

Grasping 851

Chapter 851: Goblin Ancestor's Cave Mansion

The Commercial Pavilion's main pavilion spans tens of thousands of miles, entirely shrouded in a pale silver Mist Sea.

This pale silver mist can obstruct spirit sense perception and slow down escape light speed, acting as a natural barrier for the Commercial Pavilion.

Most of the cultivators coming and going can only slowly fly through the mist, and even Fate Immortal cultivators cannot widely spread their spirit sense in the mist.

At the center of the Mist Sea lies a massive vortex, above which float numerous floating cities.

That is where the main pavilion of the Commercial Pavilion is located. Beneath the vortex is the forbidden zone deep within the Mist Sea.

The Mist Sea on the ground is referred to by the Pavilion's cultivators as the First Layer of the Mist Sea, where the density of the mist is sufficient to hinder the spirit sense perception of Fate Immortal cultivators.

Beneath the vortex, there are also the second, third, and fourth layers of the Mist Sea... Few in the outside world know the exact number of layers, making it a secret of the Godly Void Pavilion.

In the Second Layer of the Mist Sea, there floats a suspended island named Dongming Island, upon which are built eight treasure vaults.

Ning Fan walked leisurely through the mist, each step seemingly treading on the veins of rain and mist Dao traces in this place.

The mist parted self-consciously as he approached, as if respectfully welcoming his arrival.

Along the way, some cultivators who witnessed this strange scene were all shocked and changed their expressions drastically.

Yet, when seeing that the figure walking in the mist was Ning Fan, they all felt relieved.

The Rain Immortal Monarch Ning Fan possesses a mystical Divine Skill that can make rain and mist submit... Who in the Dongming Star Domain doesn't know of this today?

Every cultivator of the Godly Void Pavilion gazes at Ning Fan with varying degrees of awe.

Some unmarried female cultivators, in particular, often gaze at Ning Fan with a bit of admiration and shyness.

None of this concerned Ning Fan, who continued to travel, flying all the way to the center of the Mist Sea, descending towards the cultivation city where the main pavilion of the Commercial Pavilion is located.

The mist here is extremely dense, the air moist, yet carrying a sense of stagnation and stuffiness.

Upon landing in the cultivation city, Ning Fan did not linger but simply took out the token given by Xiang Mingzi, casting a mnemonic toward the direction of the main pavilion to announce his arrival. He then immediately leaped into the vortex of the Mist Sea below.

He came here with two purposes: one was to go to the treasure vault on Dongming Island in the Second Layer of the Mist Sea to access the cultivation materials there; the second was to enter the Fourth Layer of the Mist Sea and place the Immortalization Stele in the Tablet Nurturing Pool there for nourishment over a thousand years.

Entering the treasure vault requires the Pavilion Master's token; entering the Tablet Nurturing Pool also requires the Pavilion Master's token.

Ning Fan did not have the Pavilion Master's token but had a token given by Xiang Mingzi, which had almost the same effect, allowing him free access to these forbidden areas. The cultivation materials in the Commercial Pavilion were also his to take at will.

Informing the Commercial Pavilion was merely a matter of courtesy. However, just as Ning Fan cast the mnemonic, four streaks of light flew hurriedly out from the main pavilion, calling out to Ning Fan.

"Immortal Monarch, please wait, the Four Elders of Ciming have something to say to you!"

Upon hearing this, Ning Fan immediately halted his descent, pausing mid-air above the Mist Sea.

The four streaks of escape light approached rapidly, transforming into the appearance of four elders, each of whom was a Peak Crossing Truth Realm cultivator.

"The Four Elders of Ciming greet the Rain Immortal Monarch!" Each of the four old monsters smiled and clasped their fists in salute to Ning Fan.

Ning Fan slightly hesitated, clasping his fists in return salute and asking in surprise, "The four elders have stopped me; what guidance might you have?"

Having stayed at the Ancestral Pavilion for three months, Ning Fan had somewhat heard of the Four Elders of Ciming.

Currently, all the strong above Shedding Void in the Commercial Pavilion were busy repairing the Heaven Suppressing Bell, leaving mundane affairs unattended, making these four the highest authorities in the main pavilion of the Commercial Pavilion. Naturally, Ning Fan would not be overly dismissive of them.

"Hehe, I am Xun Ci, these three are respectively Daoist Zhao Mingzi, Daoist Wux Wangsun, and Daoist Qux Dongting... The four of us are the current leaders of the main pavilion of the Commercial Pavilion. The reason we stopped you, Immortal Monarch, is that we have a request."

Among the four, an elder with a head full of gray hair explained to Ning Fan with a slight smile.

