heavens and becoming an immortal to you will be as easy as lifting your hands!”

“The second ancient painting is called ‘Golden Sky Black Earth Painting’. It contains the Great Dao of Yin and Yang and it can help a true immortal to see through yin and yang and the true and the false, enabling them to fully grasp the truth of cultivation. This will in turn provide them a chance to become an immortal emperor! Of course, since you are a cultivator of the Yin Yang Transformation, if you obtain the Golden Sky Black Earth Painting, it will surely be greatly beneficial to your cultivation.”

Luo You sighed gently. She also tried to search for the Golden Sky Black Earth Painting in the past. If she were to have gotten the painting, she would not have needed to settle for the second best option which was by cultivating the Yin Yang Transformation in order to get her revenge.

“One who obtains the Immemorial Fisherman’s Mino Painting will be able to ascend to the heavens and become an immortal? One who obtains the Golden Sky Black Earth Painting will be able to become an immortal emperor?”

Ning Fan felt slightly surprised. The Immemorial Fisherman’s Mino Painting sounded still reasonable. The Golden Sky Black Earth Painting, on the other hand, definitely could make countless true immortals fight over it just for obtaining the chance to become an immortal emperor!

Could the reason why the Golden Rune Palace was annihilated had nothing to do with the members of the palace but merely because they possessed the secret...?

Moreover, since it was unknown where the Golden Sky Black Earth Painting is currently, many True Immortals would probably be targeting the historical ruins of the Golden Rune Palace.

The golden pen in Ning Fan’s hands was a key that could unlock one of the one hundred and eight treasuries. If some true immortals find out about it, would they try to seize it from him forcibly...?

“That is to say that, it’ll be inappropriate to show it to anyone if it’s unnecessary, right?” Ning Fan asked.

“Yes. Keep this pen first for now. It is indeed a strong magic treasure as it can draw and produce golden runes. However, it’s involved with the secrets of the four ancient paintings. It’s best not to use it randomly.” Luo You said.

“I understood. I’ll just keep it properly for now. As for the Golden Rune Palace... I’ll visit it if I have the chance in the future. If I don’t have a sufficient cultivation base, I don’t want to go to the Golden Rune Palace to get myself killed...”

Ning Fan took out the cold qi from the golden pen and stashed it into his pouch.

Looking at the floating golden spiritual flame and black cold qi in front of him, one corner of Ning Fan’s lips curved upward.

“After devouring the two masses of cold qi and spiritual flame, I’ll have the complete collections of the twenty-four types of heavenly cold qi and earth flames. The grade of the Yin Yang Devil Flame from the combination of all the flames will probably be equivalent to a High-Level Seventh Grade Immortal Void Flame. Be it pill refinement or magic technique, it was extremely beneficial.

Ning Fan calmed his mind down and began assimilating the last two types of heavenly cold qi and earth flame.

While he was slowly refining the Earth Blazing Flame and Mending Heavenly Heart, the left part of his body felt like it was burning as raging golden flames rose whereas the right part of his body seemed to have frozen as it became a black ice statue.

Another six months passed on the seventh floor of the dark golden pagoda. Ning Fan suddenly opened his eyes. Everything, be it the golden flame or the black ice, was absorbed into his body.

He then rose to his feet and abruptly raised his hand. A mass of fear-inducing black flames floated on the center of his palm.

The black flames were clearly the combination of countless low-grade spiritual flames and cold qi. However, its power was comparable to that of a High-Level Seventh Grade Immortal Void Flame!

One has to know that even Pill Sovereign only possessed one-fourth of the Pure Yang Flame and it was just equivalent to a Mid-Level Seventh Grade flame.

After combining all the heavenly cold qi and earth flames that he had gathered, the grade of Ning Fan's flame was much higher than Pill Sovereign's!

"Next, it's time to repair the puppet, Zhi Huo."

Ning Fan kept the black flames into his body and took out a fiery-red figurine that was riddled with holes from his pouch.

Looking at the serious damage which the figurine had taken, Ning Fan could not help but smile bitterly.

Bone Sovereign really was strong and formidable. Even though his cultivation base had fallen to the First Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm, he could still nearly destroy Giant Zhi Huo with a single attack.

If he were at his peak, I'm afraid he wouldn't be any weaker than Moksha Sovereign.

"Fortunately, the puppet wasn't completely destroyed. There are still chances to repair it. However, the immortal jade required to repair a Void Fragmentation Realm puppet isn't a small figure..."

After Ning Fan had given several billion immortal jade to the people of the Yellow Spring Demon City to defend their city, he did not have much immortal jade left.

Even so, he still had Dao Crystals which were equivalent to tens of billions of immortal jades. Hence, they were more than enough to repair a Void Fragmentation Realm puppet.

"Let's begin..."

Ning Fan tossed the figurine into the air and it grew immediately, turning into a ten thousand zhang* (3.33m per zhang) tall fire giant.

Afterward, Ning Fan started to establish the grand formation for repairing a puppet on the ground, surrounding the giant's body.

Doubtlessly, it would take quite some time for him to repair Giant Zhi Huo.

...

Ning Fan had spent almost four years in the dark golden pagoda. In the outside world, only half a month had passed.

Mei Chen had already woken up during this period of time.

Clad with an unlined garment, she sat at the head of her bed, staring at the light evening rain outside the window.

She still remembered how shocking she felt the moment she heard of Bone Sovereign's death after she woke up half a month ago!

"This stinky man... Even though he's a shameless man, he's risked his life to fight Bone Sovereign for me and the Yellow Spring Demon City... Why is he so nice to me...?"

"He clearly is just at the Void Glimpse Stage. Wasn't he scared to fight a Void Fragmentation Realm expert?"

Now, Mei Chen's injuries were already stabilized fully and she had recovered her cultivation base at the First Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm. However, if she wants to regain her power at the Third Heavenly Layer, she must consume a High Grade Seventh Revolution pill.

Mu Xiaoliang was keeping Mei Chen company by her side. After hearing Mei Chen heave a sigh, she rested her chin on her hands, looking rapt and touched.

“Elder Sister Mei Chen, Ning Fan is very nice to us. What should we do in order to repay him?”

“Indeed. How should we repay him? Is it possible that I really have to be his demon pet to repay him?”
As soon as Mei Chen thought of that idea, chills immediately ran across her body.

“Bah. I’d rather die than be his demon pet!!!”

When Mei Chen was muttering to herself, a voice suddenly resounded from outside, making fun of her.

“Little Black, you’ve become disobedient again. If you don’t be my demon pet, whose demon pet do you want to be? I’m going to be angry if you become someone else’s demon pet.”

Wearing a set of white robes, Ning Fan walked into the room with his lips curving upwards.

After leaving the Yuan Yao World, he had already taken away all the sense beads in the Yellow Spring Demon City. Only then did he come to visit her in a leisurely mood.

As soon as they saw Ning Fan, Mu Xiaoliang became so shy that her face instantly blushed while Mei Chen’s cheeks turned so black like the bottom of a pan.

“I’ll not be your demon pet even if I die!”

“Why do you hate me so much?” Ning Fan continued teasing her.

“It’s a must! You’re too shameless!” Mei Chen answered straightforwardly.

“Is that so? So it turns out that you aren’t willing to be my demon pet. Now it really gives me a headache... Originally, I thought of a method that could directly bring you and Weiliang out of the

Demon Sinister Forest and let both of you see the world of the living. However, you aren't willing to be my demon pet. In that case, I can't bring you out with me..." Ning Fan deliberately sighed dejectedly.

"What?! Do you actually have a method to enable the ghosts and demons in the Demon Sinister Forest to leave this place?! How is this possible?!"

Mei Chen was shocked. The Demon Sinister Forest was a land of Nine Yin and it was a nether world where the ghosts and souls resided. The ghosts in the nether world could not go to the living world outside. Otherwise, they would certainly turn into ashes and die.

Even if they were brought out by hiding within a heavenly dwelling space, they could only stay within that space and never leave it.

Even if Bone Sovereign wanted to exit the Demon Sinister Forest, he also needed to take great pains in order to condense a true soul clone...

Now, Ning Fan was saying that he actually had a way to directly bring ghosts out of the Demon Sinister Forest. This was really too unthinkable.

Mei Chen certainly would not believe it if it were someone else who told her that. However, Ning Fan never made an empty promise. If he said he had a way, then he really must have one.

Dear God, Mei Chen really wanted to leave the Demon Sinister Forest to see the world outside. She yearned for this chance more than those ghosts in the forest.

In the entire Demon Sinister Forest, she was the only demon creature - netherworld sable. She enhanced her cultivation through devouring ghosts. Unlike the other ghosts who had died once and seen the beautiful and dazzling world outside, Mei Chen had never left this spooky and foul forest for her entire life!

She really wanted to go out and see the world. However, when she heard Ning Fan's tone that sounded like he was threatening and tempting her at the same time, she felt especially discontented.

Obviously, Ning Fan was using her desire to get out of the forest as a condition to make her surrender willingly and be his demon pet. It made her feel particularly unhappy because she did not like being threatened.

Mei Chen gritted her silver tenth and glared at Ning Fan angrily.

“Are you threatening me?! If I refuse to be your demon pet, you won’t bring me out of the Demon Sinister Forest forever, right?! You’re shameless!”

Ning Fan sighed and shook his head. He was just joking with Mei Chen.

“I was just kidding. I’ve obtained an ancient pill recipe. It’s for refining a Low Grade Sixth Revolution pill called True Yang Pill. It’s specially meant for ghosts like you. Once a ghost consumes it, it allows them to condense some Yang Qi within them. Even if they leave the Demon Sinister Forest, they will certainly not vanish into ashes.”

“I’ll naturally be extremely happy if you agree to be my demon pet. If you aren’t, I won’t force you either. For the sake of our friendship, I’ll help you concoct this kind of pill no matter what. However, if I bring you out of Demon Sinister Forest, I hope that you can promise me one thing - help me protect my family... As an exchange, I’ll find ways to help you search for a High Grade Seventh Revolution vulnerary pill which will heal your injuries completely, enabling you to regain your cultivation base at the Third Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm...”

“I’ll go and have a look around the Seventh Region. Have some rest...”

Ning Fan let out a gentle sigh and turned around to leave the room, walking toward the light evening rain.

Mei Chen looked stunned. All of a sudden, a hint of emptiness filled her heart.

Somehow, when Ning Fan talked to her like he was dealing and pleading to her, she actually felt downcast and distant from him.

She was rather Ning Fan behaving shamelessly toward her and teasing her playfully than being cool to her...

If I knew that it would be so upsetting, I'd directly promise him to be his demon pet!

"Stinky man! If I refuse to be your demon pet, won't you beg me to do so...?" Mei Chen muttered and gently bit her lips.

Mu Xiaoliang looked at Mei Chen in confusion. She did not understand why she would sigh disappointedly.

"Shouldn't Elder Mei Chen be happy since she can leave the Demon Sinister Forest without needing to be Ning Fan's demon pet? Why would he sigh? I really don't understand it..."

Based on Mu Xiaoliang's pure and naïve intelligence, she was unable to understand a woman's complex emotions.

...

Ning Fan walked under the drizzling evening rain all alone with an open blood umbrella.

Bone Sovereign's death, Ning Honghong's disappearance and being alienated by Little Black... All these things made all sorts of feelings well up in his heart.

He raised his head and looked at the falling rain. Gradually, he found the sounds of the rain annoying.

However, when he arrived at the ruins of the Seventh Region and looked at the battlefield with corpses lying all over it accompanied with the drizzle from the sky, he felt that the rain actually was not annoying. In fact, it was a little depressing...

Then, Ning Fan suddenly realized that it was never the rain that made him feel annoyed or depressed. Instead, they were just human's emotions.

The threads of rain fell from the sky and their trajectories were their entire journeys.

Even though the life of a rain was short, it also contained the joy of reunions and sorrow of partings.

Whatever a person is feeling, their emotions would then be reflected in the rain.

There were countless Great Dao in the world and everyone had their own Dao.

If one is in the mood of comprehending the Dao, they probably can also find out their Great Dao from the rain.

Ning Fan's eyes became as deep as the ocean as he recalled the times when he first entered the Dark Sparrow's Grave in the past.

"In the past, I thought that what Que Shenzi comprehended in the Dark Sparrow's Grave was the Divine Intent of Rain. However, it actually was wrong. What Que Shenzi really learned was Dao..."

"Every different type of rain contains a Great Dao. A single drop of rain is enough to include thousands of kinds of emotions and Great Daos in the world..."

"The circular shape that a single raindrop has is the Great Dao and its trajectory is the path of the Great Dao."

Ning Fan's eyes gradually turned clear and empty. The raindrops that lightly fell down in front of his eyes seemed to have been stopped. The movement of every drop of rain was infinitely slowed, as if they had become static.

He raised his hand to hold one of the raindrops and observed it carefully.

From that drop of rain, he saw countless Great Daos. However, some of them were true and false, making it difficult to discern.

He immersed his entire state of mind into the raindrop on the center of his palm. The scenery before his eyes changed and he seemed to be standing within a world of rain that was vast and boundless.

Within this world where raindrops intersected each other, a gigantic golden ring was floating in the vast sky.

The Ring of Heavenly Dao!

As Ning Fan stood in this world of rain, he gained an even deeper insight.

It turns out that a single drop of rain also has the heavenly dao that belongs to me and that heavenly dao has a circular shape!

As long as one makes their heart extremely small, it will be as huge as a world when they are viewing a drop of rain.

If one makes their heart larger than the Four Heavens and Nine Worlds, it'll just be similar to seeing a single drop of rain when viewing those worlds to them.

"A world in a wild flower and a Buddha in a leaf..."

"The world that I'm currently in, is it actually boundlessly huge or it is so small that it's just a single drop of rain in others' eyes...?"

Puke

Ning Fan suddenly felt a sharp pain in his chest and started coughing out blood. He withdrew his state of mind from the rain and his eyes turned focused and clear slowly.

The reason why he coughed out blood was because the thing that he was trying to comprehend was far beyond his current level. It was not something that the current him could see through!

In order to know the original appearance of the world, I need to comprehend my own Truth of Dao...

And that is what those immortals are pursuing tirelessly!

“This silly younger brother. He actually wanted to comprehend the Truth of Dao from a single droplet of rain!? What a terrifying power of understanding! If it wasn’t because of having insufficient cultivation base, I’m afraid he could have obtained a great benefit from that session just now.”

“I wonder if he could gain the Truth of Dao when he has an adequate cultivation base in the future...”

In the Profound Yin World, Luo You clicked her tongue and praised. She was once again surprised by Ning Fan.

Ning Fan spread his hand, allowing the rain droplet on his palm to slide away without any reluctance.

The Great Dao that was contained in the rain droplet was not something that he could comprehend now.

As the saying goes, going beyond one’s limit is as bad as falling short... If he forces himself to comprehend the Dao, he would end up killing himself. The mouthful of fresh blood that he coughed out just now was evident enough to serve as a warning to him.

Indeed, matters regarding cultivation had to be done progressively and it could not be rushed rashly.

“Let’s check out the entrance of the Eight Region...”

Under the drizzling evening rain, Ning Fan walked forward all the way, passing by the ruins created by the earlier battle in the Seventh Region.

After some time, Ning Fan stopped walking and stood at the end of the Seventh Region.

The first seven regions of the Demon Sinister Forest were separated by the levels of ghosts. However, the Eighth Region was blocked by a territory separation light.

On the way leading to the Eight Region, a dazzling light barrier stood in the middle. It looked like an enormous mirror that was standing in the way, preventing anyone from entering it.

Ning Fan took out a Mortal Void Grade magic treasure from his storage pouch and tossed it at the light barrier.

As soon as the treasure touched the light, it immediately dissipated into ashes...

Ning Fan frowned. The light barrier was extremely scary. It could even be a Void Fragmentation Realm expert or an Immortal Void Grade magic treasure would also be turned to ashes...

As long as the territory separation light barrier still existed, Ning Fan would not be able to enter the Eight Region no matter what.

It's such a pity... The Eight Region and Ninth Region are situated in the Ancient Heavenly Court. However, it seems like I won't be able to enter now.

"Fine. What can I do if I enter the Ancient Heavenly Court earlier? With my current cultivation base, it must be pretty dangerous for me to enter the Ancient Heavenly Court. Well, there is no need to be in a hurry to succeed. The matters regarding cultivation should be taken step by step and one must not be clouded by greed..."

The Dao comprehension in the evening rain today really improved Ning Fan's state of mind by a great deal.

"It's about time to leave. Concocting the True Yang Pill for Little Black isn't something that can be done within one day. Besides, I still lack a few types of spiritual herbs now. I probably need to stock up some spiritual herbs again after leaving the Demon Sinister Forest..."

“I’ve been out for half a month. I also should return to let them know that I’m safe. Then, I’ll make a trip to the Dark Sparrow to see if I can bring Min Luo Treant out of it...”

“Even though I have a way to bring Little Black and Xiaoliang out of the forest, I don’t have much confidence to bring Min Luo Treant out of the Dark Sparrow’s Grave at the moment... At most, I can only bring his clone out...”

“I will try to figure it out again when I go there...”

Ning Fan returned to the Yellow Spring Demon City to say goodbye to Mei Chen and Mu Xiaoliang temporarily.

...

In the Hall of Merits of the Sinister Sparrow Sect, the elder guarding the hall, Meng Chu, was petrified, standing there still with his jaw dropped.

Beside him, the former sect master, Gui Quezi, wore a bitter smile on his face.

He was already a Half-Step Nascent Soul Realm cultivator. All he needed was a long secluded cultivation to officially form his nascent soul.

Just as he got out from his seclusion, he encountered something that he did not know whether he should cry or laugh at.

Within the Hall of Merits, the contribution points of Ning Fan’s division were rising at an unimaginable speed and it eventually went beyond the maximum limit of the tablet of merits, causing the tablet to explode.

“Did he do anything shocking again after entering the Demon Sinister Forest this time...? Is it possible that he has killed the Void Fragmentation Realm ghosts in the Seventh Region...? Otherwise, why will his contribution points break the maximum limit...?”

Gui Quezi shook his head and smiled. He was talking in a joking manner. He did not really think that Ning Fan had the capabilities to kill a Void Fragmentation Realm ghost. That would be too unimaginable.

Unfortunately, things are always unexpected.

When he found out the true incidents that happened in the Demon Sinister Forest and was shocked by it, it had already been many years... He could never imagine that Ning Fan, who was only at the Void Glimpse Stage, had actually managed to kill Bone Sovereign...

Chapter 534: A Rogue Demon – Min Luo

Ning Fan had left behind the Low Grade Seventh Revolution vulnerary pill to Mei Chen.

He then returned to Seven Apricot City and brought Ming Que along with him to head over the Dark Sparrow's Grave of the Sinister Sparrow Sect.

Without a doubt, when little Ming Que left the Dark Sparrow's Grave secretly in the past, Min Luo Treant must have been extremely worried about her.

Needless to say, Ming Que would also miss Grandpa Min Luo very much after being separated from him for so many years.

The two of them arrived at the Earth Origin Palace of the Sinister Sparrow Sect. This time, Ning Fan did not use the teleportation formation of that place to get to the underground like before.

He put his hand around Ming Que's slender waist and directly displayed the Earth Movement Technique, diving one hundred thousand zhang* (3.33m per zhang) down into the underground.