"Oh? What is Elder Xun's request?" Ning Fan's eyes slightly flickered as he inquired.

With his personality, he naturally wouldn't agree to others' requests easily, but he could at least listen.

"Hehe, Immortal Monarch came here today, presumably to enter the treasure vault on Dongming Island?" Xun Ci asked with a smile.

"Indeed, that is so."

"To be candid, there's been a slight issue with the Dongming Island treasure vault..."

Xun Ci sighed with a bitter smile, taking out a jade scroll and handing it to Ning Fan. The jade scroll contained a portion of his spirit sense, recording the event of Dongming Island sinking into the Fourth Layer of the Mist Sea.

After taking the jade scroll, Ning Fan's spirit sense delved into it, and long after, he withdrew his spirit sense, his brows slightly furrowed.

He had arrived at rather an unfortunate time... Dongming Island, which had always floated in the Second Layer of the Mist Sea, unexpectedly sank into the Fourth Layer last night...

"Is Elder Xun's request related to this matter?" Ning Fan asked.

"Exactly. I've heard, Immortal Monarch, that your divine skills are astonishing, with many restraining powers over rain and mist. I boldly wish to ask you to enter the Fourth Layer and relocate Dongming Island back to the Second Layer... The fog in the Fourth Layer is too strong; even we at the Peak Crossing Truth Realm cannot enter. Even Shedding Void cultivators, if they enter rashly, will have their cultivation suppressed by ninety percent, making it difficult to relocate Dongming Island back to the Second Layer... If not for sensing your arrival, I would have most likely already sent someone to the Heavenly Prison to request the assistance of the Fragmented Thought Senior... I hope Immortal Monarch would kindly lend a hand and assist the Commercial Pavilion in relocating Dongming Island. This item, consider it a token of my gratitude, and I hope Immortal Monarch won't divulge the intelligence contained within it..." Xun Ci smiled bitterly, took out another jade scroll, and handed it to Ning Fan.

"Elder Xun certainly has great confidence in me... To entrust me with what only a Fragmented Thought Elder can accomplish..." Ning Fan couldn't help but chuckle, thinking that Xun Ci indeed held him in high regard.

After taking the second jade scroll and scanning it with his spirit sense, Ning Fan's eyes immediately flickered.

This second jade scroll was Xun Ci's gift of gratitude, and it astonishingly contained one of the great secrets of the Godly Void Pavilion—secrets regarding the Mist Sea.

These secrets were rarely known to outsiders, generally only known to a very few old monsters of the Godly Void Pavilion.

Ning Fan put away the jade scroll, and when he looked at Xun Ci again, his eyes carried a mix of playful and solemn respect.

"Elder Xun gives me such a generous gift, and I am at a loss for how to repay..." Ning Fan looked at Xun Ci with a smile that was not quite a smile.

"Haha, even if I don't give this information, I fear others would be willing to gift it to the Immortal Lord to forge good relations with him," Xun Ci laughed heartily.

"...Fine, since I've already accepted the elder's gift, I, Ning Fan, will do my utmost to move Dongming Island back to the second level... Farewell!"

Ning Fan looked deeply at Xun Ci, his figure flickered, and he flew toward the Mist Sea whirlpool.

The second jade scroll given by Xun Ci contained secret information about the Mist Sea.

Only two or three hundred people in the Godly Void Pavilion had the qualifications to know this information.

The Mist Sea is an ancient secret land, consisting of nine layers, a cave mansion left by the former Ancestral Emperor from the Eastern Heaven—Ancestral Demon of the East.

The first layer of the Mist Sea is on the surface, while the other eight layers are in the Earth Abyss beneath the whirlpool.

The mist from the second to fourth layers can only be used for defense, not for cultivation, and is the floating place of Dongming Island.

The spiritual energy is extremely dense from the fifth to eighth layers, only slightly weaker than the Heavenly Prison, and is the cultivation place for many Shedding Void Realm old monsters and Fragmented Thought Elders of the Godly Void Pavilion.

The ninth layer is the location of the Ancestral Demon's cave mansion, where there are no items, only some bizarre stele engravings.

The words on those steles are ancient and difficult to discern, and no one can understand them.

No one knows what the Ancestral Demon wrote in his cave mansion.

This is the information Xun Ci gave to Ning Fan.

Ning Fan is quite interested in the Ancestral Demon's cave mansion. If he has the ability to enter the ninth layer of the Mist Sea, he will certainly explore the cave mansion...

"Elder Xun, why did you give the information about the Ancestral Demon's cave mansion to the Rain Immortal Monarch? Do you think he has the ability to enter the ninth layer?" Elder Wux Wangsun asked in confusion after Ning Fan left.