The weight of the one hundred thousand zhang* (3.33m per zhang) of earth was enough to crush a Gold Core Realm cultivator to death. To Ning Fan, however, it naturally was nothing.

The two of them appeared on the first floor of the Dark Sparrow's Grave. The place in front of their eyes was pitch-black. The sky was cold and rainy. The rain intent did not disperse, just like before.

The rain on the first floor of the grave carried the chills that one could feel in early spring. Hence, it was a spring rain.

Ning Fan's eyes flashed with remembrance. Holding the blood umbrella over his head, he accompanied Ming Que to walk in the falling spring rain.

Ming Que, on the other hand, was filled with concern. She was chewing Fifth Revolution pills while looking at Ning Fan with a pleading look.

"Big Brother Biscuit, when I left the Dark Sparrow's Grave in the past, I did not say goodbye to Grandpa. He must be very worried and angry at me... When we meet him later, you must put in a good word for me. Please don't let grandpa smack my buttocks..."

"Silly girl. Your grandpa might look cold and stern but he is very nice to you. He can't be happier to see you return. How will he still think about whacking you...? He is your grandpa. He is your relative..."

"Is it true?! Will Grandpa really not beat me?!" A ray of demonic black light flickered in Ming Que's dark eyes. She immediately became cheerful again after hearing what Ning Fan said.

While she was jumping and waving her hands happily, she actually released a hint of Void Inquiry Stage aura force...

During the time when Ning Fan went to the Demon Sinister Forest, Ming Que had already finished all the pills that she had and broken through to the Void Inquiry Stage...

When Ning Fan returned to Seven Apricot City and saw her attain the Void Inquiry Stage, he was literally speechless.

It was just less than a year since she had broken through to the Void Glimpse Stage. She now had advanced into the Void Inquiry Stage... Wouldn't her speed in cultivation be a little too terrifying?!

However, after giving it some thought, Ning Fan found that it was quite reasonable for her to break through to the Void Inquiry Stage so rapidly.

Her body was sealed with a void poison. It was a seal that Ning Fan personally placed on her forty years ago. It was the poison from the tail wing of an Immemorial Dark Sparrow and it contained an immeasurable amount of demon power.

The power that the void poison contained was equivalent to the total sum of magic power of a Void Refinement Realm cultivator.

Before breaking through to the Void Glimpse Stage, Ming Que had yet to assimilate the power from it.

However, after attaining the Void Glimpse Stage, she began assimilating its demon power while nibbling Fifth Revolution pills. Her magic power increased more than one fold within a year and thus made her break through to the Void Inquiry Stage so quickly...

That little pill devil was truly heaven-defying. However, she had already assimilated the void poison completely. Therefore, her cultivation base would not progress at such terrifying speed anymore.

In order to break through to the Void Pierce Stage, the only choice she had was to chew Sixth Revolution pills...

“Big Brother Biscuit, I miss Grandpa. I miss my rain babies, wolf babies and medicine babies...” Ming Que chirped like a happy twittering bird. Ning Fan just listened to her with a faint smile on his face while walking toward the lower floors.

The second floor of the Dark Sparrow’s Grave was filled with summer rain.

The third floor of the grave had no rain.

Autumn rain fell on the fourth floor and ice rain fell on the fifth floor.

Ning Fan stood on the fifth floor for a long time. The pit of earth flames that he used to concoct pills for Ming Que at this place in the past was still at the same spot.

He could still remember the sentence which struck him back then.

What is rain? If I turn my palm, it becomes clouds. If I turn my palm again, it will rain!

All those Divine Transformation Realm demon beasts which laughed at Ning Fan in the past immediately prostrated themselves on the ground upon seeing Ning Fan's appearance. None of them dared to steal a glance at him.

In their eyes, the white-robed young man who was holding a blood umbrella was too dangerous. He was someone who was capable of slaughtering every last one of the demon beasts on the fifth floor easily!

Those ferocious beasts could never think that the white-robed malevolent being appearing in front of their eyes was the insignificant Harmonious Spirit Realm cultivator forty years ago.

"Big Brother Biscuit, they looked down on you last time. Do you want to teach them a lesson?!" Ming Que beamed, revealing her adorable canine teeth. She adjusted her golden crown and swung her fists, looking as if she wanted to have a fight with those ferocious beasts.

"The past is dead. Let's just head to the sixth floor..."

Ning Fan gently held Ming Que's tender palm in his hand to prevent her from running around and causing unnecessary trouble.

Holding the blood umbrella over their heads, they walked past the ice rain. The coldness was no longer bone-chilling. It could only make Ning Fan feel slightly cold.

The sixth floor of the Dark Sparrow's Grave was filled with sword rain!

Inducing killing intent with an intention. Summoning swords with the killing intent. Forming the rain with the swords and killing others with the rain...

It was the Slaughtering Rain. However, it could no longer make Ning Fan's mind waver at all depending on its killing intent.

As Ning fan was walking on the sixth floor, he spread out his spirit sense to cover the vicinity of two hundred thousand li*(500m per li). Gradually, his brows were drawn slightly together.

Strange. It was very strange...

There actually were not as many Void Refinement Realm ferocious beasts as there were in the past on the sixth floor.

In the past, there were at least one hundred plus Void Refinement Realm ferocious beasts here. Today, however, there were just five to six of them left and they seemed to be carrying serious injuries. As soon as they saw Ning Fan approach them, they were trembling in fear instantly.

There were still many traces of an intense battle on the mountains and rivers around the floor...

"Hmm? There should have been many demon babies on the sixth floor in the past. Why are there just as few as these now...?" Even Ming Que had noticed the abnormal situation.

With a frown, Ning Fan spread out his spirit sense to inspect the qi of the magic power that was left behind in the area.

The qi of the expert who destroyed the mountains and rivers here is very familiar...

"I see. It's him who killed a vast number of Void Refinement Realm ferocious beasts here... Let's have a look at the seventh floor."

Ning Fan seemed to have an answer in mind and directly held Ming Que to head to the seventh floor.

Forty years ago, there were six demon beasts which were at the First Heavenly Layer and Second Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm in total residing on the seventh floor. Today, however, there was literally none of them...

The thunder and rain on the seventh floor was still as wild and violent as before. It still contained Que Shenzi's realization – the flat ground creates the lightning and the sky produces the rain, I want to kill!"

However, the landscape within one million li* (500m per li) was flattened and could not be restored to its original state!

Ning Fan spread out his spirit sense and discovered six traces of extremely dense baleful qi that were lingering on the seventh floor. Each of them was left behind by a deceased Void Fragmentation Realm expert.

Even though Ning Fan had tentatively figured out who killed these ferocious beasts, he was still immensely astonished... All the six Void Fragmentation Realm ferocious beasts of the seventh floor had actually died in that person's hands!

"Hmm? The sixth Void Fragmentation Realm demon babies on the seventh floor are all gone as well..." Ming Que said in a surprised tone.

"They're all dead. Someone has killed them." Ning Fan uttered indifferently.

"H-How come?! The six demon babies of this floor are all at the Void Fragmentation Realm. Who was so powerful to actually kill them all...? This is too frightening!" Ming Que said with her mouth agape in shock.

"Let's go and take a look at the eighth floor..."

The eighth floor of the Dark Sparrow's Grave was filled with heaven defying rain!

Ning Fan and Ming Que set foot on the eight floor together. As soon as he saw the war-worn area and sensed the baleful qi that was lingering on the place, he immediately sighed and said.

“There is no need to see anymore. All the Void Fragmentation Realm demon beasts on the eighth floor are dead...”

In the past, there were three Void Fragmentation Realm experts residing on the eight floor. Two of them were at the Third Heavenly Layer and the other one was at the Fourth Heavenly Layer... All of them had once tried to attack Ning Fan.

“So many Void Fragmentation Realm demon babies were dead. Will Grandpa also be in danger?! Who’s it? Who entered the Dark Sparrow’s Grave and killed so many Void Fragmentation Realm demon babies?! I want to go and find Grandpa. I’m very worried about him. He must not die!” Ming Que nearly cried out of anxiety.

Ning Fan patted her head without knowing whether to laugh or cry and comforted her.

“Silly girl, haven’t you noticed it yet? The person who killed all the beasts from the sixth floor to the eighth floor was none other than your Grandpa Min Luo. Other than him, who else in the Rain World could be so powerful as to kill all the nine Void Fragmentation Realm demon beasts in the Dark Sparrow’s Grave... ?”

“Eh? Really? That means that Grandpa is safe, right? It nearly scared me to death. I thought something bad happened to Grandpa also.” Ming Que patted her chest adorably and put on her cheerful face again.

Ning Fan let out a light sigh in amazement. Even experts like Rain Sovereign and Yun Tianjue also would not be able to wipe out all the nine Void Fragmentation Realm beasts in the grave.

Min Luo Treant, however, managed to slaughter every last one of them with just his own strength. His cultivation base was indeed unimaginably high!

Among the nine Void Fragmentation Realm ferocious beasts, the one with the strongest cultivation base was at the Fourth Heavenly Layer. Even so, all of them still ended up dead in Min Luo’s hands.

Ning Fan recalled that Min Luo had one hundred thousand Divine Transformation Realm clones in total in the past. When the demon power of one hundred thousand clones combined into one and formed into a single clone, that clone's cultivation base would reach the Fifth Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm!

Since just his clone alone was already at the Fifth Heavenly Layer, what exactly was the cultivation base of Min Luo Treant's true body?

Ning Fan had never thought about this question in the past. Today, however, he was really interested to find out.

Ming Que and he walked to the entrance of the ninth floor. A short and small old man stood there like a tree stump. With a somber rigid old face, he glared at Ming Que angrily. His turbid old eyes clearly contained a hint of joy but he deliberately pretended to be fierce and scolded Ming Que.

"Humph! Naughty girl! Do you only know about coming home now? Do you know how worried I have been about you in the past forty years?!"

The short old man was Min Luo Treant's clone and his presence emanated an aura force at the Fifth Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm.

When he reprimanded Ming Que coldly, she immediately felt a lump in her throat. She sat on the ground and began crying loudly.

"Grandpa, I'm sorry. I knew my mistake. I won't do that again next time..."

As soon as Ming Que started crying, the old man immediately wore a pained expression. He walked toward her, blaming himself for what he did. He actually just made the cute and naïve little Ming Que cry by scolding her. It's a mistake, a huge mistake...

"It's Grandpa's fault. I should not have scolded you. Don't cry, Ming Que." The tiny old man was at a loss. He did not know how he should coax Ming Que.

“If you let me eat a lot of medicine babies, then I will stop crying...” Ming Que sobbed aggrievedly but her eyes contained a hint of cunning.

She might be able to hide it from Min Luo who was distracted by his concern for her but there was no way she could get past Ning Fan’s eyes.

Ning Fan did not know whether to laugh or cry. Ming Que had been really corrupted by bad examples after her trip to the Endless Sea. She actually knew how to shed crocodile tears.

In order to stop Ming Que from crying, the old man naturally chose to promise her everything she wanted.

“Alright. Alright. I’ll give you all the spiritual medicine you want to eat. Don’t cry anymore, my little ancestor. Don’t cry until you hurt yourself.”

Ming Que was a Void Inquiry Stage cultivator. Would she get hurt by crying? Min Luo really pampered Ming Que too much.

Ning Fan shook his head and grabbed little Ming Que’s collar, pulling her up from the ground.

“Stop crying. If you continue to cry, I will never refine pills for you to eat in the future.”

“I-I... I’ll stop crying. I’ll stop crying immediately!” Ming Que rubbed her face against Ning Fan’s sleeve, wiping off her tears and mucus, and smiled.

Min Luo was stunned for a second. He was a man with extensive experience. However, his concern for Ming Que had clouded his judgement. At this moment, he instantly realized that he was deceived by Ming Que who was weeping crocodile tears and had no idea whether to laugh or cry.

However, upon seeing Ming Que be safe and sound, he could not be happier. Thus, he no longer put on a stern face to scold her.

When he carefully inspected Ming Que's cultivation base, his expression changed at once and said, "It has only been forty years and you've actually assimilated all the void poison within you! Moreover, your cultivation base has reached the Void Inquiry Stage! This truly is..."

Even a super powerful expert like Min Luo was also surprised by Ming Que's terrifying progress in cultivation.

"The reason why I could improve my cultivation base and assimilate the void poison so rapidly is all thanks to Big Brother Biscuit who gave me many delicious pill biscuits..." Ming Que pulled Ning Fan's dirty sleeve and wore an affectionate expression.

Min Luo was stunned again. Only now did he begin to study Ning Fan carefully.

"It's you!"

Ning Fan was speechless. Apparently, Min Luo completely had no sense of Ning Fan's presence at all for literally ignoring him all this time and only noticing him now.

"You've actually broken through to the Void Glimpse Stage!!!" Min Luo said in astonishment.

Little Ming Que had a pill devil physique and also possessed the royal bloodline of the Immemorial Dark Sparrow. Therefore, it was explainable for the sharp increase in her cultivation base.

However, based on Min Luo's previous observation, Ning Fan definitely did not have any unique physique.

Even though he cultivated an immemorial devil cultivation method, it was just Yin Yang Transformation which was a set of dual-cultivation method that was not of the best fiendgod cultivation methods.

It had only been forty years and Ning Fan's cultivation method actually had also attained the Void Refinement Realm. To Min Luo, it was much more shocking than seeing Ming Que achieving the Void Refinement Realm...

After forty years, Min Luo looked at Ning Fan with respect from the aspect of cultivation for the first time.

He carefully inspected Ning Fan and felt an extremely terrifying baleful qi from him. Immediately, his old eyes widened with amazement!

The intensity of that trace of baleful qi was clearly something that one would gain only after killing an expert at the Fifth Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm!

Other than a Void Fragmentation Realm baleful qi, the amount of baleful qi in Ning Fan was enough to tell how many killings he had gone through in the past forty years...

“It certainly was not an accident for this young man to be able to achieve the Void Refinement Realm at the age of five hundred years old! He might not have the most outstanding innate talents, but I’m afraid even some of the Void Fragmentation Realm devils in the Tree World won’t be able to rival him in terms of his ruthless personality!”

Min Luo put on a serious face and suddenly said with his fists cupped, “This little girl, Ming Que, was immature for sneaking out of the Dark Sparrow’s Grave. Thank you for bringing her back safely! I, Min Luo, have owed you another favor! If you face any trouble that needs my help, just voice out and I’ll certainly do my best to aid you!”

Ning Fan wore a faint smile. Things had progressed even more smoothly than his expectations.

Before he had even opened his mouth, Min Luo had already promised to help him as a way to repay him.

Ning Fan cupped his fists at Min Luo. He did not mention about the aid which he needed from him first. Instead, he asked, “Senior, if I may be so bold, are you the one who killed the Void Fragmentation Realm ferocious beasts on the sixth, seventh and eighth floor?”

“Yes! That brat, She Ji, and the others on the eighth floor tried to attack Ming Que in the past. It’s naturally impossible for me to let them go. I’ve killed every last one of them. As for the beasts on the

other floors, *cough* they just ran out of luck. After Ming Que had sneaked out, I've been worried day in and day out. When I was in a bad mood, they still wanted to enrage me by crying and wailing annoyingly..."

There was no need for Min Luo to finish the rest. Without a doubt, Min Luo's mood was completely ruined because of Ming Que's secret departure and killed all the Void Fragmentation Realm ferocious beasts to vent out his anger...

Min Luo sure was a violent treant. He was so brutal to everyone else except for Ming Que...

Luckily, Ning Fan had a deep relationship with Ming Que which made him a friend to Min Luo. If Min Luo is having a bad mood in the future, it'll be impossible for him to vent out his anger on Ning Fan.

"This junior still has one more question. What level has your true body's cultivation base reached?!"
Ning Fan asked another question.

"Do you want to know?" Min Luo's rigid old face made an ugly smile. His old eyes flashed with a hint of pride. The answer he gave Ning Fan gave him a jolt of surprise.

"My original body, which is a tree body, is at the level of a rogue demon!"

"Rogue demon!"

Ning Fan was flabbergasted. The original body of the small old man with a wretched appearance actually was a rogue demon...

Rogue demons, rogue immortals and rogue devils... Individuals at these levels were already standing at the pinnacle of the Void Fragmentation Realm. There were none of them in the Lower Three Worlds.

The Nine Worlds were divided based on their strength into three different categories which were the Upper Three Worlds, Middle Three Worlds and the Lower Three Worlds.

The Upper Three Worlds included the Devil World, Demon World and Heaven Immortal World. They were the three strongest worlds of the Nine World with old monsters at the level of rogue immortals residing there.

The Middle Three Worlds included the Immortal World, Mountain World and Fire World. Even though there were no countless Void Fragmentation Realm experts at the level of a rogue immortal in them, the strength of their cultivators was not the members of the Rain World could rival.

The Lower Three Worlds were the Tree World, Sword World and Rain World. The Tree World and Sword World were more powerful than the Rain World while the Rain World was the weakest of all the Nine Worlds...

Tree Demon Min Luo was born in the Tree World but he managed to cultivate to the level of rogue demon. This was truly shocking.

Unfortunately, Min Luo could not leave the Dark Sparrow's Grave. If he could, Ning Fan would just need his help once as it would be more than enough to eliminate Moksha Sovereign.

Ning Fan sighed inwardly. He could not bring Min Luo's original body out of the Dark Sparrow's Grave this time. What he could do at most was to bring Min Luo's clone that was at the Fifth Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm out.

Besides, even if he brings the clone out, the clone must stay within Yue Country and could not go beyond the area of fifty million li* (500m per li).

The function of Min Luo's clone was not more than looking after his home and protecting Yue Country...

"Senior, this junior has a way that can bring your clone out of the Dark Sparrow's Grave. I wonder if you are willing to let your clone leave this place and see the scenery outside?"

"Oh? Do you have such capabilities?" Min Luo was stunned at first. Then, he gave Ning Fan a meaningful look and said with a faint smile, "Young kid, you have something that requires me help, don't you?"

“Precisely. I indeed have a method that can help your clone to leave the Dark Sparrow’s Grave but the range of activity is restricted to within fifty million li* (500m per li) of Yue Country. Moreover, it’s true that I have something that needs your help... My families are all in Yue Country and I hope you can protect them on my behalf when I am not around. With you around, I suppose that the Divine Sovereign of the Rain World comes personally, he also won’t be able to hurt my loved ones.” Ning Fan said earnestly.

“The Divine Sovereign of the Rain World. *Tsk* What is he? If I act personally, I can eliminate him with a few moves... But... *chuckle* You are a little too greedy, aren’t you? I promised to do you a favor but you actually asked me, a dignified rogue demon, to help you guard your home. I am not going to lend you a hand on this.” Min Luo waved his hand and refused to help Ning Fan.

“Ming Que is also one of my family members. She will stay in Yue Country and also might face danger.” What Ning Fan implied was: you might not be willing to look after someone else’s house, but you should be willing to do so for Ming Que, right?

As expected, when Min Luo heard that Ming Que might be in danger, his eyes flashed with hesitation. After becoming silent for a while, he stared at Ning Fan with dissatisfaction and said, “Fine! For Ming Que’s sake, I will help you protect the goddamn Yue Country... However, I still want to ask you this. Do you actually have a way to let my clone leave the Dark Sparrow’s Grave and have a breath of freedom outside?”

“Of course!”

“Very well! If you really can do it, helping you look after Yue Country will be similar to getting some fresh air outside. So why not?!” Min Luo burst into laughter. He had not left the Dark Sparrow’s Grave for countless years.

“By the way, this junior has a question to ask you... About the Void Fragmentation Realm beasts that you’ve killed, do you still keep their corpses?” Ning Fan suddenly raised a question.

“Yes. They were nine Void Fragmentation Realm ferocious beasts. Their skin, flesh and demon pills are excellent items... Hmm? Do you want their corpses?”

“Indeed!” Ning Fan said candidly without any pretense.

“Oh? I’m really curious. What’s the use of these corpses for you?”

“Brewing wine and refining pills!” Ning Fan’s eyes glistened.

If all the essence blood of those nine Void Fragmentation Realm ferocious beasts were used for brewing the blood wine and all their flesh were used for refining Fierce Cultivation Pill, Ning fan’s magic power and spirit sense would certainly be boosted sharply!

“I’ve heard about the corpses’ use in pill refinement. As for wine brewing... Hehe. I haven’t heard of anyone using Void Fragmentation Realm beasts to brew wine. I’m sorry. I didn’t say that I’m going to give those corpses to you. I’m also a demon. Devouring their corpses can help me increase my cultivation base...”

Before Min Luo had finished speaking, Ming Que persistently pulled his sleeve and pleaded to him. Her eyes seemed to be able to shoot out twinkling stars of innocence.

“Grandpa. My good Grandpa. Big Brother Biscuit is very nice to me. You just give those corpses to him, okay? Please...”

“If he uses those corpses to refine pills, I can also eat those pills which will also increase my magic power. Right? If you don’t give those corpses to Big Brother Biscuit, then you don’t truly adore me...”

Under the influence of Ming Que’s naïve eyes, Min Luo helplessly let out a sigh.

“Alright. Alright. I’ll give all those corpses to your Big Brother Biscuit. I don’t want a single one of them. Is that alright...? *Sigh* A daughter’s heart always sides with her lover. A grown girl really can’t be kept at home...”

Chapter 535: Achieving the Void Inquiry Stage in Ten Years, The Three Phoenix Maidens

It was unknown how many years had already passed since the true body of the tree demon, Min Luo, was trapped within the Dark Sparrow’s Grave.

He was just a Void Fragmentation Realm demon cultivator and his lifespan should already be over a long time ago.

Fortunately, Min Luo Treant created a heaven-defying method himself to turn his original body into a tree. He had completely transformed into a tree and he lost the chance to return to the form of a human again.

He extracted his demon soul and produced countless clones to move around the Dark Sparrow's Grave using them.

Because his original body had degenerated into a tree, his abilities were greatly weakened but he gained an everlasting lifespan in exchange. He had gone through years of suffering and improved himself through his growth.

As long as his true body did not die, his clones would not perish. As the years went by, Min Luo Treant's cultivation base also increased steadily and he eventually 'grew' to the level of a rogue demon.

Even though his original was a rogue demon, he was a rogue demon that could not move or change his form. He was literally rooted in the Dark Sparrow's Grave and unable to leave this place forever.

If he ignites his demon soul and strives to leave this place, he might be able to leave the grave for a short period of time but he would certainly perish right after that...

There might be ways that could allow Min Luo to return to his original form or leave the grave but Ning Fan did not know any of them.

The Heavenly Dao was fair. Since Min Luo Treant had survived countless years in the form of a tree, the chance of him returning to his demon form was naturally slim.

The only thing that Ning Fan could do was to bring Min Luo Treant's clone out of the grave.

It was a method that he learned from Bone Sovereign. Since his true body was unable to leave the Demon Sinister Forest, he made his true soul clone and sneaked out of the forest in that body.

Thus, Ning Fan imitated his method. He just needed to concoct some Low Grade Sixth Revolution 'True Soul Pills' for Min Luo and help him to condense his true soul clone within the shortest period of time. That would be enough.

Min Luo Treant's true soul clone was different from Bone Sovereign's. Because Bone Sovereign's original body was perfectly intact, his true soul clone could move around freely without any restraint in the outside world after leaving the Demon Sinister Forest.

Min Luo's original body, however, had degenerated into a tree. His clone could not leave too far away from his original body, or else it would be like a fallen leaf that could never return to the branch but wilt and die...

Min Luo's true soul clone could at most move within five thousand li* (500m per li) of Yue Country.

In Dark Sparrow's Grave, Ning Fan told Min Luo his whole plan and both of them made an agreement.

After that, Ning Fan took away the corpses of the nine Void Fragmentation Realm beasts from Min Luo's hands as well as a large amount of spiritual herbs that were at ten thousand years old and above and left the place.

He did not immediately bring Ming Que away with him.

Since Ming Que had reunited with his grandpa, Min Luo Treant, after being separated from him for many years, she probably had many things to tell him.

Ning Fan quietly returned to Seven Apricot City all alone. After seeing the transformation of the city today, he gradually set his mind at rest.

The members of the four clans of Seven Apricot City were put into different divisions by Su Yan and Yue Lingkong.

The divisions included the Weapon Refinement Palace, Pill Refinement Palace, Body Cultivation Palace, Sword Cultivation Palace and Demon Cultivation Palace...

The Three Divine Armies of the Black Devil became the Black Devil Palace.

The Sinister Sparrow Sect joined Seven Apricot City and became the Sinister Sparrow Sect.

The Fire Cloud Sect joined Seven Apricot City and became the Fire Cloud Palace.

Each of the large sects were still in their old locations. To put it in a more appropriate way, the entire Yue Country was within the range of Seven Apricot City's forces after the integration of countries.

Ning Fan did not ask anything regarding the affairs of the forces' development. He let his women be fully responsible for them and he trusted them amply.

Inside the Cauldron World, the Ning Clan Female Guard was also building the world vigorously.

Everyone had their own matter to be busy with. Of course, there were also a few bored women who passed their days leisurely.

For instance, Zhi He, Mu Xiaohua, Bai Su, Feng Xueyan...

In Seven Apricot City, Ning Fan stood under the falling snow and recalled his mortal life which seemed like a dream.

He finally could somewhat slow down his pace and stay in Seven Apricot City for some time. No killings, no fights, only a moment of peace and tranquility.

“Starting from the Void Refinement Realm, the further improvement of every minor cultivation realm will be extremely difficult. The fastest time it'll take for ordinary Void Glimpse Stage cultivators to break through to the Void Inquiry Stage is one thousand years. For those who have slightly weaker innate

potential, they might need a few thousand years. While for those who have weak Dao Comprehension, they probably won't be able to reach the Void Inquiry Stage successfully for their entire lives..."

"I want to achieve the Void Inquiry Stage in ten years!"

Ning Fan said while holding the blood wine gourd in his hand. Ten years were the amount of time for the blood wine to be completely brewed!

He poured the essence blood of the nine Void Fragmentation Realm ferocious beasts into the Xuan Wei Bloody Gourd. When the blood wine is completed ten years later, it would be the aid for Ning Fan to break through to the Void Inquiry Stage!

"It'll still need ten years for the blood wine to be completely brewed. In this period of time, I still have many things to sort out. For example, improving my cultivation methods, spirit sense and... making preparations for withstanding the Void Inquiry Stage heavenly tribulation!"

"Before this, I have to concoct the True Yang Pills and True Soul Pills first to bring Little Black and Min Luo Treant back to Seven Apricot City..."

Ning Fan then began to concoct the two required pills.

The two types of pills were Low Grade Sixth Revolution Pills. They were not easy for Ning Fan to concoct.

During the day. Ning Fan would enter the Dark Golden Pagoda to refine the pills.

When night fell, he would return to Seven Apricot City to rest and spend a peaceful and sensual night with his women.

Ning Fan led such a life for one month. After he had finished making two True Yang Pills and twenty True Soul Pills, he returned to Demon Sinister Forest and Dark Sparrow's Grave again.

When he returned to Seven Apricot City ten days later, he had brought two people and a sable home with him.

Min Luo's true soul clone possessed a cultivation base at the Fifth Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm. He had promised Ning Fan to guard Seven Apricot City but he disliked the hustle and bustle of that place. Hence, he chose to stay all alone in a desolate mountain located one thousand li* (500m per li) away.

Mu Xiaoliang was one of Mu Weiliang's three souls. Therefore, she blended it very quickly with Zhi He and Mu Xiaohuan and became close sisters with them. They were so intimate with each other as if they shared the same mind and body.

From then onward, Mu Xiaoliang was added to the group that was sponging off others in Seven Apricot City.

For now, Mu Weiliang's three spiritual souls had been found and only her seven physical souls[1] were left...

Mei Chen did not appear in her human form. Instead, she stayed in Seven Apricot City in the body of a little sable.

During the day, she would linger in Ning Fan's empty room. When Ning Fan returned at night, she would leave looking unappeased. Apparently, she was still angry at him as she completely ignored him without even sparing a glance at him.

Others just thought that the little sable was Ning Fan's demon pet. However, only Su Yan and a few other women knew Mei Chen's true identity as a demon cultivator with a frightening cultivation base at the Void Fragmentation Realm.

Ever since Seven Apricot City had Mei Chen and Min Luo's protection, Ning Fan became more and more at rest and he gradually grew accustomed to life in the city.

His heart became calmer as days went by. The tranquility he felt was a feeling that he had never felt before throughout all the seas of blood he had been.

Ten years flashed by after settling down in Seven Apricot City!

Ten years of quietness, ten years of peace, ten years of dullness and ten years with his loved ones.

Ning Fan had never killed a single person in the past ten years. He nearly forgot that he was once a devil lord who travelled unhindered in the Rain World.

Each and every day, Ning Fan would only spend half a day for cultivation and pill refinement and the other half of the day in monotonous meditation.

Occasionally, he would go missing for a few days to half a month and bury himself in the dark golden pagoda for cultivation.

Sometimes, he would stay in Seven Apricot City for ten plus days consecutively without leaving at all.

Ten years went by in the outside world and nearly half of it was spent in the dark golden pagoda. In total, Ning Fan had cultivated four hundred plus years on the seventh floor of the dark golden pagoda.

During his cultivation in the pagoda, Ning Fan had picked up the cultivation of Black Devil Art again, making it a cultivation method of the fire element. Besides, he had carefully practiced the cultivation method belonging to the divine sovereigns of the Rain World – Sovereign Rain Primordial Art and made it a cultivation method of the ice element.

He had concocted a Void Consuming Pill that would be used for consuming the Void Fragmentation Realm Dao Fruit. However, he did not eat it immediately as he was waiting for the blood wine to complete so he would consume everything at once.

Furthermore, he had used the flesh of the nine Void Fragmentation Realm ferocious beasts to concoct Fierce Cultivation Pills. The massive bodies of the nine beasts were actually only sufficient for cultivating nine Fierce Cultivation Pills.

Ning Fan even used the corpses of the realm beasts for pill refinement and it allowed him to make the tenth Fierce Cultivation Pill.

The grade of the tenth Fierce Cultivation Pill was clearly several ten times higher than the first nine pills. After all, the power of realm beasts' flesh was far beyond that of the Void Fragmentation Realm beasts.

He took the ten Fierce Cultivation Pills successively. Then, he started concocting the pills that would be consumed together with the Void Refinement Realm and Void Fragmentation Realm sense beads.

Ning Fan's spirit sense was improving day after day. However, no one knew what level his spirit sense had exactly reached.

That was during the third year he stayed in Seven Apricot City. A massive wave of spirit sense secretly spread across a vicinity of four hundred thousand li*(500m per li) around the city.

Except for Mei Chen and Min Luo, no one within the entire Yue Country sensed the wave of spirit sense.

"Absolute Void Stage spirit sense... Even though this kid's cultivation base is just at the Void Glimpse Stage, his spirit sense has actually improved to this level!" In a desolate mountain, Min Luo's eyes flickered with amazement.

After the improvement of his spirit sense was finished, the levels of his cultivation methods had also arrived at a bottleneck. Thus, Ning Fan began refining Sixth Revolution Pills that were meant for raising his magic power such as True Void Pill and Wonderful Sound Pill.

From the Demon Sinister Forest and the Dark Sparrow's Grave, he had gained a vast amount of spiritual herbs that were enough for him to spend lavishly for the next ten years.

He concocted pills during the day and returned to Seven Apricot City at night to rest. As time went by, his magic power and pill refinement realm were rising slowly and steadily.

His medicine soul was already very strong in the first place as it was not far away from reaching the Mid Grade Sixth Revolution.

In the seventh year in the outside world, a vigorous wave of medical soul power suddenly appeared in Seven Apricot City.

In the desolate mountain located one thousand li* (500m per li) away from the city, Min Luo Treant was once again shocked.

“Mid Grade Sixth Revolution Pill Refinement Realm! Even though he still has a young age, his pill refinement realm is already at this level!”

In the four hundred plus years in the pagoda, all the fifty thousand years old and one hundred thousand years old spiritual herbs were completely depleted. After he had concocted a Void Inquiry Pill that was for enhancing one’s insights about the Void Inquiry Stage, he stopped concocting pills.

He no longer entered the pagoda during the remaining time. Instead, he stayed in Seven Apricot City and Yue Country, brushing up his Dao of Formations. He then began creating Mortal Void Realm formation disks.

These formation disks were defensive grand formations that he prepared for facing the Void Inquiry Stage heavenly tribulation.

He had refined his Inlaid Star Compass again and infused it with many formation techniques which were also preparations for facing the heavenly tribulation.

Ning Fan was aware that he had thoroughly offended the Heavenly Dao and the heavenly tribulation he would face this time would be extremely frightening. Therefore, he would not find it strange even if a Void Fragmentation Realm heavenly tribulation would fall upon him when the time comes.

In the remaining three years, Ning Fan used a great amount of Dao Crystals to create one hundred formation disks containing Mortal Void Grade grand formations.

After that, he only had two thousand Dao Crystals left which were equivalent to ten billion immortal jade.

When the one hundred formation disks were activated at the same time, the formation light they produced was particularly terrifying. Even an expert at the First Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm would also be unable to destroy it within a short period of time.

Ning Fan then gave the powerful magic treasures which he had obtained from the enemies he had killed in the past to his women and only kept most of the broken and second-rated magic treasures. He was planning to use all of them to face the heavenly tribulation...

Time flashed past. Ten years went by and the brewing of the blood wine was complete.

For ten whole years, Ning Fan immersed himself in the windy and snowy weather of Seven Apricot City, living a peaceful and tranquil life.

For ten whole years, Ning Fan never took anyone's life and stained his hands with blood.

The preparations he did for the past ten years was just for breaking through to the Void Inquiry Stage!

After the blood wine was complete, Ning Fan informed his women about what he was going to do and left Seven Apricot City.

He did not want to repeat the same mistake that Old Devil had made in the past which was facing his heavenly tribulation in Seven Apricot City.

Since he was fully aware that the heavenly tribulation he would face this time would be extremely scary, he needed to find a vast and secluded place to set up one hundred layers of Void Grade grand formations to face the heavenly tribulation on his own!

Ning Fan travelled all the way to the south. After travelling across ten plus cultivation countries, he finally arrived at the South Gazing Sea of the Rain World.

The Endless Sea was located at the farthest east of the Rain World while the South Gazing Sea was situated at the farthest south of the Rain World.

Yue Country was located at the south-eastern continent of the Rain World. To cultivators like Ning Fan, it would not take too much time for them to reach those two sea domains from Yue Country.

The South Gazing Sea did not have as many cultivators as the Endless Sea. Its sea domain was extremely vast and broad. However, it was rare to find cultivators cultivating at this place.

After arriving at the South Gazing Sea, Ning Fan continued to travel to the southern direction and eventually set his eyes upon a desolate island that had an area of one million li* (500m per li). He landed on that island and set up one hundred layers of Mortal Void Grade grand formations.

Then, he sat cross-legged on the peak of a lonely mountain on the island to regulate his breath and adjust his state. Now, he only needed to wait to get into his best condition and consume the Void Fragmentation Realm Dao Fruits, blood wine and the Void Inquiry Pill in one try in order to advance into the Void Inquiry Stage!

...

On an island that was filled with immensely thick demon qi situated several ten million li* (500m per li) away from the desolate island, there was a spooky cave that was piled up with white skeletons.

Inside the cave, three female cultivators wearing revealing clothes were surrounding a crystal ball, peeping at a scene that was several ten million li* (500m per li) away from them.

If it was a Void Refinement Realm expert who had resided in the South Gazing Sea for a long time, they would certainly be able to recognize who the three female cultivators were and definitely no one would be bold enough to mess with them.

The three of them were the notorious 'Three Phoenix Maidens' of the South Gazing Sea. All of them were demonesses who possessed the demon bloodline of the Phoenix Race. Moreover, they were the three overlords of the South Gazing Sea!

The demon techniques that the three of them cultivated were extremely vicious. They needed to hunt and feed on a huge number of men in order to raise their cultivation bases.

One of the three women was at the Absolute Void Stage while the other two were at the Void Pierce Stage.

Even though their demon power was illusory and unstable due to their frequent feasts on humans, their strength was not insignificant. They had killed several Void Refinement Realm experts of the Rain World by ganging up on them.

Then, they were given an imperial edict from the Rain Palace that allowed them to just kill within the South Gazing Sea and restricted them from doing so outside of that area.

It was because of the existence of the Three Phoenix Maidens in the South Gazing Sea who liked feeding on men that only few cultivators were willing to come here for cultivation.

It had already been many years that the Three Phoenix Maidens had not tasted the flesh of a Void Refinement Realm man...

“This white-robed young man has quite a handsome face. If we capture him, we can pluck him first and eat him later!” A Void Pierce Stage demoness looked at Ning Fan’s image in the crystal ball and licked her fragrance lips. Her eyes flickered with dark green light, as if she saw a delicious dish.

“We can’t. Didn’t you notice it? He has already set up one hundred layers of formation lights on that desolate island and every single one of them is at the Mortal Void Grade! He must be someone who has a powerful background, putting aside how he managed to get so many Mortal Void Grade formation disks. With the one hundred layers of formation lights protecting him, we certainly can’t break through those formations and capture him!” Another Void Pierce Stage demoness said with worries.

“There’s no need to be afraid. The reason why he appeared in the South Gazing Sea and set up one hundred layers of Mortal Void Grade formation lights is probably for facing his heavenly tribulation. Besides, his cultivation base is just at the Void Glimpse Stage. I suppose he is preparing to break through to the Void Inquiry Stage and deal with the Void Inquiry Stage heavenly tribulation. He actually has prepared so many formation disks in order to face just the Void Inquiry Stage heavenly tribulation. This is evident to tell that he is an extremely timid person. Or it could also mean that his combat power is weak... We only need to wait for him to finish dealing with his heavenly tribulation. No matter if he manages to successfully attain the Void Inquiry Stage or not, he will certainly be worn out and grievously injured. When that time comes, we will sneak attack him abruptly. We will certainly be able to capture

him without shedding a drop of blood. Therefore, won't it still be up to us whether to kill him or skin him?!"

The Absolute Void Stage demoness spoke and licked her lips with her eyes glowing dark green demon light.

She had been staying in the South Gazing Sea for a long time. Since she did not travel to the continents of the Rain World, she had no idea of who Ning Fan was.

Even if she knows, she, with a cultivation base at the Absolute Void Stage, certainly would not be afraid of a Void Glimpse Stage man. Aside from that, she would not be scared of any forces with her unscrupulous personality.