"Hehe, Daoist Wu, you're joking. How could this old man expect the Rain Immortal Monarch to enter the ninth layer... Throughout history, only the Shenhao Twin Emperors could enter the ninth layer; even Immortal Kings couldn't step in. The oppressive force is too strong, forcing entry would only result in

severe injury... Only Eternal Immortal Venerables can step into the eighth layer... Only Fragmented Thought Elders can step into the seventh layer... With the Rain Immortal Monarch's ability to subdue the rain, he'll most likely reach the sixth layer. For him, the sixth layer is an excellent place for cultivation. This old man gave him the jade scroll, intending to be the first to inform him of this secret as a gesture of goodwill," Xun Ci smiled, leading the other three elders back to the Main Pavilion.

The four of them did not believe Ning Fan could enter below the sixth layer, yet they were all confident in Ning Fan's ability to move Dongming Island back.

They thought they didn't underestimate Ning Fan, but apparently, they still did...

...

Once entered the Mist Sea whirlpool, it was equivalent to entering the second layer of the Mist Sea.

The mist in the second layer of the Mist Sea is naturally denser than on the ground. Here, even Crossing Truth Realm cultivators cannot fully exert their power; their cultivations and spirit senses are greatly suppressed.

In the second layer, there are also scattered mist beasts. These mist beasts have low intelligence and cultivation, at most reaching Divinity Transformation.

Ning Fan comprehended the Rain Yin Yang, nurturing a thread of Palm Position Power within, greatly subduing the rain and mist.

Upon entering the second layer, he was not suppressed at all. Instead, his presence caused the mist beasts hiding in the thick fog to tremble in fear...

In the eyes of those low-intelligence mist beasts, Ning Fan was not a cultivator, but rather a drop of rain—a rain that could dominate all rain and mist paths of the world!

With their meager cultivation, Ning Fan could obliterate their existence with a mere thought... They were extremely terrified of Ning Fan!

"So this is the former floating position of Dongming Island..."

Ning Fan stopped his escape light at a certain place in the second layer and spread his spirit sense far and wide.

Amidst the thick fog, there were clearly traces of a manmade formation, likely the original position of Dongming Island.

"Just need to enter the fourth layer and move Dongming Island back here to fulfill Xun Ci's request..."

Ning Fan's gaze flashed, and he immediately descended downward.

Suddenly, two small mist beasts darted out in front of him and accidentally collided with him.

These two mist beasts were only the size of a fist, with cultivation equivalent to the Harmonious Spirit level.

They were playing chase, and unluckily bumped into Ning Fan, this unrivaled fierce star...

One of the mist beast's claws was sharp and even left a blood mark on Ning Fan's face...

"Howl... Howl..."

The two low-intelligence mist beasts, realizing the great trouble they had caused, immediately got flustered, trembling all over, their demon eyes full of fear and unease.

Though their intelligence was low, they understood they could have triggered a great danger by scratching Ning Fan's face!

They might be wiped out with a thought by Ning Fan, the nemesis of their rain mist clan!

"Mist beasts, huh..."

Ning Fan glanced briefly at the two mist beasts, touched the blood mark on his face, and with a flash of black star light, the wound instantly vanished.

When he looked at the two small beasts again, there was inquiry, thought, surprise, but no killing intent.

He was not a person of wanton slaughter and wouldn't act on a killing impulse because of the small beasts' unintentional mistake.

The only thing that surprised him was that these mist beasts' claws could penetrate his Heavenly Demon Physical Body defense and leave a blood mark on his face...

The reason they could injure him was not because the paws were particularly sharp... but because these small beasts' claws inadvertently triggered a thread of the power of the grand force of heaven and earth, breaking his Heavenly Demon Physical Body defense...

"Do not fear... you may go."

With a wave, Ning Fan conjured a breeze from his sleeve, sending the two beasts far away.

With a flicker of Rain Intent in his eyes, his spirit sense instantly merged with all the dense fog in the Second Layer of the Mist Sea.

Closing his eyes, Ning Fan could still clearly identify all the hidden Mist Beasts in this area through his spirit sense in the mist.

The cultivation levels of these Mist Beasts might be low, yet they could more or less harness a trace of the power of dominance.

Though the power they harnessed was not much, it was enough for them to slightly protect themselves when faced with powerful Masters...

"The power of dominance... Is this an innate ability the Mist Beasts here are born with..."

Ning Fan's gaze slightly tensed as he pondered silently.

After a long while, he finally rolled up his escape light and flew toward deeper layers.

In the Third Layer of the Mist Sea, a Crossing Truth Realm cultivator would be suppressed by ninety percent of their cultivation level upon entering, yet this layer failed to slow Ning Fan's escape speed in the slightest.