"Let's wait for him to deal with his heavenly tribulation! The moment after he is done with it will be the time of his death! A lowly Void Glimpse Stage cultivator... *Chuckle*..." The Absolute Void Stage demoness chuckled evilly. She did not put Ning Fan in the eye at all.

...

On the peak of a mountain on the desolate island, Ning Fan suddenly opened his eyes that flashed with a cold light.

"Interesting. It seems like the Void Refinement Realm cultivators of the Rain World have forgotten about my notoriety after I've stopped killing people for ten years..."

Ning Fan spread out his spirit sense and inspected the area of four hundred thousand li* (500m per li around him. He did not discover anyone within that range but he could feel that someone was spying on him.

He closed his eyes and checked it carefully. Then, he vaguely sensed that the ones who were watching him were three Void Refinement Realm cultivators.

As he tried to discern them more specifically, he discovered that the three traces of qi belonged to women. They were publicly revealing their killing intent against him.

“Three human cauldrons that presented themselves to my doorstep, huh? Very well. It saves me some effort to catch human cauldrons.”

“After successfully dealing with the heavenly tribulation, I’ll then use their cultivation base to help me stabilize my new cultivation realm!”

Chapter 536: Purple Electric Giant!

Ning Fan assimilated the Void Fragmentation Realm Dao Fruits and blood wine into his body one after another.

He then sat in a meditative posture all alone on the peak of a lonely mountain for one whole month.

His eyes were tightly closed from the beginning. What he was digesting was not just the Dao Fruit and the blood wine but also the Dao Comprehension he had gained from the years of his Dao cultivation.

The magic power and qi his body emanated became stronger and stronger by the day. His body, however, gradually grew fainter and fainter, as if he was about to disappear from the world.

At the Void Glimpse Stage, one sees the void as the void.

At the Void Inquiry Stage, one sees the void as not the void.

The fainter Ning Fan’s body became, the deeper his understanding about the ‘void’.

The age of nine hundred years old. Many cultivators were still striving to break through to the Nascent Soul Realm when they were at this age. Ning Fan, on the other hand, was already advancing to the Void Inquiry Stage...

After one month, Ning Fan's magic power had already exceeded eight million units, which had far surpassed the threshold of the Void Inquiry Stage that was at three million units.

However, he still could not break through to the Void Inquiry Stage successfully. He was still a hair's breadth away from crossing the bottleneck of the cultivation realm.

“Seeing the void as not the void, huh...?”

Ning Fan took out a Void Inquiry Pill from his pouch and swallowed it.

His body became even more vague, as if he had become transparent. He looked just like the mirage of a phantom...

“It's too unimaginable! Despite being just a Void Glimpse Stage expert, this man's understanding of the 'void' is actually so deep and profound. Even his body is close to having a void body... Void-ification of the Physical Body! Among all the Void Fragmentation Realm experts in the Rain World, no one is able to perform it! It has no relation to one's divine abilities or cultivation base at all. It solely depends on the cultivator's understanding of the 'void'... This kid really has a terrifying power of understanding!” In a demon cave located at several ten million of li* (500m per li) away, two Void Pierce Stage female demons were shocked and bewildered.

“Humph! So what?! He is just a Void Glimpse Stage cultivator after all. Even if he successfully attains the Void Inquiry Stage, he's still nothing more than a mere Void Inquiry Stage cultivator. No matter how good his power of understanding is, it can't be used as a technique to eliminate his enemies. Perhaps when he breaks through to the Void Pierce Stage or the Absolute Void Stage by chance in the future, the three of us will no longer be his match. However, if he is just at the Void Glimpse Stage or Void Inquiry Stage, he certainly isn't our match! He will die in our hands for sure! Let's go. It's about time to hunt him down!”

The female demon at the Absolute Void Stage snorted disdainfully and led the two other demons to leave out of the demon hole in a ray of light, dashing right at the desolate island that Ning Fan was at.

On the island, Ning Fan's body was so faint that he looked like an illusion. Meanwhile, his understanding of 'void' was rising gradually.

He opened his eyes. With a vacant expression, he stared at the black and quiet void space beneath the space barrier.

When his body was gradually turning void, he vaguely felt that his hand had caught hold of something...

That was... the soul of the void!

He was slightly taken aback by it. Then, he raised his hand and touched the sky. The hollow space within several ten thousand li* (500m per li) around started to break. After that, he reached out his hand to the endless void.

He felt that his hand had managed to grab hold of something even though he was doing it from a distance...

“So this is the soul of the void, huh?... Soul Extraction!”

At this moment, Ning Fan had extracted the soul of the void within a few ten thousand li* (500m per li) using his void body.

If he infused the soul of the void into his body, his magic power would certainly be greatly enhanced within a short period of time!

The categorization of the Soul Extraction Technique from low-level to high-level was: extracting the soul of the great earth, extracting the soul of the void, extracting the souls of the sun, moon and stars, extracting the soul of the Heavenly Dao.

When Lightning Emperor Tai Su had taken over Ning Fan’s body in the past, he used the comprehension of the Oneness of Heaven and Human to invent the soul extraction technique that enabled him to extract the souls of the Six Dao. That technique, however, was not a technique he could display at the moment. Besides, it also was not a technique that he gained through his own understanding.

Today, however, Ning Fan had heard the breathing of the soul of the void and managed to extract it. Doubtlessly, he had already improved his Soul Extraction Technique to the second level!

Ning Fan knew that if he displayed this technique after breaking through to the Void Inquiry Stage, he could possess Void Pierce Stage magic power within a short period of time under the help of this secret technique!

“As my understanding of the ‘void’ increases, I already manage to extract the soul of the void... This is truly a welcomed surprise...”

Ning Fan dispersed the soul of the void from the center of his palm, allowing the hollow space within several ten thousand li* (500m per li) to recover. Then, he closed his eyes again.

As he continued to digest the Void Inquiry Pill, his understanding of the “void became deeper and deeper. Past memories began surging in his mind in flashes.

Adopted by the Ning Clan as an orphan to be framed by others when he was a servant. Falling into the devil path as a mortal to travelling the Rain World as a devil cultivator...

He still remembered the dismal and despairing night when he was bullied and humiliated by countless female devil cultivators in Li Hen Mountain. He still remembered the sad warmth he felt in snowy and windy Seven Apricot City.

He still remembered the loneliness and the bloodshed throughout his journey. He also remembered the times when he and each of his women shared life and death together...

The bloodshed in cultivation. The past grudges. Everything passed by so suddenly like a dream, just like the void...

However, be it sadness or joy, it all felt so real throughout the journey.

Ning Fan slowly opened his eyes. They looked calm but stubborn. His mind was lingering at the two words – true and void. He had now finally captured the idea of the Void Inquiry Stage’s bottleneck...

“I want to achieve the Void Inquiry Stage!”

All of a sudden, a Void Inquiry Stage aura force surged abruptly within Ning Fan's body, spreading across the several hundred thousand li* (500m per li) around the island.

He suddenly rose to his feet, standing on the peak of the mountain. His void body became solid and tangible again.

At this moment, his cultivation base officially broke through to the Void Inquiry Stage!

Bang *Bang* *Bang*

Meanwhile, countless purple tribulation clouds appeared in the sky above!

The purple tribulations clouds were surrounded with terrifying lightning. The entire mass of clouds stretched into one million li* (500m per li) around the island. Its force was frighteningly shocking as its power was close to that of a heavenly tribulation that a Void Fragmentation Realm expert would face!

At the tip of the purple lightning clouds, a ten thousand zhang* (3.33m per zhang) tall giant wearing purple armor was standing with a cold face. His body was covered with ancient runes and his hand held an extremely huge and thick lightning chain!

"They're the purple lightning tribulation clouds! And another Dao Guardian appears as well!" Inside the Profound Yin World, Luo You's eyes were filled with shock.

The heavenly tribulation that cultivators at the First Step of cultivation face were separated into three different types.

The heavenly tribulations that cultivators who have yet to attain the Divine Transformation Realm face are all lightning tribulations. After that, they would face fire tribulations. For Void Fragmentation Realm cultivators, they would face chilly wind tribulations.

Generally speaking, Void Inquiry Stage heavenly tribulation would just be fire tribulations and it certainly could not be any other kinds of heavenly tribulations.

Generally speaking, it was impossible for ordinary cultivators to face the tribulations personally summoned by a Dao Guardian. Only those great devil lords would be personally eliminated by Dao Guardians...

Thus, it was obvious that the heavenly tribulation that Ning Fan faced had already gone out of the common standard. He had already been targeted by the Heavenly Dao of the Lower Realm. There was never a cultivator who would face a Void Inquiry Stage heavenly tribulation that had Void Fragmentation Realm power...

The Heavenly Dao of the Lower Realm previously sent Giant Zhi Huo to kill Ning Fan with fire tribulations but Ning Fan survived.

It seemed to know that Ning Fan possessed a supreme treasure that could restrain flames as it no longer summoned a fire tribulation but a purple lightning tribulation on him instead. It seemed like it wanted to kill him in a single try!

This kind of lightning tribulation was extremely rare. The purple lightning tribulation that the tribulation clouds released could turn into lightning chains that fetter any cultivator below the Void Fragmentation Realm. Even an expert at the First Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm would not be able to withstand the lightning chains with ease!

“What a powerful lightning tribulation. Even though I possess the Tai Su Lightning Diagram, it’s not easy to deal with it!” Ning Fan’s expression became extremely stern.

Ten thousand li* (500m per li) away from the desolate island, the Three Phoenix Maidens were hiding somewhere, lying in wait to attack Ning Fan after he finishes dealing with the heavenly tribulation.

Originally, the three demonesses had contempt for Ning Fan’s capabilities. However, after seeing those extremely fearsome purple lightning tribulation clouds, all of them were so shocked that they were at a loss for words.

When they saw a purple lightning giant standing above those clouds, blood drained from their faces.

“A Dao Guardian! It’s actually the messenger of the heavenly tribulation who personally came to summon the tribulation upon this man!”

“How is this possible?! How can this be possible?! According to the ancient books, a Dao Guardian will only personally summon tribulations on cultivators who have committed a monstrous amount of killings. That Void Glimpse Stage... No. That Void Inquiry Stage man... Could he be someone who had committed horrifying killings?!”

“A Dao Guardian at the First Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm... Scary. This is really too scary! The purple lightning tribulations clouds have covered the sky within one million li* (500m per li). The entire desolate island is within the range of the heavenly tribulation. The three of us can’t get close to the desolate island and sneak attack that man at all. Otherwise, we will be attacked by the heavenly tribulation as well and perish into ashes instantly!”

The three demonesses were surprised by the terrifying force of the heavenly tribulation that Ning Fan was facing. None of them still harbored the intention to hunt Ning Fan down as they just wanted to escape from the place to avoid getting involved with him and being attacked by the messenger of the heavenly tribulation.

Unfortunately, it was already too late for the three of them to think of fleeing at this moment.

A few purple lightning arcs that were floating randomly in the air suddenly transformed into purple lightning chains and tightly tied up the three ladies.

With their cultivation realms, they literally had no ways to break free from the purple lightning chains. All of them suffered quite serious injuries at once!

The purple lightning was slowly eating into their bodies. Even if they used up all their demon power to defend against the purple lightning, their injuries were still worsening little by little.

Even though their lives were not in danger temporarily, they could not break free from the chains! If they let their injuries continue to be aggravated, it would be only a matter of time before they would breathe their last breath!

The three ladies were clearly standing ten thousand li* (500m per li) outside the range of the heavenly tribulation. They were already so battered and worn out after being affected just by some random arcs of tribulation lightning.

It was conceivable how dangerous Ning Fan's situation was as he was directly standing at the center of the lightning tribulation's attacks.

"I'm Zi Dian. Since you've captured Zhi Huo, I'll certainly use my power to kill you on behalf of the Heavenly Dao! The Heavenly Dao as the shackles, you'll be the prisoner... Lock!"

Giant Zi Dian's voice was like thunderclap and his breathing was like a tempest storm. As he spoke, it made Ning Fan's eardrums hurt.

When the giant just raised a stretch of lightning chain, the heavenly tribulation clouds within one million li* (500m per li) shot out hundreds of millions of purple lightning rays which turned into multitudes of lightning fetters to bind Ning Fan up.

Those lightning fetters were formed by electricity light which had unimaginable speed. In a single breath, it could travel six hundred thousand li* (500m per li). Even an Absolute Void Stage expert's speed was unable to reach such a level.

Ning Fan also acted as fast as lightning. In an instant, he fully activated the one hundred layers of Mortal Void Grade formation light.

At the next second, hundreds of millions of purple lightning rays bombarded the Mortal Void Grade formation light.

Bang

Forty plus layers of the Mortal Void Grade formation light were shattered immediately. The desolate island was nearly sunk by the massive force. However, Ning Fan managed to withstand the innumerable purple lightning rays eventually.

With the help of the formation light, Ning Fan had managed to withstand the first wave of lightning tribulation from the giant!

“Mm?”

Giant Zi Dian was somewhat surprised. He did not expect that Ning Fan would be so well-prepared as the latter actually set up so many Mortal Void Grade grand formations to block the heavenly tribulation.

He clawed at the air using his huge hand. The purple lightning arcs that filled the entire sky condensed into a lightning chain. Then, he threw his lightning at the sky once more.

After just a few breaths, the second wave of lightning tribulation assaulted again!

The power of the second wave of lightning tribulation was much terrifying than the first wave. With just a single hit, all the remaining grand formations were broken.

The leftover purple lightning tribulation turned into multiple lightning fetters and flew at Ning Fan at a frightening speed.

Staring at the incoming purple fetters in the sky, an overwhelming sense of danger rose within his heart.

Once he is bound by the purple lightning fetters, it would be extremely difficult for him to break free.

“This Giant Zi Dian is determined to kill me. No matter how many times I withstand the heavenly tribulation, he will still continue to summon the attacks. Instead of dragging this out, it’s better to make it a quick one!”

Ning Fan made a stomp on the peak of the mountain, immediately turning the entire mountain into countless pieces of broken rocks. Then, a large blood-red lightning diagram appeared below his feet, taking in all the purple lightning that was going at Ning Fan.

After that, he took out the ancient golden sword from his pouch and hopped on its tip.

He tossed out countless Dao Crystals and immortal jade with a wave of his hand. At the next second, he turned into a pure golden sword light and dashed rapidly toward the giant at a speed comparable to the Void Fragmentation Realm!

“You’re courting death!”

Seeing Ning Fan actually have the guts to charge at him, Giant Zi Dian’s eyes were filled with wrath.

He was a Dao Guardian, a messenger of the heavenly tribulation, a Void Fragmentation Realm puppet that executed the power on behalf of Heaven! In the long river of time, he had summoned purple lightning tribulations on a few ruthless devil lords in the Nine Worlds of the Lower Realm.

Each of those devil lords was considered to be peerless ferocious devils that were unrivalled in the past or present. However, they were still instilled with fear upon facing the terrifying purple lightning of Giant Zi Dian.

Ning Fan, however, was different. His eyes did not have the slightest hint of fear but only a strong battle intent. He vowed to put up a fight against the heavenly tribulation!

The look on his face that had no fear for Heaven’s might made Giant Zi Dian seethe with anger.

From his perspective, Ning Fan literally disdained Heaven’s might and he could not be forgiven!

Without any hesitation, Giant Zi Dian clawed at the air using his large hand, summoning the third wave of heavenly tribulation on Ning Fan!

Ning Fan did not slow down. He flew at the clusters of purple lightning in the sky fearlessly and took out a fiery-red figurine from his pouch.

The figurine grew in the air and instantly turned into a fire giant.

Just as the fire giant appeared, he received Ning Fan's command and hurled a punch at the purple lightning in the sky without hesitation. The power of the Void Fragmentation Realm strike directly destroyed all of the purple lightning!

The third wave of purple lightning was still blocked!

"Zhi Huo, how dare you go against Heaven! What has become of you, the slave of the Heavenly Dao?!" Giant Zi Dian roared in rage.

"I only have one master!" Zhi Huo said with a blank expression.

Giant Zi Dian certainly would not know that Ning Fan had captured Giant Zhi Huo using the Life Imprisonment Technique of the Ancestral Emperor of the Northern Heaven and wiped off his spiritual intelligence which turned him into a puppet killer that would only obey Ning Fan's commands and would not follow any orders from the Heavenly Dao of the Mortal Realm.

Giant Zhi Huo charged at Giant Zi Dian, breaking each of the tribulation clouds along his path and stood facing the latter from afar.

Faced with Giant Zhi Huo, even Giant Zi Dian felt a trace of pressure. In terms of their cultivation realms, he was a little weaker than Zhi Huo.

The current Giant Zi Dian no longer had the intention to summon tribulations to attack Ning Fan and he must confront Zhi Huo with full focus. He did not have the idea of handling Ning Fan anymore.

As Ning Fan gave a command, Giant Zhi Huo swung his fire fists and delivered a volley of attacks at Giant Zi Dian like a torrential rain.

Giant Zi Dian also hurled his purple lightning fists to fight against Zhi Huo.

As the two Void Fragmentation Realm puppets fought, the sky within one million li* (500m per li) cracked, releasing strong gusts of wind that assailed the three demonesses' faces and made their cheeks painful. Their eyes were filled with deep terror.

“H-He is crazy! He is literally a madman for actually having a Void Fragmentation Realm puppet and the nerve to fight against the messenger of the heavenly tribulation. Isn't he afraid of offending the Heavenly Dao?!”

“No. Younger sister, haven't you noticed yet?! The Void Fragmentation Realm puppet of that madman is another Dao Guardian! He has already thoroughly offended the Heavenly Dao of the Lower Realm. That's why his Void Inquiry Stage heavenly tribulation would be so terrifying. That's why he would set up one hundred layers of Mortal Void Grade grand formation to face his heavenly tribulation!”

“If we've known that he's that crazy, we wouldn't have been daring enough to come and capture him even if we are forced to do so with our lives at stake. That's it for us now. All three of us are trapped here by the purple lightning of the heavenly tribulation...”

The three demonesses' faces were filled with remorse. They regretted getting themselves involved in this troubled water.

They wished that they could immediately get out of this place. Unfortunately, they were trapped here by the purple lightning, rendering them unable to move...

Ning Fan stepped on the ancient golden sword, traversing columns of purple lightning tribulation clouds and dashing straight toward Giant Ziata Dian.

Ning Fan had to sacrifice fifty thousand years of life for capturing Giant Zhi Huo last time. This time, he also wanted to subdue Giant Zi Dian. However, it was unknown how many years of life he would need to use.

Compared to the previous capture, the situation now was slightly better.

Ning Fan's magic power had experienced a great improvement compared to the previous time and Giant Zi Dian was slightly weaker than Giant Zhi Huo. Therefore, the difficulty of capturing Giant Zi Dian would naturally be smaller than the last time and the amount of life he would need to sacrifice for the capture should be lesser...

After consuming some Life Prolonging Pills and the Life Reduction Pills of the Shedding Orchid Sect, Ning Fan's current lifespan was just left with fifty thousand plus years, which should be enough for him to capture Giant Zi Dian...

However, after subduing that giant, he certainly would not have much lifespan left.

If another Void Fragmentation Realm puppet appears again when he breaks through to the Void Pierce Stage in the future, he probably would not have enough life to capture him anymore...

Moreover, the Void Inquiry Stage heavenly tribulation he was facing now was already comparable to that of the First Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm. The heavenly tribulation he would face during the Void Pierce Stage would probably be much more frightening...