In the Fourth Layer of the Mist Sea, even a Shedding Void Cultivator would find their cultivation level suppressed by ninety percent upon entering. However, at this layer, there was no sign of suppression on Ning Fan's cultivation at all.

He was a practitioner of Rain Yin Yang, holding a trace of the Palm Rain Power within him.

Only he suppresses the rain and fog; when would the rain and fog ever suppress him!

In the Fourth Layer of the Mist Sea, Dongming Island had already sunk all the way to the bottom.

At the bottom of the Fourth Layer, there was an array light membrane that blocked any cultivator trying to enter the Fifth Layer.

This array light membrane was extremely formidable, only cultivators who mastered the Pass-Through Mnemonic could pass through the formation light and enter the Fifth Layer.

The Pass-Through Mnemonic was what Xun Ci had informed Ning Fan about through a jade scroll.

Without the Pass-Through Mnemonic, even Ning Fan, a Thought-Shattering Cultivator, would not be able to easily pass through this array light membrane.

Being blocked by this array light membrane, Dongming Island naturally sank to the bottom, unable to continue descending to the Fifth Layer.

Gazing at the enormous island before him, as well as the eight treasure vaults on the island, Ning Fan paused in silence for a moment before forming a mnemonic and directly performing the Instant Shift.

In an instant, the enormous Dongming Island flickered and suddenly vanished from the Fourth Layer, reappearing directly above the Second Layer.

This Dongming Island was unexpectedly shifted back to the Second Layer by a single Instant Shift from Ning Fan!

Not hasty to enter Dongming Island's treasure vault to retrieve treasures, Ning Fan was presently more interested in the Goblin Ancestor's Cave Mansion in the Ninth Layer of the Mist Sea.

At the moment Dongming Island returned to its place, Xun Ci and others far away in the Main Pavilion of the Commercial Pavilion all smiled knowingly, showing admiration.

Indeed, Ning Fan did not disappoint and moved Dongming Island back.

After moving Dongming Island back, Ning Fan's figure flickered, escaping towards another direction in the Fourth Layer.

In that direction was a Land of Demons sealed by a hidden formation, precisely the Tablet Nurturing Pool.

Using a token to open the array light, Ning Fan reluctantly placed the Immortalization Stele into the Tablet Nurturing Pool for nourishment. After resealing the array light, he turned and left.

Once its energy was depleted, it would require a thousand years of nourishment, within which Ning Fan could no longer use the Immortalization Stele.

This item would temporarily return to the Godly Void Pavilion for nourishment...

Upon leaving the Tablet Nurturing Pool, Ning Fan immediately utilized the Pass-Through Mnemonic to enter the Fifth Layer of the Mist Sea.

As soon as he entered the Fifth Layer, the twenty-six old monsters cultivating there all opened their eyes, seemingly sensing Ning Fan's direction.

The lowest cultivation level among these old monsters cultivating here was the Initiate Realm of Shekong, while the highest was even at the Late Stage of Shekong!

Those cultivating here were old monsters of the Godly Void Pavilion who had been in seclusion for years, indifferent to external rumors, solely focused on cultivation.

The only task given to them by the Godly Void Pavilion was cultivation... Over time, they would become the peak force of the next generation in the Godly Void Pavilion.

"What! Ghost Profound Peak-Stage! How is it possible! How could a cultivator at Ghost Profound Peak-Stage have the ability to enter the Fifth Layer of the Mist Sea! Could this person be hiding their cultivation! Humph, truly putting on airs!"

"I cannot see clearly... The fog here is too thick. Even we Shedding Void Realm old monsters can only extend our spirit sense a thousand Zhang outward, and our sight can only penetrate a Zhang or so distance... We cannot make out this person's appearance, though their aura seems unfamiliar... Could they be a newly joined Shedding Void Realm old monster?"

"In the Fifth Layer of the Mist Sea, there are only twenty-six optimal spiritual qi spots... With his arrival, he will inevitably compete with one of us for a seclusion cave mansion..."

Upon thinking about this, the expressions of the twenty-six Shedding Void Realm old monsters in seclusion became indeterminate.

Their gaze towards Ning Fan also carried a tinge of outsider hostility...

What surprised them was that Ning Fan did not linger long in the Fifth Layer, nor did he have any thoughts of competing for the twenty-six cave mansions of the Fifth Layer.

As soon as he entered the Fifth Layer, Ning Fan swiftly headed towards the Sixth Layer of the Mist Sea.

"What! This person is actually heading to the Sixth Layer! Could it be he actually possesses Peak of Shekong cultivation level!"

"Without a Peak of Shekong cultivation level, entering the Sixth Layer of the Mist Sea recklessly would directly result in being repelled by the fog!"

Their gazes shifting, Ning Fan directly charged into the Sixth Layer of the Mist Sea without being repelled.

"This person is indeed a Peak of Shekong Cultivator! No... Even a Peak of Shekong Cultivator would cautiously enter the Sixth Layer, never as easily as this... Could he actually be a Fragmented Thought Elder!" the twenty-six old monsters all speculated.

In the Sixth Layer of the Mist Sea, the fog was no longer silver but red, a light red like vermilion.

There were fourteen naturally formed red fog cave mansions in the Sixth Layer of the Mist Sea. Only two of these cave mansions were unoccupied, while the other twelve all had Peak of Shekong cultivators in seclusion.

At the moment Ning Fan arrived, the twelve Peak of Shekong all opened their eyes simultaneously.

"Ghost Profound Peak Stage? No, it should be the hidden cultivation at the Peak of Shekong... Is this Daoist also here to cultivate? Fortunately, there are still two cave mansions vacant on this level, so there won't be a fight over them..."

The old monsters settled down, each closing their eyes and returning to their cultivation state.

A few breaths later, these old monsters simultaneously opened their eyes, one after another leaving their cave mansions, gazing towards the direction of the seventh layer!

In their incredulous expressions, Ning Fan stepped into the seventh layer of the Mist Sea!

"This person... is actually a Thought-Shattering Cultivator! No mistake, to enter the seventh layer, one must undoubtedly be a Thought-Shattering Cultivator!"

"The spiritual energy in the seventh layer of the Mist Sea is three times that of the sixth layer. Cultivating there is extremely fast..."

All twelve Peak of Shekong Cultivators revealed envious expressions, envious that Ning Fan could enter the seventh layer to cultivate.

In the seventh layer of the Mist Sea, Ning Fan finally felt the difficulty of taking a step forward.

Although he had cultivated Rain Yin Yang, it was not unsealed, arriving at this layer, his cultivation was nearly completely suppressed by the mist power of this layer.

The mist in the seventh layer was black, in the swirling black mist, nine cave mansions appeared indistinctly on this layer.

Of the nine cave mansions, four were vacant, while the other five were occupied by Thought-Shattering cultivators.

Among the five Thought-Shattering, four were Initiate Stage, one was Intermediate Stage. The moment Ning Fan arrived, the five all opened their eyes but shook their heads slightly and closed their eyes again.

"Once this person entered the seventh layer, their cultivation was completely suppressed, unable to move a step... It seems likely that this person is a cultivator who has just stepped into the Thought-Shattering Realm, with an unstable realm... What a pity, an unstable Thought-Shattering realm is unable to cultivate in this layer's cave mansion. After suffering enough, this person will likely retreat back to the sixth layer..."

However, to their disbelief, Ning Fan did not retreat back to the sixth layer.

A few breaths later, the Rain Star between Ning Fan's brows unsealed, and a burst of unimaginable rain mist power exploded from his body.

At this moment, the mist power of the entire seventh layer of the Mist Sea seemed to obey Ning Fan's command!

Once Ning Fan unsealed the Rain Yin Yang power, he immediately disregarded all mist power and charged towards the eighth layer of the Mist Sea!

Instantly, the five Thought-Shattering old monsters all stood up in shock, looking incredulously towards the direction of the eighth layer!

"Eternal Immortal Venerable! This person is indeed an Eternal Immortal Venerable! If not, this person would never be able to step into the eighth layer of the Mist Sea!"

"The aura of this Eternal Immortal Venerable is so unfamiliar, even though we have closed door cultivation here for millions of years, we shouldn't fail to recognize this person... Could it be that this person is a Newly Ascended Immortal Venerable?"

This doubt arose not only in the minds of the five Thought-Shattering old monsters on the seventh floor but also in the minds of the four Eternal Immortal Venerables on the eighth floor.

In the eighth layer, there were five cave mansions in total, but only three Eternal Immortal Venerables were in closed-door cultivation here.

Seeing Ning Fan's arrival, the three Eternal Immortal Venerables immediately all walked out of their cave mansions to welcome Ning Fan, clasping their fists with extreme politeness,

"Daoist Friend, you seem unfamiliar. Are you a Newly Ascended Immortal Venerable? What may we call you?"

"Junior Ning Fan, I greet the three Immortal Venerables." The three Immortal Venerables treated Ning Fan politely, so naturally, Ning Fan would not be arrogant and politely returned the salute.