"Silly younger brother, so you now understand how troublesome it is to offend the Heavenly Dao of the Lower Realm, don't you? The Void Pierce Stage heavenly tribulation you'll face in the future is probably going to be much more difficult to deal with... Besides, there are also the Absolute Void Stage heavenly tribulation, Void Fragmentation Realm heavenly tribulation... *Chuckle* I already don't dare to imagine how dangerous it will be when you break through to the Void Fragmentation Realm. Perhaps you really will die under one of those heavenly tribulations~" Luo You seemed like she was mocking Ning Fan but her words contained her concern for him.

"Well, there are no other options for me since I've offended the Heavenly Dao of the Lower Realm. From the moment I captured Giant Zhi Huo, this path has already been predestined... Since I can't turn back, why should I regret it?!"

Ning Fan suddenly kept the ancient golden sword and stood one hundred thousand zhang* (3.33m per zhang) away from Giant Zi Dian.

His eyes gradually turned cold and dignified. His life force was draining rapidly, losing nearly thirty thousand years of life. A vast and boundless aura force rose around his body, making him as if he stood at the top of all living beings!

His right eye slowly closed. Meanwhile, a black crescent mark suddenly emerged in his left eye.

The moment the crescent mark appeared, cold sweat ran down Giant Zi Dian's back. He turned around in disbelief and met Ning Fan's ice cold eyes.

“Zi Dian, from today onwards, you will be my second heavenly tribulation puppet!”

“Impossible! This is impossible! Ah!”

Giant Zi Dian's entire body trembled. Indescribable agony overwhelmed him and countless black crescent marks covered his whole body.

He wanted to resist these crescent moon marks but Ning Fan approached him suddenly and wiped off his spiritual intelligence!

The purple lightning tribulations clouds in the sky gradually dissipated and Giant Zi Dian's eyes gradually turned blank.

A loud thud echoed throughout the sky as Giant Zi Dian abruptly fell to his knees in front of Ning Fan and kowtowed to him respectfully. With a choppy voice, he said, “Zi Dian... greets Master!”

In the Profound Yin World, Luo You let out a gentle sigh and put on a helpless look.

“This silly younger brother actually captured another heavenly tribulation puppet. He must be crazy... I've really got nothing to say to him...”

Ten thousand li* (500m per li) away from the desolate island, the tribulation clouds dispersed as Ning Fan had successfully subdued Giant Zi Dian. The purple lightning fetters on the three demonesses had also vanished.

The moment the purple lightning fetters disappeared, their faces were extremely pale. However, they did not even bother to suppress their injuries as they desperately fled into the distance!

Terrifying! It was too terrifying! The man whom they tried to hunt down was actually such a frightening madman who possessed a heavenly tribulation puppet and literally captured a second heavenly tribulation puppet in front of them... Putting aside his cultivation base, having the two Void Fragmentation Realm puppets as trump cards were enough for him to travel around the Rain World unhindered and strike fear into Void Fragmentation Realm old monsters in the Rain World...

If they, the Three Phoenix Maidens, mess with Ning Fan with their insignificant cultivation, it would be none other than seeking their own deaths!

“Trying to flee?”

Ning Fan’s eyes flashed with a cold glint. He pointed his finger at Zhi Huo and Zi Dian to turn them into figurines and kept them in his pouch.

Then, he hopped onto the ancient golden sword and flew toward the direction where the three demonesses were escaping to.

The ancient golden sword was travelling nearly as fast as a Void Fragmentation Realm expert. How would the three demonesses be able to outrun him?!

As soon as they sensed that Ning Fan was after them, all three of them felt tingling sensations across their scalps with despair all over their faces.

“I-It’s over! That malevolent being is coming for us! We’re doomed!”

Chapter 537: I’m Your Tribulation

Ning Fan stepped on the ancient golden sword with a cold glint in his eyes as he went straight after the three demonesses.

The three of them had been spying on him. Besides, they did not conceal their killing intent against Ning Fan at all. Since they harbored ill intentions against him, it was impossible for Ning Fan to let them go.

The speed of his ancient sword was close to the Void Fragmentation Realm. The three demonesses could not outrun him at all. Within just a few breaths, Ning Fan had already caught up with them.

Ning Fan kept his ancient sword and stood coldly in front of them, blocking their escape route.

“This is bad! We’ve been caught up by this malevolent being!”

“We can’t run away from him. The speed of the golden ancient sword that he rode is too terrifying. There is literally no way we can escape from him!”

“He doesn’t summon his Void Fragmentation Realm spiritual puppet. Let’s fight him with all we have!”

The three demoness were already aware that there was no hope in escaping and the only choice they had was to fight a desperate battle against Ning Fan.

Without hesitation, each of them took out their natal magic treasures and delivered an attack at Ning Fan.

“Demon Bone Fan!”

“Yin Phoenix Stings!”

“Poisonous King Cauldron!”

The three magic treasures were all High Grade Mortal Void Realm treasures. They went straight at Ning Fan’s head. Their vigorous momentum caused heaven and earth to shake.

Ning Fan, however, still remained a neutral expression. With a flick of his sleeve, he took out a blood umbrella and pointed it at the three incoming treasures.

As the blood umbrella spread open, it gave off faint red halos of spirit wheels that pulled all the three magic treasures into the umbrella.

The three demonesses were immensely surprised. The blood umbrella that Ning Fan used was too unusual. Besides, despite his Void Inquiry Stage magic power, he actually could handle High Grade Mortal Void Realm magic treasures so easily!?

Judging from the situation, the three demonesses could not put up a fight against Ning Fan at all unless they used Peak Grade Mortal Void Realm magic treasures!

Furthermore, if Ning Fan breaks through to the Void Pierce Stage, he probably could directly take away every magic treasure below the Void Fragmentation Realm and Immortal Void Realm magic treasures using his blood umbrella!

“Since our magic treasures can’t hurt him, we’ll use our demon techniques to kill him!”

Panic-stricken, the three ladies made a series of hand seals together. A massive void sea appeared beneath their feet and roiling demon power began filling the sky.

Ning Fan naturally would not give them a chance to display their magic techniques. He stepped on his ancient sword and turned into a pure golden sword ray, abruptly vanishing into nothingness.

When he appeared again, he was already behind the three ladies. He gathered his magic power in his hand to summon a half-black and half-white rope and cast it at the three demonesses.

The three demonesses felt danger from the black and white rope. They wanted to avoid it but they could not make it in time at all.

The rope suddenly sped up. All they could see was a flash of light and they were already bound by the rope.

The power of this black and white rope clearly was not as powerful as Giant Zi Dian's lightning fetters. However, when it tied around their bodies, it actually sealed off their entire magic power, weakening their bodies and restricting their mobility!

Their expressions grew pale with fright. All of them realized that the black and white rope was a type of extremely scary bewitching technique that specialized in restraining female cultivators!

This technique was none other than the Yin Imprisoning Rope Technique that Ning Fan used to capture Old Ancestor Bi Tong in the past!

Yin Plucking Finger, Yin Imprisoning Rope... The further Ning Fan's cultivation in the Yin Yang Transformation, the scarier those techniques would be in restraining female cultivators.

“From today on, you all will be my human cauldrons!”

As soon as Ning Fan finished speaking, he dragged the three demonesses back to the desolate island. After a session of plucking, the three of them were only left with a cultivation realm at the Harmonious Spirit Realm. Then, he put them in the repentance palace of his Cauldron World.

Well, he was not a kind and magnanimous person. If someone tries to harm him, he would certainly not show them mercy.

Ning Fan had fused his magic power, demon power and devil qi together in the past. Even though the human cauldrons he plucked were demonesses, they still could raise his magic power. After plucking the three of them, his magic power rose by two hundred thousand units, reaching eight million and two hundred thousand units in total.

Combined with nine million units of essence qi in him, the total units of his magic power and essence qi had reached a terrifying figure of seventeen million and two hundred thousand, which made him not far away from the threshold of becoming an Absolute Void Stage expert – twenty million units of magic power.

Theoretically speaking, when Ning Fan accumulates thirty-six million units of magic power, he could then start trying to push through the bottleneck of the Void Fragmentation Realm. However, his chances of achieving the breakthrough were extremely slim.

Many Absolute Void Stage old monsters had accumulated eighty to ninety million units of magic power but still only a few of them managed to break through to the Void Fragmentation Realm. The rest of them would eventually die due to the end of their lifespans.

The magic power required to advance to the Void Fragmentation Realm was too massive. At the Void Fragmentation Realm, units returned to yuan. The denomination for the measurement of magic power was no longer a unit but a yuan.

A unit was 60 years but a yuan^[1] was 129600 years.

Void Refinement Realm magic power and Void Fragmentation Realm magic power were not on the same level. Hence, it was extremely difficult for Void Fragmentations Realm experts to disregard the difference of their cultivation realms and defeat someone with a higher cultivation realm.

If Ning Fan wants to break through to the Void Fragmentation Realm, he must find some Void Fragmentation Realm arts to cultivate when he is at the Absolute Void Stage to turn his unital magic power into yuan magic power...

As for exactly how many yuan of magic power one would need to achieve the Void Fragmentation Realm, it was different from each and every single person. Ning Fan also was not sure about it.

There were a few Void Fragmentation Realm experts around him. Unfortunately, none of them had the same situation as Ning Fan who fused his magic power, demon power and devil qi into one. Without a doubt, the verbal spells or arts that other Void Fragmentation Realm experts used were already not suitable for Ning Fan.

If he wants to advance to the Void Fragmentation Realm, he must find a Void Fragmentation Realm art that is suitable for all the three races – the demon race, devil race and human race to practice... Well, it probably would take him some effort in order to find this kind of art.

“I’ll only need a Void Fragmentation Realm art after breaking through to the Absolute Void Stage. I’ve just attained the Void Inquiry Stage recently and the Absolute Void Stage is very far-off. Hence, there is no need to be in a rush to search for an art that is suitable for me...”

“As I’ve already broken through to the Void Inquiry Stage, none of the female cultivators below the Void Fragmentation Realm will be my match. Male cultivators, on the other hand... With my current cultivation realm, I’m certainly unrivalled among all Void Pierce Stage experts. And, I should be able to put up a fight against an Absolute Void Stage expert who has yet to turn their unital magic power into yuan. However, if I face those Absolute Void Stage cultivators who have successfully obtained yuan magic power, I’m afraid that I won’t have a huge chance in defeating them...”

Ning Fan muttered to himself on the desolate island. After quite some time, he left the South Gazing Sea in a flash of light.

At the border between the South Gazing Sea and the eight hundred cultivation countries, Ning Fan suddenly stopped moving with a surprised look on his face.

On the shore of a cultivation country near the South Gazing Sea, a lady was quietly standing on a reef, gazing into the sea waves all alone. She seemed to be waiting for someone.

That lady wore a set of snow-white plumage dress and a light veil to cover her face. Her long sleeves made her look graceful and her eyes were picturesque. Her expression, however, was cold and arrogant. She looked like a saintess who looked down upon the mundane world and led a life that departed from common livings.

Her presence emanated the Mid Nascent Soul Realm qi. She had been staring blankly at the ebbs and flows of the ocean waves without speaking a single word.

Only when she noticed Ning Fan’s travelling light passed by did she raise her head and looked into the sky. Her eyes contained resentment, longing and complicated emotions.

“I’ve been waiting for you...” Her tone was ice cold.

“Waiting for me, huh...” Ning Fan also put on an uneasy look. He descended upon the reef and stood facing the lady.

“Should I call you Si Si or Si Wuxie or... Weiliang...?”

The white-robed lady in front of him was none other than the sect master of the Heaven Separation Sect – Si Wuxie...

Her other identity was the seven physical souls of Mu Weiliang...

Because she was a part of Mu Weiliang, Ning Fan could not bear to kill her in the end. He clearly knew that she was his enemy but he still let her go alive...

Ning Fan was always sure that he never owed or treated any of his women shabbily. However, when he thought about it today, the person whom he treated the most unfairly was Si Wuxie.

When he was trying to rescue Ning Gu in the past, he annihilated the entire Heaven Separation Sect and captured Si Wuxie. Then, he wiped off her memories and turned her into a spiritual puppet.

When he thought about it carefully today, he realized that even though Si Wuxie was at fault, it was the elders of the Heaven Separation Sect who plotted against him and Ning Gu and it was not Si Wuxie herself.

Wasn't there just an innocent reason for why Si Wuxie came to the Lower Realm in her clone...? All she wanted to do was to find back the three spiritual souls of Mu Weiliang. Why would she still go to such great lengths to plot against two mortal young men...?

The grudges and debt of kindness in the past might be difficult to tell but Ning Fan still felt that he owed Si Wuxie to a certain extent.

She was Weiliang's seven physical souls. No matter what, how could he hurt her...?

“You indeed have figured out my identity...” After hearing Ning Fan call her ‘Weiliang’, Si Wuxie’s body felt a jolt. Her eyes flickered with a hint of sadness.

She was Mu Weiliang’s seven physical souls. Because her seven physical souls were yet to disperse, she still preserved some memories of her previous life. She still remembered her three spiritual souls. She still remembered that butterfly...

In the past, she went against the heavenly laws of the Kunlun Jade Pool in the Western Heaven and secretly descended to the Lower Realm in her clone just because she felt the existence of her three physical souls in the Rain World and she wanted to find them back.

Unfortunately, before her clone attained the Nascent Soul Realm and started to find her three spiritual souls, Ning Fan eliminated her Heaven Separation Sect and captured her, making her his human cauldron and spiritual puppet.

Her memories went blank. She became Si Si. She started to be dependent on Ning Fan. She started to like him.

However, when her memories came back to her, she was in extreme agony after remembering how Ning Fan humiliated her and turned her into a puppet.

During the battle of the devil armies and Yue Country, she had already recovered her memories. She wished that she could give Ning Fan a stab on his back and cause him to die in Yue Country.

In the end, however, she still could not convince herself to do that cruel act and eventually helped Ning Fan resist the invasion of the Heavenly Dao Sect...

She took Ning Fan’s Nascent Formation Pill and left in sadness.

She still remembered the final words she said to Ning Fan on the day she left.

“From today on, we owe each other nothing...”

Owing each other nothing... How wishful that idea was. When she returned to Yue Country, she discovered that Ning Fan had already found the three spiritual souls of Mu Weiliang. Then, she faintly understood something...

How could it be possible for the two of them not to owe each other anything? Both of them were already entangled with each other in their previous lives. He was that butterfly, that butterfly who sacrificed itself to destroy one of the immortal emperor's eyes just to protect her...

While she had been looking for her three spiritual souls, she was also searching for that butterfly she met in her previous life. However, who would know that the butterfly whom she was always thinking of was that young man who hurt her in the past...

Only asking to bid a long farewell but who could guess the two of them owe each other.

Ning Fan let out a sigh and raised his hand. He wanted to touch Si Wuxie's cheek but when he saw her avoid him like the plague, he put down his hand eventually.

"Do you still hate me?"

"Of course! If I turn you into a spiritual puppet, wipe off your memories and trample your dignity but I am also in love with you, would you hate me...?" Si Wuxie gnashed her silver teeth. The deeper the love one had for the other, the more intense the hatred.

She hated Ning Fan but she could not bear to turn into his enemy no matter what... Because in the end, be it the previous life or the current life, she still loved him.

She suddenly grabbed Ning Fan's hand and sank her silver tenth into his arm, biting it violently.

Ning Fan did not dare to activate the defense of his physical body, worrying that his ancient devil body would harm her. He only let her bite him to her heart's content.

Si Wuxie bit his arm until fresh blood was flowing down from his arm in streams. Ning Fan did not say a word nor stop her. He just silently let Si Wuxie vent out her emotions.

Only after a long while did Si Wuxie calmer down a little. Then, she said with a teasing tone.

“I didn’t expect that the young man who only has the Harmonious Spirit Realm in the past would actually reach this level after forty years of training and become a Void Inquiry Stage expert, gaining the title ‘Marquis White Robe’ that shook the Rain World. Such innate talent in the cultivation realm is truly shocking. Perhaps the greatest four sects of the Upper Realm will also come to recruit you and aid you in your ascension.”

“However, let me give you a piece of advice. You better not ascend to the Western Heaven Immortal World. You’re an ancient devil, an evil creature that many Buddha sects in the Western Heaven are fond of killing. If you ascend to the Western Heaven, I’ll certainly tell others that you are an ancient devil due to the resentment between us. If that happens, you will be pursued and hunted down by countless True Immortal Realm Buddha cultivators and die without a burial place!”

Si Wuxie’s tone sounded like she was threatening Ning Fan. However, Ning Fan heard the concern she had for him from those words.

Did Si Wuxie just warn him not to ascend to the Western Heaven...?

This woman actually still cared about him in the bottom of her heart, didn’t she...?

Ning Fan was also aware of the endless feud between the Buddha sects of the Western Heaven and the ancient devils. Even if he has the opportunity to ascend to the Upper Realm, he also certainly would not choose the Western Heaven.

“Thank you...”

“What are you thanking me for? Let me get this straight. I don’t have the slightest concern regarding your life and death.” Si Wuxie turned to one side and said, stubbornly denying her kind intention.

“Did you just want to tell me this by waiting for him at the South Sea today? Speaking of which, how did you find me...?” Ning Fan asked.

“The entire Yue Country knew that the great Marquis White Robe headed to the South Gazing Sea to face his tribulation. So was it very difficult for me to know your whereabouts? As for the reason why I looked for you this time, it’s actually because I have something that I want to discuss with you... First of all, I’m very thankful to you for finding the three spiritual souls...” When Si Wuxie said ‘thankful’, she obviously looked somewhat reluctant and embarrassed.

“I have not only found the three spiritual souls but also the seven physical souls...” Ning Fan deliberately stared at Si Wuxie and said with a faint smile.

“The seven physical souls will never belong to you!” Si Wuxie frowned and glared at him with a cold expression. Then, she continued, “No matter what grudges or debt of gratitude between us in our previous life or the current one, it’s already all over now... The two of us no longer owe each other anything...”

“Is that so...?” Ning Fan let out a sigh. Apparently, letting Si Wuxie to accept him again was not something that could be done within one day.

“The reason why I looked for you is to tell you that I sensed that Mu Weiliang’s corpse will wake up in another twenty plus years. Before that happens, you must ‘return’ her three spiritual souls and seven physical souls to her... You must let her souls return to their original place...” Si Wuxie lowered her face, trying to hide her expression that was filled with reluctance.

She was the seven physical souls while Zhi He and the others were the three spiritual souls.

If Ning Fan returns the souls to their original body, she and the other women would vanish from this world forever...

If the souls are not returned to their original body, Mu Weiliang would only be a soulless shell even if she is revived...

Si Wuxie was unwilling to die. No one in the world would want to die. However, letting Mu Weiliang’s souls return to their original body was her obligation as her seven physical souls.

“So you sensed that Weiliang is about to wake up, huh... I suppose the reason why you came to find me is to discuss the matters about how to return Weiliang’s souls to their original place. Unfortunately, I don’t have the idea of returning her souls to her body.”

“What?! You aren’t planning to let her souls return to her body?! Do you have any idea how long her souls have been dispersed?! Do you have any idea how eager she wanted to open her eyes and have a look at that goddamn butterfly?! She misses you so much but you refuse to return her souls to her!” Si Wuxie’s ice cold face was filled with rage.