Upon hearing Ning Fan refer to himself as junior, the three Immortal Venerables were all stunned and thought to themselves that Ning Fan was most likely a Newly Ascended Immortal Venerable, not yet accustomed to the status of an Immortal Venerable, hence referring to himself as junior.

The three were not overly assuming, affirming in their hearts that Ning Fan was an Eternal Immortal Venerable and naturally still referred to him as a Daoist friend.

After a brief exchange, Ning Fan also learned the names of these three Eternal Immortal Venerables.

Among the three Immortal Venerables, the old man dressed in black was named Cloud Thunder Celestial Venerate, possessing the cultivation of the Second Calamity of the Eternals.

The other two Immortal Venerables both possessed the cultivation of the First Calamity of the Eternals.

After a simple introduction, the three Immortal Venerables returned to their cave mansions to continue their closed-door cultivation.

Ning Fan did not choose to cultivate in a cave mansion on the eighth layer. His intention was for the demon ancestor's cave mansion on the ninth layer of the Mist Sea.

When Cloud Thunder Celestial Venerate and the others perceived Ning Fan heading straight for the ninth layer, they all smiled slightly, neither agreeing nor disagreeing.

Any Immortal Venerable or Immortal King capable of entering the eighth layer would undoubtedly, out of curiosity, attempt to break into the ninth layer of the Mist Sea.

However, it's a pity that only the Shenhao Twin Emperors have the strength to enter the ninth layer of the Mist Sea. Even an Immortal King of the Fifth Calamity of the Eternals attempting to rush in would result in nothing but being repelled.

They had all tried entering the ninth layer themselves, but unfortunately, with their Immortal Venerable cultivation, they could not succeed.

From their view, Ning Fan certainly would not enter either... After all, Ning Fan was but a 'Newly Ascended Immortal Venerable'.

Newly Ascended Immortal Venerable sounds good, but it is, in fact, a Zero Tribulation Celestial Venerate, one who has not yet undergone the baptism of the 'Tribulation of Measure'.

The First Calamity of the Eternals is not the weakest realm among Immortal Venerables; the weakest is the Zero Tribulation Celestial Venerate, which when put nicely, is a Newly Ascended Immortal Venerable.

"I wonder how many breaths this person can withstand in the ninth layer. Back when I first stepped into the Timeless Realm, I also attempted to enter the ninth layer but could only withstand three breaths before being repelled..." Cloud Thunder Celestial Venerate muttered.

One breath, two breaths, three breaths... Ten breaths passed, and Ning Fan was still not repelled, the expressions of the three Immortal Venerables began to change from calm to unrest.

Twenty breaths, thirty breaths, forty breaths... After a hundred breaths, Ning Fan still had not returned to the eighth layer, the expressions of the three Immortal Venerables had turned to shock and amazement!

Eventually, Ning Fan was not expelled by the mist power of the ninth layer!

Cloud Thunder Celestial Venerate and others gasped collectively, looking incredulously towards the ninth layer of the Mist Sea!

"Could it be that Daoist Ning is not a Newly Ascended Immortal Venerable, but an... Immortal Emperor!"

"If not, how could he have the strength to enter the ninth layer of the Mist Sea! He is indeed an Immortal Emperor! When did such a Great Emperor appear within the Eastern Heaven!"

Chapter 852: Who in the World Can Awaken from Nijun's Dream?

The Ninth Layer of the Mist Sea is a world shrouded in purple mist.

This place's purple mist feels like a dream, giving Ning Fan a very familiar feeling... When he achieved Divinity Transformation at the Ten Steps Bridge, he had seen this kind of purple mist.

The purple mist here not only suppresses the cultivation and spirit sense of masters but also has an irresistible power of illusion. The moment Ning Fan steps in, it immediately invades his body.

In just an instant, layers upon layers of illusions appear in Ning Fan's eyes, changing his expression as these illusions appear real and yet not, beyond his capability to see through.

Without any hesitation, Ning Fan immediately activates the Fu Li Demon Blood within his body, releasing the ancestral blood suppression around him for three feet.

In his left eye, the Fu Li Demon Star slightly flickers, causing his body to emit a purple-black demon light.

Ning Fan's aura immediately turns strange and sinister, becoming unpredictable.

With a shock of the Fu Li ancestral blood's suppression, the illusions before him immediately begin to collapse.

The Fu Li race's specialty is the Illusory Art, and the Fu Li ancestor's blood has incredible restraint against illusions.

After breaking the illusion, the purple mist here starts to swirl, turning into large purple palms, slapping towards Ning Fan.

These giant palms arrive slowly but move steadily, with an invisible momentum that weighs heavily, making Ning Fan's breathing difficult.

Only a true Immortal Emperor can withstand such a level of momentum; even an Immortal King cannot do it.