“It’s not because I refuse to do so. I just can’t bear to do so... To me, be it Zhi He, Mu Xiaoliang or Mu Xiaohuan, all of them are Weiliang. And you, Si Wuxie, are also Weiliang... All of you are her. If she regains her souls, all of your existences will disappear... I guess this also isn’t what Weiliang wants in the end.”

“Twenty years later, her artificial souls will be created using the power of the Seven Treasures Buddhist Relics. Then, she will be revived. She might not be able to become a true living person without her true souls. However, I will find a way one day to truly revive her without hurting you, Zhi He, Xiaoliang and Xiaohuan!”

“I’ve promised her that I will provide her with a life with no conflicts. This world will certainly grant her a peaceful life!”

After hearing Ning Fan’s words, Si Wuxie’s anger dissipated and complicated emotions began taking over her heart.

It turned out that Ning Fan did not just care for Mu Weiliang but also those who were a part of her souls...

All of a sudden, she recalled the scene when Ning Fan gave her the Nascent Formation Pill and let her go... Her ice cold heart gradually melted with warmth.

“Very well! You are the butterfly that she is waiting for. Since you said you aren’t going to return her souls to her, then so be it. After all, I am not willing to have my existence erased. However, remember what you’ve said. You must help her condense her true soul one day. Otherwise, I will never let you go!”

“Since you’ve already found all her three spiritual souls, it’s meaningless for my clone to continue lingering in the Lower Realm. I’ll return to the Western Heaven Immortal World now. In another fifty years, the sealed gate of the Ancient Heavenly Court will be opened again. When that time comes, I’ll send a Void Fragmentation Realm true soul to look for you.”

Si Wuxie’s words made Ning Fan slightly stunned. “Why will you look for me fifty years later?”

“There is an Undying Tree in the Ancient Heavenly Court that can help a cultivator whose souls are completely scattered to condense their souls again... Fifty years later, I’ll bring you to look for that Undying Tree to congeal the souls for Mu Weiliang...”

After Si Wuxie had finished speaking, she made a series of hand seals and performed a magic technique called Body Shattering Art. it could make the user’s clone to disperse while carrying its memories back to their original body.

She wanted to return to the Western Heaven...

“So we’ll meet again fifty years later, right, Si Si?” Ning Fan said with his lips curved upwards. At the next instant, he took a step forward and pulled Si Wuxie who was performing the hand seals into his embrace, tightly hugging her.

“Let go of me! Don’t touch me! You shameless man!” Si Wuxie’s face was still as cold as ice. She was unwilling to let Ning Fan hug her but was reluctant to break free from him at the same time. All she did was just cursing him in a low tone.

“I’ll never let go. And, don’t you ever think you can run away from me. I’m your tribulation and you can’t avoid me in this life...”

Under Ning Fan’s faint smile, Si Wuxie’s body gradually grew fainter and broke down into strands of starlight which flew into the Four Heavens.

At the edge of the holy pond in Kunlun Jade Pool of the Western Heaven, a white-robed lady who covered her face with a light veil was sitting on a bluestone peacefully.

All of a sudden, strands of starlight flew toward her and entered her body.

The lady closed her eyes with a complicated look on her face and let out a sigh.

“You are my tribulation, huh...”

“My Saintess, what are you talking about?! What tribulation? Could it be that the great heavenly tribulation of your Shedding Void Realm is approaching? That is not a small matter?!” A maidservant said with a worried tone.

“No. It isn’t the heavenly tribulation. I’m just saying things randomly...” The white-robed lady looked at water ripples on the surface of the holy pond. Her eyes were filled with complicated emotions and she went silent for a long time.

Chapter 538: Orders From The Central State, Southeastern Cultivator Union

After Si Wuxie’s clone was gone, Ning Fan stood on the reef of the South Sea.

A huge reef beside him was carved with two graceful words that were of the small plum blossom calligraphy style. They should be the words that Si Wuxie carved on it when she was waiting for Ning Fan.

Sky’s Horizon...

Apparently, these two words that Si Wuxie left behind expressed her intention to bid farewell to Ning Fan.

Unfortunately, Ning Fan stubbornly embraced her, vowing to become her tribulation. Probably, he was not going to give her a chance to bid farewell to him...

Looking at the flowing sea water, Ning Fan’s eyes gradually turned deep.

The waves splashing on the shores had their ebbs and flows. At the end of the day, they would need to return to the vast ocean.

She's left... At the end of the day, she still belongs to Kunlun Jade Pool.

“So after fifty years have passed, I still feel slightly reluctant...”

Ning Fan sighed gently.

He remembered the promise he made to Si Wuxie. Fifty years later, he would head to the Ancient Heavenly Court to search for the Undying Tree. Today, however, he must return to Seven Apricot City.

Just as he was about to leave, a message-transmitting flying sword suddenly appeared in the sky, flying toward him by tracking his qi.

Ning Fan made a wave with an open palm, catching the flying sword into his hand and broke it as soon as he caught it.

A voice immediately echoed into Ning Fan's ears. It was Xu Qiuling's voice.

“If you've successfully attained the Void Inquiry Stage, return as soon as possible. There are guests in Seven Apricot City – the Qiu and Han companions from the Southeastern Cultivator Union.”

Ten years had passed. Xu Qiuling had already broken through to the Mid Divine Transformation Realm and had the ability to send out message-transmitting flying swords.

Zhi He, Lan Mei, Bai Lu and others had also achieved the Gold Core Realm. Even Bai Su had already advanced to the Harmonious Spirit Realm.

Yue Lingkong, on the other hand, had a huge improvement in her magic power under the help of the moonlight gemstone that Ning Fan gave to her. However, she was still far away from advancing to the

Void Pierce Stage. That moonlight gemstone was none other than the gemstone Ning Fan obtained from the auction in the Mist Horn Clan in the past.

After hearing Xu Qiuling's voice, Ning Fan's face looked as if he was deep in thought.

Some guests had visited Seven Apricot City. They were the Qiu and Han companions, who were members of the Southeastern Cultivator Union of the Rain World.

One hundred plus cultivation countries including Yue Country were all located at the southeastern continent of the Rain World. Before the rise of Seven Apricot City, the largest force on the continent was none other than the Southeastern Cultivator Union.

It was a union of rogue cultivators and it was led by the Qu and Han companions who were husband and wife.

The husband, Yang Qiu, was a Void Pierce Stage sword cultivator whereas the wife, Sun Han, was a Void Inquiry Stage zither cultivator.

Countless thoughts ran across Ning Fan's mind. However, he could not figure out what brought them to Seven Apricot City.

The only thing about the Southeastern Cultivator Union that concerned him was Yun Ruowei. When he parted ways with Yun Ruowei in Great Jin in the past, she said that she wanted to leave the Rain Palace and join the Southeastern Cultivator Union.

"Yun Ruowei... In Great Jin, I'd seen Ning Qian and Yun Tianjue in her dreams... According to rumors, the reason why she could join the Rain Palace despite her demon body was because of Yun Tianjue's recommendation..."

"If I am not mistaken, the winged demon in her dream, Ning Qian, is my mum... Yun Tianjue has lost his memories and he can't remember who Ning Qian is. Hence, I can't ascertain the relationship between him and Ning Qian. Yun Ruowei, however, must know it. With her help, I might be able to find Ning Qian..."

“Ning Qian... My mother... I was born without a parent. If I can find my mother, it'll really make me at a loss of what to do...”

“Dong Xu once helped me perform divination on my mother in the past and found out that she isn't dead yet. She's still in the Rain World... As a son, I have to find her whereabouts in order to put my mind at rest...”

Ning Fan shook his head and smiled. Speaking of Old Ancestor Dong Xu, he once promised to help him achieve the Void Refinement Realm.

Ten years have already passed. I guess he probably is already fully prepared for that breakthrough. If I have time, I'll help him to advance to the Void Refinement Realm in the Sovereign's Tomb.

With Ning Fan's current understanding of the 'void', it should not be difficult for him to aid Dong Xu in achieving that breakthrough.

Chi

As Ning Fan turned around, his body transformed into a ray of travelling light and returned to Yue Country.

...

The Flying Snow Palace of the western part of Seven Apricot City was a newly-built palace that was meant for receiving all visitors.

In the Flying Snow Palace, Su Yan, Yue Lingkong, Ming Que, Xu Qiuling and the other women were sitting on the main seats, welcoming their guests.

On the guest's seating, there was a man in green robes and a lady in pink robes. Forty plus Nascent Soul Realm cultivators and six Divine Transformation Realm experts were standing behind them in attendance.

That pink-robed lady was called Sun Han. She looked like she was in her late twenties. Her appearance was not peerlessly beautiful but she looked extremely dignified and decorous.

That green-robed man was called Yang Qiu. The way he spoke was rather refined and gentle. Unfortunately, there were a few scars on his face which made him look like a rough bandit.

The two of them were none other than the leaders of the Southeastern Cultivator Union – the Han and Qiu companions.

As for the cultivators who were standing behind them, all of them were rogue cultivators they brought from the union.

Su Yan was once the leader of a clan while Yue Lingkong was once the master of a sect. Therefore, it was an easy task for them to receive the guests.

When the Qiu and Han companions arrived at Seven Apricot City, they never mentioned anything about their intention of their visit. They only said that they would tell them about it after Ning Fan returns.

“What exactly is the intention for the members of the Southeast Cultivator Union to come to Seven Apricot City?” Yue Lingkong asked Su Yan via telepathy.

“I have no idea. However, I heard that the Qiu and Han companions are rogue cultivators and they actually have already joined the Rain Palace. They even carry the identities as the feudal ranking elders of the Rain Palace and always help the Rain Sovereign pass a secret order. Perhaps the reason why they came is because they want to convey a secret message to Ning Fan...” Su Yan guessed.

At the rooftop outside the Flying Snow Palace, a small black sable was yawning lazily while guarding Seven Apricot City. It seemed like she was being wary of the Qiu and Han companions in case they bore malice toward the city.

All of a sudden, a ray of light flew into the city.

The little sable raised her head lazily and took a glimpse at the travelling light. Then, she snorted lightly and turned around to leave.

“Humph. This stinky man is finally back. It seems like he has successfully attained the Void Inquiry Stage. His luck is quite good...”

That travelling light was publicly exposing the Void Inquiry Stage aura force. It descended outside the Flying Snow Palace and turned into a young man in white robes. He was Ning Fan.

He slowly walked into the Flying Snow Palace. When the women in the palace sensed the Void Inquiry Stage aura force from Ning Fan, their faces were filled with joy. Apparently, Ning Fan had already achieved the Void Inquiry Stage with success.

The Qiu and Han companions were slightly stunned upon seeing Ning Fan enter the Flying Snow Palace. The two of them immediately rose to their feet. The man cupped his fists while the lady curtsied. Together, they said, “The Qiu and Han companions from the Fallen Autumn Country greet Marquis White Robe!”

“Fellow Daoist are being too polite. So what’s the matter that brought the two of you to visit my Seven Apricot City?” Ning Fan cupped his fists toward both of them and went to the main seat of the palace. His eyes unintentionally glimpsed at the group of Nascent Soul Realm and Divine Transformation Realm cultivators behind them.

When he saw no sign of Yun Ruowei among those cultivators, he could not help but feel slightly dispirited.

“The reason why we headed to Seven Apricot City is to pass an imperial order from the Rain Sovereign to you. Marquis White Robe, please have a look at this jade slip.”

Yang Qiu took out a jade box which contained a golden jade slip. As he flicked his finger, the jade box flew toward Ning Fan.

Ning Fan took out the golden jade slip and inserted his spirit sense into it. There was only one order from the Rain Sovereign inside the jade slip. After Ning Fan had read it, it instantly burned itself without fire and disintegrated into ashes.

The Rain Sovereign's order was simple. He was just hoping that Ning Fan could head to the Rain Palace in the Middle State as soon as possible as he had something to discuss with him.

The reason why the Rain Sovereign made Ning Fan as a revered elder of the Rain Palace and even appointed him as the palace lord of the Scarlet Heaven Palace eventually was solely because Ning Fan's 'Indestructible Fire Body' was of great use to him. He needed Ning Fan's help to retrieve something from an abyss of flames.

He now found that it was about time to borrow Ning Fan's power.

There was a formation technique that was set up on the golden jade slip that would make the jade slip disintegrate after it was read once. Doubtlessly, the Qiu and Han companions completely had no idea about its content.

Since the Rain Sovereign passed this message to Ning Fan in such a secretive manner, the thing that he was up to did not seem to be something small. Without a doubt, the thing he wanted Ning Fan to get must be something extraordinary.

"Have Fellow Daoist read the secret order?" Yang Qiu asked with a faint smile.

"Mm. I've already received the order and I'll head to the Middle State within the next few days."

"Hehe. It's good then. In this case, the two of us will excuse ourselves."

"Wait a minute. I wish to ask about someone from the two of you."

"Oh? Who does Marquis White Robe want to know about?"

“I have a friend called Yun Ruowei. I heard that she has joined the Southeast Cultivator Union. May I know where she is currently at?”

“Yun Ruowei?” Yang Qiu was rather surprised and held his stare at Ning Fan.

“I’ve long heard that Marquis White Robe is a genuine and sentimental man with an unconventional and frivolous bearing and has countless beauties. When I met you personally today, it seems that the rumors are true... Hehe. Yun Ruowei indeed is within my Southeastern Cultivator Union. However, she has a quite significant background. She is the blood younger sister of the White-Robe Sword God. It’s better that Marquis White Robe doesn’t mess with that lady in order to avoid getting yourself into big trouble...”

It was already extremely polite of Yang Qiu to describe Ning Fan as a frivolous man. After all, Ning Fan’s name that was widely known in the Rain World was all about his notoriety and infamy.

Well, all of it was built on the countless people he had killed and the human cauldrons he had plucked.

When Yang Qiu came to Seven Apricot City today and saw Ning Fan have countless wives and concubines, he naturally was more convinced that Ning Fan was a lustful man.

However, it was none of his business how Ning Fan behaved. When Ning Fan asked him about Yun Ruowei, he just thought that Ning Fan had his eye on her. That was why he gave him a warning out of kindness.

Ning Fan shook his head helplessly. He did not expect that his name would actually have been ruined to such a point where he just talked about women and others would think that he was hatching a sinister plan in his mind...

“Rest assured, Fellow Daoist Yang. Yun Ruowei and I have already known each other. Both of them have a friendly relationship. The reason why I’m looking for her is because I have some questions that I need to ask her in person. I certainly don’t harbor any malicious intentions...”

“Hehe. I see. It seems like I’ve misunderstood you... Since Fellow Daoist just wants to ask her some questions, I naturally can tell you where she is. However, I have one condition...”

“Oh? What condition does Fellow Daoist Yang have?” Ning Fan already figured out what Yang Qiu was asking after seeing a rising battle intent in Yang Qiu’s eyes that was itching the latter for a try.

“I’d like to have a fight with Marquis White Robe!” Yang Qiu’s eyes flashed with battle intent. Then, he continued, “After the battle of the one hundred sects in the Endless Sea, Marquis White Robe has established a great name. I’ve admired you for a long time. According to rumors, during that battle, Marquis White Robe was already famous far and wide despite just being a Half-Step Void Refinement Realm cultivator. And, during the great assembly in Song Country, Fellow Daoist fought the vice sect master of the Serene Heaven Palace, Fang Si, and won. At that time, you are just at the Void Glimpse Stage... Today, judging from your qi, you should have already broken through to the Void Inquiry Stage. I suppose your power has increased again... Therefore, I wish to have a chance to fight you!”

It was impossible to tell that Yang Qiu, who spoke with a gentle and refined outward bearing, was actually a belligerent person.

That was why there were scars on his face. Without a doubt, he must have gotten them when having fights with others...

“As long as Marquis White Robe is willing to exchange a single move with me, I will tell you where Yun Ruowei is, no matter if I win or lose in the end!”

Upon hearing Yang Qiu intended to fight Ning Fan, worries filled the faces of Xu Qiuling and the others.

“Big Brother, you have just broken through to the Void Inquiry Stage and your cultivation realm is still unstable. It’s inappropriate to engage in a fight...”

“It doesn’t matter. I have captured a few blind human cauldrons in the South Gazing Sea. After plucking them, my cultivation base has already been stabilized. I completely have no problem engaging in a battle now.”

Ning Fan gave his women a confident smile, hinting to them that they could set their minds at ease.

Then, he took a step forward and said to Yang Qiu, “Where does Fellow Daoist Yang want to fight? When Void Refinement Realm experts like us battle, the fluctuations of power aren’t small.”

“Hehe. Fellow Daoist can follow me into this heavenly dwelling. We’ll just fight inside it.”

Yang Qiu stroked his jade thumb ring and a green light portal immediately emerged before him. Without hesitation, he took a step into the portal.

Ning Fan spread out his spirit sense to inspect the portal. After he had made sure that there was not anything strange within the portal, he also went inside the portal.

He was not worried about Yang Qiu trying to harm him as the mere heavenly dwelling space could not trap him at all.

“*Sigh* According to hearsay, Yang Qiu is incredibly strong. Only a few among the Void Pierce Stage experts are his match... Little Cucumber has just attained the Void Inquiry Stage. Nothing bad is going to happen, isn’t it...” Yue Lingkong muttered with a concerned tone.

Of course, she was not worried about Ning Fan losing the fight. Instead, she was worried that Ning Fan might not have a proper grasp of his power as he had just reached the Void Inquiry Stage. Without a doubt, he certainly could not show mercy and must go all-out when fighting someone like Yang Qiu. However, if he uses too much of his power and completely eliminates Yang Qiu, then he will just draw trouble to himself for nothing...

“*chuckle* Younger Sister Yue Er, don’t have to worry. Even though my husband is strong, Marquis White Robe isn’t weak. Even if he loses to my husband, it won’t be very ugly. He at most will get some light injuries...”

Sun Han chuckled and tried to console Yue Lingkong. The words she spoke showed her infinite confidence she had for Yang Qiu in winning.

“Fallen Leaf Sword”, Yang Qiu. He became famous across the Rain World depending on his Fallen Leaf Sword Style. Even all Absolute Void Stage experts dreaded him a lot.

Sun Yan naturally did not think that her husband would lose to Ning Fan who had just achieved the Void Inquiry Stage even though his notorious name had been around for quite a while.

As soon as Sun Han's voice fell, the Flying Snow Palace suddenly trembled with a deafening explosion sound blasting the area. The heavenly dwelling space was shattered to pieces!

Yang Qiu was completely bathed in blood and his robes were tattered. He appeared in the Flying Snow Palace in a panicked state. His face was filled with intense terror. Even though he was not grievously injured, he looked extremely battered and worn-out!

Terrifying! It was too terrifying! After both he and Ning Fan entered the heavenly dwelling space, he displayed his Fallen Leaf Style Sword Technique. However, just as he used that technique, Ning Fan instantly countered it using the Myriad Sword Style, destroying his attacks and even cutting the heavenly dwelling magic treasure in pieces...

Ning Fan, on the other hand, appeared in the Flying Snow Palace with the Separation Slayer Sword in his hand. Not even one corner of his sleeve was wrinkled.

Those with discerning eyes could tell that Ning Fan had won the fight and Yang Qiu had lost...

Sun Han was so shocked that her jaw dropped slightly. It had only been six to seven breaths from the time they entered the heavenly dwelling space until Yang Qiu came out defeated with the broken heavenly dwelling space.