If hit by the giant palms, even an Immortal King would be knocked out of this purple mist world, and Ning Fan would be no exception!

He cannot confront it head-on and can only evade.

Ning Fan narrows his gaze, summoning the Ghost Eye Clan, the blue light flickering in his eyes, and he lightly taps his toe, rushing towards the countless giant purple mist palms in front.

Every step treads on the pulse of the great momentum here.

Clearly, he is moving directly towards those giant palms, but due to Ning Fan's strange footwork, just as the giant palms are about to smash upon him, they often veer off automatically, brushing past him...

At this moment, Ning Fan is walking upon the great momentum of heaven and earth, skillfully avoiding a direct confrontation with the giant purple mist palms, as he continues to move forward step by step.

Amidst the purple mist, Ning Fan does not know how long he has traveled, gradually, all the giant palms disappear, and the great momentum of heaven and earth begins to settle down.

The further forward he goes, the denser the purple mist becomes. Half an hour later, stepping upon the momentum, Ning Fan reaches the end of the purple mist world.

Here, circles of faint golden light seem like ripples in water, continuously spreading outwards, dispersing all the purple mist in this place.

The source of the faint golden light is a golden island floating in the sky and earth.

The island has an extremely heavy demon aura, which gives Ning Fan a very familiar feeling, consistent with the aura of the Eastern Ocean Bell, belonging to the Ancestral Demon of the East.

Outside the island, the golden light forms layers of demon clan formations. Without the cultivation of an Immortal Emperor, it's difficult to forcefully break into the formation and enter the island world.

This Demon Island is the location of the Goblin Ancestor's Cave Mansion.

Ning Fan attempts briefly, and finds that with his cultivation, he can't break through the golden light formation.

If he tries to forcibly break the island's formation, he would be turned to ashes by the formation...

"The Ninth Layer of the Mist Sea is indeed not a place ordinary masters can enter..."

After a moment of silence, Ning Fan suddenly makes a hand gesture, retrieving the Eastern Ocean Bell from within the Xuan Yin Treasure, striking it with an art.

Immediately, the Eastern Ocean Bell trembles slightly, emitting an ancient, deep ringing, sending out circles of faint golden light expanding in all directions.

This is Ning Fan's attempt, trying to see if he can use the Eastern Ocean Bell to cleverly break through the Demon Island Great Array.

The result of the attempt satisfies Ning Fan quite a bit.

With the chime of the Eastern Ocean Bell, a golden light passage immediately appears upon the array of the Demon Island.

This great array seems to be welcoming Ning Fan's return... only because Ning Fan holds the Eastern Ocean Bell, causing the array to recognize Ning Fan as the former master of this island—the Ancestral Demon of the East.

After a brief contemplation, Ning Fan tentatively steps forward into the golden light passage.

Once he senses everything is normal, he continues to move forward, passing through the passage and stepping onto the Demon Island.

The Demon Island is barren, with serpentine mountain ranges. Looking upon them, the mountains shape resembles a colossal Golden Crow long asleep here.

Deep within the mountains lies an ancient cavern, once the secluded cultivation place of the Ancestral Demon of the East.

It is a cave mansion long empty, with its contents taken by the Godly Void Pavilion, leaving only an empty abode.

Upon stepping into this place, the Eastern Ocean Bell lightly trembles, seemingly quite elated.

Almost without Ning Fan's control, the Eastern Ocean Bell transforms into a ray of golden light, flying directly towards the direction of the cave mansion.

Once inside the cavern and seeing the empty, dust-covered cave with no trace of its former host, the bell trembles on its own, emitting a series of mournful chimes...

The treasure longs for its master, yet the former master is long gone...

Ning Fan follows closely behind the Eastern Ocean Bell, arriving at this desolate cave mansion, and when he senses a trace of sadness from the Eastern Ocean Bell, his heart is slightly moved.

The Ancestral Demon of the East has long perished countless years ago, dust returns to dust, soil returns to soil... and the only one who still yearns for the Ancestral Demon of the East, perhaps across the entire world, is only this magical treasure, the Eastern Ocean Bell...

"Quiet now... you still have me as your master..."

Ning Fan stepped closer to the Eastern Ocean Bell, reaching out his hand to gently caress its cool surface, as if comforting a child.

Whether Ning Fan's words had an effect or not, the Eastern Ocean Bell gradually ceased its sorrowful resonance, returning to peace.

Ning Fan sighed slightly, retracting the Eastern Ocean Bell back into the Xuan Yin Treasure, wandering alone in the cave mansion.

The only thing that attracted Ning Fan in this desolate mansion was the ancient carvings on the cave's stone walls.