She was certain that her husband would win in the start. However, her husband whom she was proud of had lost to Ning Fan in just a few breaths!

How was this possible?! This literally was impossible! Her husband was a dignified expert whom even Absolute Void Stage cultivators would have to treat with respect!

“*Cough*... The esteemed reputation is truly genuine. Marquis White Robe's name is widely known across the Rain World. I've been admiring you for a long time. However, I didn't expect that you would be so strong... I'm afraid even if you face an Absolute Void Stage expert, you can also put up a fight

against them.” Yang Qiu smiled bitterly. If he had known that Ning Fan was so powerful, he definitely would not ask for humiliation by asking for a fight with him.

“I’m sorry... I’ve just broken through to the Void Inquiry Stage and I’m still not used to controlling my current power...” Ning Fan also smiled wryly.

When they had entered the heavenly dwelling space, the first move that Yang Qiu used was the Fallen Leaf Style Sword Technique.

Ning Fan saw that the technique was extremely powerful as it was nearly comparable to an Absolute Void Stage attack. Thus, he did not dare to belittle it. However, since he did not have a deep grudge against Yang Qiu, he certainly would not display the Void Ignition Technique to kill him.

His original idea was to display the Myriad Sword Style Sword Technique to win against Yang Qiu slightly and save him some face.

However, he miscalculated it. The Myriad Sword Style was a Void Fragmentation Realm sword technique in the first place. As Ning Fan’s magic power increased, the power of the sword technique became even more terrifying and it almost killed Yang Qiu.

If it was not because Ning Fan commanded the sword light to divert at the critical moment which destroyed the heavenly dwelling space, perhaps Yang Qiu would have already died under his Myriad Sword Style...

It seemed like Ning Fan would need some time to get accustomed to his Void Inquiry Stage magic power...

“Fellow Daoist’s technique is truly frightening. I’m really ashamed of my inferiority... *Sigh* I’ve met countless people. However, it’s difficult for me to meet someone like Fellow Daoist. I’m afraid even White-Robed Sword God might not necessarily be as strong as you when he was young. I’m truly impressed... Since Fellow Daoist wants to know where Yun Ruowei is, I’ll tell you the truth. Actually, Yun Ruowei was supposed to follow us to come to Seven Apricot City. However, she suddenly said that she wanted to find a blue jade pendant and went to another place...” Yang Qiu’s tone was unusually polite. Well, Ning Fan had really struck fear into him during the exchange just now.

“A blue jade pendant? I wonder what that is... Where did she go?” Ning Fan felt slightly curious.

“She is in Hai Ning of Wu Country... *Cough* I’m sorry. Wu Country has already been integrated into Yue Country now. It should be called Hai Ning of Yue Country.”

“Hai Ning? Could it be that she went to the Ning Family? Why...?” A strange feeling rose within Ning Fan’s heart.

He had some guesses in mind but he could not be sure of them.

Perhaps I should drop by the Ning Family before heading to the Middle State...

Chapter 539: The Ning Clan of Hai Ning

Qiuhan DaoLü left with a group of rogue cultivators.

After Ning Fan had told the women the details about his breakthrough of the Void Inquiry Stage and sent out a message-transmitting flying sword toward the Dong Xu Island of the Endless Sea, he turned around and left Seven Apricot City.

He needed to head to the Ning Clan of Hai Ning at once to avoid missing a meeting with Yun Ruowei. Before heading to the Middle State, there were some questions that Ning Fan hoped to find an answer.

His travelling speed was extremely fast. With just a few skips, he had traversed one million li* (500m per li), crossing the country-locking grand formation and appeared on the land of Wu Country.

Beside the Cui Tang River that was green like emerald in Hai Ning City of Wu Country, Ning Fan descended by the reeds.

There were a few fishing boats on the river. In the distance, some woodcutters walked down from the Ning Bi Hill. All of them were mortals and they were humming and singing the folk songs of Wu Country.

Ning Fan's eyes filled with nostalgia. It had already been fifty plus years since he left Wu Country. When he heard the songs of his native place, he felt slightly sentimental.

There was once a mortal young man who walked past the bank of the Cui Tang River while carrying a bamboo basket and climbed the Ning Bi Hill to harvest medicine plants times after times.

In Ning Bi Hill, that young man saved Mistress Qing of the Ning Family and offended Young Master Tian from that same family...

In Hai Ning City, that young man was once adopted by Ning Daniu and spent thirteen years of peaceful life with Ning Gu...

Filler Words to Make Up the Approximate Word Count

Ning Fan stepped on the ancient golden sword with a cold glint in his eyes as he went straight after the three demoness.

The three of them had been spying on him. Besides, they did not conceal their killing intent against Ning Fan at all. Since they harbored ill intentions against him, it was impossible for Ning Fan to let them go.

The speed of his ancient sword was close to the Void Fragmentation Realm. The three demoness could not outrun him at all. Within just a few breaths, Ning Fan had already caught up with them.

Ning Fan kept his ancient sword and stood coldly in front of them, blocking their escape route.

"This is bad! We've been caught up by this malevolent being!"

"We can't run away from him. The speed of the golden ancient sword that he rode is too terrifying. There is literally no way we can escape from him!"

“He doesn’t summon his Void Fragmentation Realm spiritual puppet. Let’s fight him with all we have!”

The three demoness were already aware that there was no hope in escaping and the only choice they had was to fight a desperate battle against Ning Fan.

Without hesitation, each of them took out their natal magic treasures and delivered an attack at Ning Fan.

“Demon Bone Fan!”

“Yin Phoenix Stings!”

“Poisonous King Cauldron!”

The three magic treasures were all High Grade Mortal Void Realm treasures. They went straight at Ning Fan’s head. Their vigorous momentum caused heaven and earth to shake.

Ning Fan, however, still remained a neutral expression. With a flick of his sleeve, he took out a blood umbrella and pointed it at the three incoming treasures.

As the blood umbrella spread open, it gave off faint red halos of spirit wheels that pulled all the three magic treasures into the umbrella.

The three demoness were immensely surprised. The blood umbrella that Ning Fan used was too unusual. Besides, despite his Void Inquiry Stage magic power, he actually could handle High Grade Mortal Void Realm magic treasures so easily!?

Judging from the situation, the three demoness could not put up a fight against Ning Fan at all unless they use Peak Grade Mortal Void Realm magic treasures!

Furthermore, if Ning Fan breaks through to the Void Pierce Stage, he probably could directly take away every magic treasure below the Void Fragmentation Realm and Immortal Void Realm magic treasures using his blood umbrella!

“Since our magic treasures can’t hurt him, we’ll use our demon techniques to kill him!”

Panic-stricken, the three ladies made a series of hand seals together. A massive void sea appeared beneath their feet and roiling demon power began filling the sky.

Ning Fan naturally would not give them a chance to display their magic techniques. He stepped on his ancient sword and turned into a pure golden sword ray, abruptly vanishing into nothingness.

When he appeared again, he was already behind the three ladies. He gathered his magic power in his hand to summon a half-black and half-white rope and cast it at the three demonesses.

The three demonesses felt danger from the black and white rope. They wanted to avoid it but they could not make it in time at all.

The rope suddenly sped up. All they could see was a flash of light and they were already bound by the rope.

The power of this black and white rope clearly was not as powerful as Giant Zi Dian’s lightning fetters. However, when it tied around their bodies, it actually sealed off their entire magic power, weakening their bodies and restricting their mobility!

Their expressions paled with fright. All of them realized that the black and white rope was a type of extremely scary bewitching technique that specialized in restraining female cultivators!

This technique was none other than the Yin Imprisoning Rope Technique that Ning Fan used to capture Old Ancestor Bi Tong in the past!

Yin Plucking Finger, Yin Imprisoning Rope... The further Ning Fan’s cultivation in the Yin Yang Transformation, the scarier those techniques would be in restraining female cultivators.

“From today on, you all will be my human cauldrons!”

As soon as Ning Fan finished speaking, he dragged the three demonesses back to the desolate island. After a session of plucking, the three of them were only left with a cultivation realm at the Harmonious Spirit Realm. Then, he put them in the repentance palace of his Cauldron World.

Well, he was not a kind and magnanimous person. If someone tries to harm him, he would certainly not show them mercy.

Ning Fan had fused his magic power, demon power and devil qi together in the past. Even though the human cauldrons he plucked were demonesses, they still could raise his magic power. After plucking the three of them, his magic power rose by two hundred thousand units, reaching eight million and two hundred thousand units in total.

Combined with nine million units of essence qi in him, the total units of his magic power and essence qi had reached a terrifying figure of seventeen million and two hundred thousand, which made him not far away from the threshold of becoming an Absolute Void Stage expert – twenty million units of magic power.

Theoretically speaking, when Ning Fan accumulates thirty-six million units of magic power, he could then start trying to pushing through the bottleneck of the Void Fragmentation Realm. However, his chances of achieving the breakthrough was extremely slim.

Many Absolute Void Stage old monsters had accumulated eighty to ninety million units of magic power but still only a few of them managed to break through to the Void Fragmentation Realm. The rest of them would eventually die due to the end of their lifespans.

The magic power required to advance to the Void Fragmentation Realm was too massive. At the Void Fragmentation Realm, units returned to yuan. The denomination for the measurement of magic power was no longer a unit but a yuan.

A unit was 60 years but a yuan was 129600 years.

Void Refinement Realm magic power and Void Fragmentation Realm magic power were not on the same level. Hence, it was extremely difficult for Void Fragmentations Realm experts to disregard the difference of their cultivation realms and defeat someone with a higher cultivation realm.

If Ning Fan wants to break through to the Void Fragmentation Realm, he must find some Void Fragmentation Realm arts to cultivate when he is at the Absolute Void Stage to turn his unital magic power into yuan magic power...

As for exactly how many yuan of magic power one would need to achieve the Void Fragmentation Realm, it was different from each and every single person. Ning Fan also was not sure about it.

There were a few Void Fragmentation Realm experts around him. Unfortunately, none of them had the same situation as Ning Fan who fused his magic power, demon power and devil qi into one. Without a doubt, the verbal spells or arts that other Void Fragmentation Realm experts used were already not suitable for Ning Fan.

If he wants to advance to the Void Fragmentation Realm, he must find a Void Fragmentation Realm art that is suitable for all the three races – the demon race, devil race and human race to practice... Well, it probably would take him some effort in order to find this kind of art.

“I’ll only need a Void Fragmentation Realm art after breaking through to the Absolute Void Stage. I’ve just attained the Void Inquiry Stage recently and the Absolute Void Stage is very far-off. Hence, there is no need to be in a rush to search for an art that is suitable for me...”

“As I’ve already broken through to the Void Inquiry Stage, none of the female cultivators below the Void Fragmentation Realm will be my match. Male cultivators, on the other hands... With my current cultivation realm, I’m certainly unrivalled among all Void Pierce Stage experts. And, I should be able to put up a fight against an Absolute Void Stage expert who has yet to turn their unital magic power into yuan. However, if I face those Absolute Void Stage cultivators who have successfully obtained yuan magic power, I’m afraid that I won’t have much chances in defeating them...”

Ning Fan muttered to himself on the desolate island. After quiet some time, he left the South Gazing Sea in a flash of light.

At the border between the South Gazing Sea and the eight hundred cultivation countries, Ning Fan suddenly stopped moving with a surprised look on his face.

On the shore of a cultivation country nearby the South Gazing Sea, a lady was quietly standing on a reef, gazing into the sea waves all alone. She seemed to be waiting for someone.

That lady wore a set of snow-white plumage dress and a light veil to cover her face. Her long sleeves made her look graceful and her eyes were picturesque. Her expression, however, was cold and arrogant. She looked like a saintess who looked down upon the mundane world and led a life that departed from common livings.

Her presence emanated the Mid Nascent Soul Realm qi. She had been staring blankly at the ebbs and flows of the ocean waves without speaking a single word.

Only when she noticed Ning Fan's travelling light passed by did she raised her head and looked into the sky. Her eyes contained resentment, longing and complicated emotions.

"I've been waiting for you..." Her tone was ice cold.

"Waiting for me, huh..." Ning Fan also put on an uneasy look. He descended upon the reef and stood facing the lady.

"Should I call you Si Si or Si Wuxie or... Weiliang...?"

The white-robed lady in front of him was none other than the sect master of the Heaven Separation Sect – Si Wuxie...

Her other identity was the seven physical souls of Mu Weiliang...

Because she was a part of Mu Weiliang, Ning Fan could not bear to kill her in the end. He clearly knew that she was his enemy but he still let her go alive...

Ning Fan was always sure that he never owed or treated any of his women shabbily. However, when he thought about it today, the person whom he treated the most unfairly was Si Wuxie.

When he was trying to rescue Ning Gu in the past, he annihilated the entire Heaven Separation Sect and captured Si Wuxie. Then, he wiped off her memories and turned her into a spiritual puppet.

When he thought about it carefully today, he realized that even though Si Wuxie was at fault, it was the elders of the Heaven Separation Sect who plotted against him and Ning Gu and it was not Si Wuxie herself.

Wasn't there just an innocent reason for why Si Wuxie came to the Lower Realm in her clone...? All she wanted to do was to find back the three spiritual souls of Mu Weiliang. Why would she still go to such great lengths to plot against two mortal young men...?

The grudges and debt of kindness in the past might be difficult to tell but Ning Fan still felt that he owed Si Wuxie to a certain extent.

She was Weiliang's seven physical souls. No matter what, how could he hurt her...?

"You indeed have figured out my identity..." After hearing Ning Fan call her 'Weiliang', Si Wuxie's body felt a jolt. Her eyes flickered with a hint of sadness.

She was Mu Weiliang's seven physical souls. Because her seven physical souls were yet to disperse, she still preserved some memories of her previous life. She still remembered her three spiritual souls. She still remembered that butterfly...

In the past, she went against the heavenly laws of the Kunlun Jade Pool in the Western Heaven and secretly descended to the Lower Realm in her clone just because she felt the existence of her three physical souls in the Rain World and she wanted to find them back.

Unfortunately, before her clone attained the Nascent Soul Realm and started to find her three spiritual souls, Ning Fan eliminated her Heaven Separation Sect and captured her, making her his human cauldron and spiritual puppet.

Her memories went blank. She became Si Si. She started to be dependent on Ning Fan. She started to like him.

However, when her memories came back to her, she was in extreme agony after remembering how Ning Fan humiliated her and turned her into a puppet.

During the battle of the devil armies and Yue Country, she had already recovered her memories. She wished that she could give Ning Fan a stab on his back and cause him to die in Yue Country.

In the end, however, she still could not convince herself to do that cruel act and eventually helped Ning Fan resist the invasion of the Heavenly Dao Sect...

She took Ning Fan's Nascent Formation Pill and left in sadness.

She still remembered that final words she said to Ning Fan on the day she left.

“From today on, we owe each other nothing...”

Owing each other nothing... How wishful that idea was. When she returned to Yue Country, she discovered that Ning Fan had already found the three spiritual souls of Mu Weiliang. Then, she faintly understood something...

How could it possible for the two of them not to owe each other anything? Both of them were already entangled with each other in their previous lives. He was that butterfly, that butterfly who sacrificed himself to destroy one of the immortal emperor's eyes just to protect her...

While she had been looking for her three spiritual souls, she was also searching for that butterfly she met in her previous life. However, who would know that the butterfly whom she was always thinking of was that young man who hurt her in the past...

Only asking to bid a long farewell but who could guess the two of them owe each other.

Ning Fan let out a sigh and raised his hand. He wanted to touch Si Wuxie's cheek but when he saw her avoid him like the plague, he put down his hand eventually.

“Do you still hate me?”

“Of course! If I turn you into a spiritual puppet, wipe off your memories and trample your dignity but I am also in love with you, would you hate me...?” Si Wuxie gnashed her silver teeth. The deeper the love one had for the other, the more intense the hatred.

She hated Ning Fan but she could not bear to turn into his enemy no matter what... Because in the end, be it the previous life or the current life, she still loved him.

She suddenly grabbed Ning Fan's hand and sank her silver tenth into his arm, biting it violently.

Ning Fan did not dare to activate the defense of his physical body. He only let her bit to her heart's content as he was worried by his ancient devil body would harm her.

Si Wuxie bit his arm until fresh blood was flowing down from his arm in streams. Ning Fan did not say a word nor stop her. He just silently let Si Wuxie vent out her emotions.

Only after a long while did Si Wuxie calmer down a little. Then, she said with a teasing tone.

“I didn't expect that the young man who only has the Harmonious Spirit Realm in the past would actually reach this level after forty years of training and become a Void Inquiry Stage expert, gaining the title 'Marquis White Robe' that shook the Rain World. Such innate talent in cultivation realm is truly shocking. Perhaps the greatest four sects of the Upper Realm will also come to recruit you and aid you in your ascension.”

“However, let me give you an advice. You better not ascend to the Western Heaven Immortal World. You're an ancient devil, an evil creature that many Buddha sects in the Western Heaven are fond of killing. If you ascend to the Western Heaven, I'll certainly tell others that you are an ancient devil due to the resentment between us. If that happens, you will be pursued and hunted down by countless True Immortal Realm Buddha cultivators and die without a burial place!”

Si Wuxie's tone sounded like she was threatening Ning Fan. However, Ning Fan heard the concern she had for him from those words.

Did Si Wuxie just warn him not to ascend to the Western Heaven...?

This woman actually still cared about him in the bottom of her heart, didn't she...?

Ning Fan was also aware of the endless feud between the Buddha sects of the Western Heaven and the ancient devils. Even if he has the opportunity to ascend to the Upper Realm, he also certainly would not choose the Western Heaven.

"Thank you..."

"What are you thanking for? Let me get this straight. I don't have slightest concern regarding your life and death." Si Wuxie turned to one side and said, stubbornly denying her kind intention.

"Did you just want to tell me this by waiting for him at the South Sea today? Speaking of which, how did you find me...?" Ning Fan asked.

"The entire Yue Country knew that the great Marquis White Robe headed to the South Gazing Sea to face his tribulation. So was it very difficult for me to know your whereabouts? As for the reason why I looked for you this time, it's actually because I have something that I want to discuss with you... First of all, I'm very thankful to you for finding the three spiritual souls..." When Si Wuxie said 'thankful', she obviously looked somewhat reluctant and embarrassed.

"I have not only found the three spiritual souls but also the seven physical souls..." Ning Fan deliberately stared at Si Wuxie and said with a faint smile.

Chapter 540: I Can't Find It...

Yun Ruowei's face was the same as before. She wore a plain green robes. Her eyes were bright and sparkling like clear spring. Her smile was soft and tender.

Her feet were still bare. She wore a bracelet around her wrist which had a hanging silver bell. When a gentle breeze blew, it would give out sweet-sounding ringing.

“Are you willing to help me look for the jade? The thing that I’m looking for is a piece of Blue Bridge Jade. It’s something that belongs to my elder sister... The true reason why I’m looking for the jade is because I want to look for my elder sister... I knew that she isn’t dead yet. I knew it...” When she heard that Ning Fan was willing to lend her a hand, Yun Ruowei no longer hid her thoughts from him. Instead, she put on a hopeful look.

She was just a Nascent Soul Realm cultivator while Ning Fan was a Void Refinement Realm expert who had powerful capabilities. With his help, it would be much easier to find the jade.

“Is your elder sister the little winged demon that I saw in your dream last time?” Ning Fan asked.

“Yes... Yun Ruowei hesitated for a while and decided to answer truthfully.

“I remember that her name is Ning Qian...”

“Indeed...”

“She and Yun Tianjue are...”

“The two of them... are Dao companions... My elder sister went missing one thousand years ago. Yun Tianjue forwent his emotions at around the same time... Before my elder sister disappeared, she had given birth to a child for Yun Tianjue. It was a premature birth... No one knew what happened after that and my elder sister actually vanished with her child within a single night... After quite some time, that child’s life plate broke. It should have already dead. As for my elder sister’s life plate, it turned grey and dim. Even though she isn’t dead, she should have fallen into a difficult situation... She should not be dead yet. However, I couldn’t find her even after I have painstakingly searched for her for one thousand years. Where exactly is she...? What exactly happened in the past...? Yun Tianjue did not protect my elder sister nor his own child well. However, what’s worse about him is that he has completely forgotten my elder sister after she went missing and he didn’t even remember who Ning Qian was already... He really is a heartless and cruel person!”

Yun Ruowei no longer concealed anything from Ning Fan. She even told him some secrets through telepathy. Her eyes were filled with sadness and anger.

She hated Yun Tianjue's cold-heartedness. Therefore, she was unwilling to continue staying in the Rain Palace and decided to join the Southeastern Cultivator Union.

She could not bear to harm Ning Fan in the past because his smile shared a striking resemblance with her elder sister's and thus, sympathy overtook her...

"..." Ning Fan went silent. His heart, however, was not quiet. Would he be the deceased child of Ning Qian and Yun Tianjue...?

Filler word to make up the approximate word count.

Ning Fan stepped on the ancient golden sword with a cold glint in his eyes as he went straight after the three demoness.

The three of them had been spying on him. Besides, they did not conceal their killing intent against Ning Fan at all. Since they harbored ill intentions against him, it was impossible for Ning Fan to let them go.

The speed of his ancient sword was close to the Void Fragmentation Realm. The three demoness could not outrun him at all. Within just a few breaths, Ning Fan had already caught up with them.

Ning Fan kept his ancient sword and stood coldly in front of them, blocking their escape route.

"This is bad! We've been caught up by this malevolent being!"

"We can't run away from him. The speed of the golden ancient sword that he rode is too terrifying. There is literally no way we can escape from him!"

"He doesn't summon his Void Fragmentation Realm spiritual puppet. Let's fight him with all we have!"

The three demoness were already aware that there was no hope in escaping and the only choice they had was to fight a desperate battle against Ning Fan.

Without hesitation, each of them took out their natal magic treasures and delivered an attack at Ning Fan.

“Demon Bone Fan!”

“Yin Phoenix Stings!”

“Poisonous King Cauldron!”

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Ning Fan, however, still remained a neutral expression. With a flick of his sleeve, he took out a blood umbrella and pointed it at the three incoming treasures.

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The three demoness were immensely surprised. The blood umbrella that Ning Fan used was too unusual. Besides, despite his Void Inquiry Stage magic power, he actually could handle High Grade Mortal Void Realm magic treasures so easily!?

Judging from the situation, the three demoness could not put up a fight against Ning Fan at all unless they use Peak Grade Mortal Void Realm magic treasures!

Furthermore, if Ning Fan breaks through to the Void Pierce Stage, he probably could directly take away every magic treasure below the Void Fragmentation Realm and Immortal Void Realm magic treasures using his blood umbrella!

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The three demonesses felt danger from the black and white rope. They wanted to avoid it but they could not make it in time at all.

The rope suddenly sped up. All they could see was a flash of light and they were already bound by the rope.

The power of this black and white rope clearly was not as powerful as Giant Zi Dian’s lightning fetters. However, when it tied around their bodies, it actually sealed off their entire magic power, weakening their bodies and restricting their mobility!

Their expressions paled with fright. All of them realized that the black and white rope was a type of extremely scary bewitching technique that specialized in restraining female cultivators!

This technique was none other than the Yin Imprisoning Rope Technique that Ning Fan used to capture Old Ancestor Bi Tong in the past!

Yin Plucking Finger, Yin Imprisoning Rope... The further Ning Fan’s cultivation in the Yin Yang Transformation, the scarier those techniques would be in restraining female cultivators.

“From today on, you all will be my human cauldrons!”

As soon as Ning Fan finished speaking, he dragged the three demonesses back to the desolate island. After a session of plucking, the three of them were only left with a cultivation realm at the Harmonious Spirit Realm. Then, he put them in the repentance palace of his Cauldron World.

Well, he was not a kind and magnanimous person. If someone tries to harm him, he would certainly not show them mercy.

Ning Fan had fused his magic power, demon power and devil qi together in the past. Even though the human cauldrons he plucked were demonesses, they still could raise his magic power. After plucking the three of them, his magic power rose by two hundred thousand units, reaching eight million and two hundred thousand units in total.

Combined with nine million units of essence qi in him, the total units of his magic power and essence qi had reached a terrifying figure of seventeen million and two hundred thousand, which made him not far away from the threshold of becoming an Absolute Void Stage expert – twenty million units of magic power.

Theoretically speaking, when Ning Fan accumulates thirty-six million units of magic power, he could then start trying to pushing through the bottleneck of the Void Fragmentation Realm. However, his chances of achieving the breakthrough was extremely slim.

Many Absolute Void Stage old monsters had accumulated eighty to ninety million units of magic power but still only a few of them managed to break through to the Void Fragmentation Realm. The rest of them would eventually die due to the end of their lifespans.

The magic power required to advance to the Void Fragmentation Realm was too massive. At the Void Fragmentation Realm, units returned to yuan. The denomination for the measurement of magic power was no longer a unit but a yuan.

A unit was 60 years but a yuan was 129600 years.

Void Refinement Realm magic power and Void Fragmentation Realm magic power were not on the same level. Hence, it was extremely difficult for Void Fragmentations Realm experts to disregard the difference of their cultivation realms and defeat someone with a higher cultivation realm.

If Ning Fan wants to break through to the Void Fragmentation Realm, he must find some Void Fragmentation Realm arts to cultivate when he is at the Absolute Void Stage to turn his unital magic power into yuan magic power...

As for exactly how many yuan of magic power one would need to achieve the Void Fragmentation Realm, it was different from each and every single person. Ning Fan also was not sure about it.

There were a few Void Fragmentation Realm experts around him. Unfortunately, none of them had the same situation as Ning Fan who fused his magic power, demon power and devil qi into one. Without a doubt, the verbal spells or arts that other Void Fragmentation Realm experts used were already not suitable for Ning Fan.

If he wants to advance to the Void Fragmentation Realm, he must find a Void Fragmentation Realm art that is suitable for all the three races – the demon race, devil race and human race to practice... Well, it probably would take him some effort in order to find this kind of art.

“I’ll only need a Void Fragmentation Realm art after breaking through to the Absolute Void Stage. I’ve just attained the Void Inquiry Stage recently and the Absolute Void Stage is very far-off. Hence, there is no need to be in a rush to search for an art that is suitable for me...”

“As I’ve already broken through to the Void Inquiry Stage, none of the female cultivators below the Void Fragmentation Realm will be my match. Male cultivators, on the other hands... With my current cultivation realm, I’m certainly unrivalled among all Void Pierce Stage experts. And, I should be able to put up a fight against an Absolute Void Stage expert who has yet to turn their unital magic power into yuan. However, if I face those Absolute Void Stage cultivators who have successfully obtained yuan magic power, I’m afraid that I won’t have much chances in defeating them...”

Ning Fan muttered to himself on the desolate island. After quiet some time, he left the South Gazing Sea in a flash of light.

At the border between the South Gazing Sea and the eight hundred cultivation countries, Ning Fan suddenly stopped moving with a surprised look on his face.

On the shore of a cultivation country nearby the South Gazing Sea, a lady was quietly standing on a reef, gazing into the sea waves all alone. She seemed to be waiting for someone.

That lady wore a set of snow-white plumage dress and a light veil to cover her face. Her long sleeves made her look graceful and her eyes were picturesque. Her expression, however, was cold and arrogant. She looked like a saintess who looked down upon the mundane world and led a life that departed from common livings.

Her presence emanated the Mid Nascent Soul Realm qi. She had been staring blankly at the ebbs and flows of the ocean waves without speaking a single word.

Only when she noticed Ning Fan's travelling light passed by did she raised her head and looked into the sky. Her eyes contained resentment, longing and complicated emotions.

"I've been waiting for you..." Her tone was ice cold.

"Waiting for me, huh..." Ning Fan also put on an uneasy look. He descended upon the reef and stood facing the lady.

"Should I call you Si Si or Si Wuxie or... Weiliang...?"

The white-robed lady in front of him was none other than the sect master of the Heaven Separation Sect – Si Wuxie...

Her other identity was the seven physical souls of Mu Weiliang...

Because she was a part of Mu Weiliang, Ning Fan could not bear to kill her in the end. He clearly knew that she was his enemy but he still let her go alive...

Ning Fan was always sure that he never owed or treated any of his women shabbily. However, when he thought about it today, the person whom he treated the most unfairly was Si Wuxie.

When he was trying to rescue Ning Gu in the past, he annihilated the entire Heaven Separation Sect and captured Si Wuxie. Then, he wiped off her memories and turned her into a spiritual puppet.

When he thought about it carefully today, he realized that even though Si Wuxie was at fault, it was the elders of the Heaven Separation Sect who plotted against him and Ning Gu and it was not Si Wuxie herself.

Wasn't there just an innocent reason for why Si Wuxie came to the Lower Realm in her clone...? All she wanted to do was to find back the three spiritual souls of Mu Weiliang. Why would she still go to such great lengths to plot against two mortal young men...?

The grudges and debt of kindness in the past might be difficult to tell but Ning Fan still felt that he owed Si Wuxie to a certain extent.

She was Weiliang's seven physical souls. No matter what, how could he hurt her...?

"You indeed have figured out my identity..." After hearing Ning Fan call her 'Weiliang', Si Wuxie's body felt a jolt. Her eyes flickered with a hint of sadness.

She was Mu Weiliang's seven physical souls. Because her seven physical souls were yet to disperse, she still preserved some memories of her previous life. She still remembered her three spiritual souls. She still remembered that butterfly...

In the past, she went against the heavenly laws of the Kunlun Jade Pool in the Western Heaven and secretly descended to the Lower Realm in her clone just because she felt the existence of her three physical souls in the Rain World and she wanted to find them back.

Unfortunately, before her clone attained the Nascent Soul Realm and started to find her three spiritual souls, Ning Fan eliminated her Heaven Separation Sect and captured her, making her his human cauldron and spiritual puppet.

Her memories went blank. She became Si Si. She started to be dependent on Ning Fan. She started to like him.

However, when her memories came back to her, she was in extreme agony after remembering how Ning Fan humiliated her and turned her into a puppet.

During the battle of the devil armies and Yue Country, she had already recovered her memories. She wished that she could give Ning Fan a stab on his back and cause him to die in Yue Country.

In the end, however, she still could not convince herself to do that cruel act and eventually helped Ning Fan resist the invasion of the Heavenly Dao Sect...

She took Ning Fan's Nascent Formation Pill and left in sadness.

She still remembered that final words she said to Ning Fan on the day she left.

"From today on, we owe each other nothing..."

Owing each other nothing... How wishful that idea was. When she returned to Yue Country, she discovered that Ning Fan had already found the three spiritual souls of Mu Weiliang. Then, she faintly understood something...

How could it possible for the two of them not to owe each other anything? Both of them were already entangled with each other in their previous lives. He was that butterfly, that butterfly who sacrificed himself to destroy one of the immortal emperor's eyes just to protect her...

While she had been looking for her three spiritual souls, she was also searching for that butterfly she met in her previous life. However, who would know that the butterfly whom she was always thinking of was that young man who hurt her in the past...

Only asking to bid a long farewell but who could guess the two of them owe each other.

Ning Fan let out a sigh and raised his hand. He wanted to touch Si Wuxie's cheek but when he saw her avoid him like the plague, he put down his hand eventually.

“Do you still hate me?”

“Of course! If I turn you into a spiritual puppet, wipe off your memories and trample your dignity but I am also in love with you, would you hate me...?” Si Wuxie gnashed her silver teeth. The deeper the love one had for the other, the more intense the hatred.

She hated Ning Fan but she could not bear to turn into his enemy no matter what... Because in the end, be it the previous life or the current life, she still loved him.

She suddenly grabbed Ning Fan’s hand and sank her silver tenth into his arm, biting it violently.

Ning Fan did not dare to activate the defense of his physical body. He only let her bit to her heart’s content as he was worried by his ancient devil body would harm her.

Si Wuxie bit his arm until fresh blood was flowing down from his arm in streams. Ning Fan did not say a word nor stop her. He just silently let Si Wuxie vent out her emotions.

Only after a long while did Si Wuxie calmer down a little. Then, she said with a teasing tone.

“I didn’t expect that the young man who only has the Harmonious Spirit Realm in the past would actually reach this level after forty years of training and become a Void Inquiry Stage expert, gaining the title ‘Marquis White Robe’ that shook the Rain World. Such innate talent in cultivation realm is truly shocking. Perhaps the greatest four sects of the Upper Realm will also come to recruit you and aid you in your ascension.”

“However, let me give you an advice. You better not ascend to the Western Heaven Immortal World. You’re an ancient devil, an evil creature that many Buddha sects in the Western Heaven are fond of killing. If you ascend to the Western Heaven, I’ll certainly tell others that you are an ancient devil due to the resentment between us. If that happens, you will be pursued and hunted down by countless True Immortal Realm Buddha cultivators and die without a burial place!”

Si Wuxie’s tone sounded like she was threatening Ning Fan. However, Ning Fan heard the concern she had for him from those words.

Did Si Wuxie just warn him not to ascend to the Western Heaven...?

This woman actually still cared about him in the bottom of her heart, didn't she...?

Ning Fan was also aware of the endless feud between the Buddha sects of the Western Heaven and the ancient devils. Even if he has the opportunity to ascend to the Upper Realm, he also certainly would not choose the Western Heaven.

“Thank you...”

“What are you thanking for? Let me get this straight. I don't have slightest concern regarding your life and death.” Si Wuxie turned to one side and said, stubbornly denying her kind intention.

“Did you just want to tell me this by waiting for him at the South Sea today? Speaking of which, how did you find me...?” Ning Fan asked.

“The entire Yue Country knew that the great Marquis White Robe headed to the South Gazing Sea to face his tribulation. So was it very difficult for me to know your whereabouts? As for the reason why I looked for you this time, it's actually because I have something that I want to discuss with you... First of all, I'm very thankful to you for finding the three spiritual souls...” When Si Wuxie said ‘thankful’, she obviously looked somewhat reluctant and embarrassed.

“I have not only found the three spiritual souls but also the seven physical souls...” Ning Fan deliberately stared at Si Wuxie and said with a faint smile.

“The seven physical souls will never belong to you!” Si Wuxie frowned and glared at him with a cold expression. Then, she continued, “No matter what grudges or debt of gratitude between us in our previous life or the current one, it's already all over now... The two of us no longer owe each other anything...”

“Is that so...?” Ning Fan let out a sigh. Apparently, letting Si Wuxie to accept him again was not something that could be done within one day.

“The reason why I looked for you is to tell you that I sensed that Mu Weiliang’s corpse will wake up in another twenty plus years. Before that happens, you must ‘return’ her three spiritual souls and seven physical souls to her... You must let her souls return to their original place...” Si Wuxie lowered her face, trying to hide her expression that was filled with reluctance.

She was the seven physical souls while Zhi He and the others were the three spiritual souls.

If Ning Fan returns the souls to their original body, she and the other women would vanish from this world forever...

If the souls are not returned to their original body, Mu Weiliang would only be a soulless shell even if she is revived...

Si Wuxie was unwilling to die. No one in the world would want to die. However, letting Mu Weiliang’s souls to return to their original body was her obligation as her seven physical souls.

“So you sensed that Weiliang is about to wake up, huh... I suppose the reason why you came to find me is to discuss the matters about how to return Weiliang’s souls to their original place. Unfortunately, I don’t have the idea of returning her souls to her body.”

“What?! You aren’t planning to let her souls return to her body?! Do you have any idea how long her souls have been dispersed?! Do you have any idea how eager she wanted to open her eyes and have a look at that goddamn butterfly?! She misses you so much but you refuse to return her souls to her!” Si Wuxie’s ice cold face was filled with rage.

“It’s not because I refuse to do so. I just can’t bear to do so... To me, be it Zhi He, Mu Xiaoliang or Mu Xiaohuan, all of them are Weiliang. And you, Si Wuxie, are also Weiliang... All of you are her. If she regains her souls, all of your existences will disappear... I guess this also isn’t what Weiliang wants in the end.”

“Twenty years later, her artificial souls will be created using the power of the Seven Treasures Buddhist Relics. Then, she will be revived. She might not be able to become a true living person without her true souls. However, I will find a way one day to truly revive her without hurting you, Zhi He, Xiaoliang and Xiaohuan!”

“I’ve promised her that I will provide her a life with no conflicts. This world will certainly grant her a peaceful life!”

After hearing Ning Fan’s words, Si Wuxie’s anger dissipated and complicated emotions began taking over her heart.

It turned out that Ning Fan did not just care for Mu Weiliang but also them who were a part of her souls...

All of a sudden, she recalled the scene when Ning Fan gave to her the Nascent Formation Pill and let her go... Her ice cold heart was gradually melted with warmth.

“Very well! You are the butterfly that she is waiting for. Since you said you aren’t going to return her souls to her, then so be it. After all, I am not willing to have my existence erased. However, remember what you’ve said. You must help her condense her true soul one day. Otherwise, I will never let you go!”

“Since you’ve already found all her three spiritual souls, it’s meaningless for my clone to continue lingering in the Lower Realm. I’ll return to the Western Heaven Immortal World now. In another fifty years, the sealed gate of the Ancient Heavenly Court will be opened again. When that time comes, I’ll send a Void Fragmentation Realm true soul to look for you.”

Si Wuxie’s words made Ning Fan slightly stunned. “Why will you look for me fifty years later?”

“There is an Undying Tree in the Ancient Heavenly Court that can help a cultivator whose souls are completely scattered to condense their souls again... Fifty years later, I’ll bring you to look for that Undying Tree to recondense the souls for Mu Weiliang...”

After Si Wuxie had finished speaking, she made a series of hand seals and performed a magic technique called Body Shattering Art. it could make the user’s clone to disperse while carrying its memories back to their original body.

She wanted to return to the Western Heaven...

“So we’ll meet again fifty years later, right, Si Si?” Ning Fan said with his lips curved upwards. At the next instant, he took a step forward and pulled Si Wuxie who was performing the hand seals into his embrace, tightly hugging her.

“Let go of me! Don’t touch me! You shameless man!” Si Wuxie’s face was still as cold as ice. She was unwilling to let Ning Fan hug her but was reluctant to break free from him at the same time. All she did was just cursing him in a low tone.

“I’ll never let go. And, don’t you ever think you can run away from me. I’m your tribulation and you can’t avoid me in this life...”

Under Ning Fan’s faint smile, Si Wuxie’s body gradually grew fainter and broke down into strands of starlight which flew into the Four Heavens.

At the edge of the holy pond in Kunlun Jade Pool of the Western Heaven, a white-robed lady who covered her face with a light veil was sitting on a bluestone peacefully.