Most of the carvings are murals, with a small portion written in ancient demon race text that Ning Fan couldn't understand.

These texts seemed to describe the content of the murals.

There were over a hundred murals, the first depicting a gigantic egg surrounded by clouds formed from the interplay of clear and turbid qi.

Although Ning Fan couldn't understand these ancient demon characters, he could discern that the egg in the mural was actually a gigantic demon cocoon.

On the demon cocoon, three circles were drawn, with the outer circle enclosing the inner ones.

Ning Fan walked forward and looked at the second mural, which showed the demon cocoon now broken open, with an Immemorial Golden Crow flying out from it.

The third mural portrayed the Golden Crow transforming into a human form, a wild and unruly young man with a blurred face.

Despite the young man's features being unclear, Ning Fan could feel an intense, domineering presence emanating from him.

The fourth mural depicted only the back of the young man, a back Ning Fan had seen before... Among the nine divisions of the Lu Clan, he had once grasped the Secret Art of Prestige of the Ancestor Emperor of Dongming, during which he had seen the back of the Ancestor Emperor of Dongming!

"Could these murals possibly depict the life of the Ancestral Demon of the East?" Ning Fan seemed to have an epiphany.

In the fifth mural, the young man was cultivating some divine skill, with a giant bell swirling above his head and three halos in his palm.

Those three halos were undoubtedly spirit wheels!

Upon viewing this mural, the yet-to-be-consolidated Fu Li Spirit Wheel of Ning Fan suddenly emerged from his body, emitting an otherworldly purple-black glow.

At this moment, the spirit wheels in the mural and Ning Fan's self-cultivated spirit wheels seemed to resonate with each other!

Suddenly, the stone door of the cave mansion boomed shut, completely sealing off!

The golden light from the Demon Island Great Array immediately surged frantically towards the cave mansion!

Ning Fan's gaze changed, recognizing that his spirit wheel had triggered some sort of incident.

This incident was of unknown nature; it could be the trigger of some hidden legacy or a portent of imminent danger. According to Ning Fan's character, if there was any potential danger, he wouldn't stay passively in the cave mansion waiting for it to come.

Just as he was about to shatter the stone door of the cave mansion to leave, the Eastern Ocean Bell within the Xuan Yin Treasure gently trembled, as if comforting Ning Fan not to worry excessively about this incident...

Ning Fan's raised hand finally lowered, azure spikes flashing in his eyes, seeing the grand momentum being stirred by the change in the cave mansion, though it bore no hostility...

"Could this be an opportunity..."

Ning Fan turned back to look at the fifth mural, concentrating his gaze, ultimately deciding to stay.

A few breaths later, countless golden lights poured into the cave mansion, and from the ancient, barely recognizable words on the stone walls flew out, transforming into golden streams entering Ning Fan's heavenly spirit.

Immediately, countless pieces of information flooded Ning Fan's divine sense!

No Divine Void Great Emperor had ever unraveled the mysteries of these ancient characters in the cave mansion.

Today, by summoning the spirit wheel within this cave mansion, Ning Fan inadvertently triggered a significant legacy left by the Ancestral Demon of the East for future generations!

"Descendant of the demon race, since you possess the spirit wheel, you are qualified to receive my inheritance! This is... the Momentum Character Secret!"

It was as if countless deep bell tones resonated within Ning Fan's divine sense, and as the tones faded, an ancient voice remained.

It seemed like an invisible force immediately bestowed upon Ning Fan, causing his gaze to change. He immediately sat cross-legged in front of the fifth mural, closed his eyes, and entered into a cultivation state!

At this moment, Ning Fan finally understood that the carved text in the cave mansion was indeed one of the two great arts in the life of the Ancestral Demon of the East... the mnemonic of the Momentum Character Secret!

The Ancestral Demon of the East hailed from the Golden Crow Clan, and throughout his life, he created two great skills: the Secret Art of Prestige and the Momentum Character Secret.

He was not a stingy person, and both the Secret Art of Prestige and the Momentum Character Secret were passed on to future generations of the demon race through various means. As long as there was destiny, anyone could comprehend these two great skills.

Ning Fan had once obtained the incantation of the Secret Art of Prestige, which could enhance the oppressor's aura exponentially. Once mastered, the aura would surge significantly, allowing even the weak to contend against those immensely more powerful.

Unlike the Secret Art of Prestige, the Momentum Character Secret was a recipe that recorded the technique of harnessing the great momentum of heaven and earth for one's use. If comprehended, it strengthens the control over the great momentum of heaven and earth.

All formations under heaven could not function without the use of 'momentum.' Without 'momentum,' no formation could exist.

If the momentum was integrated into divine skills, it could also enhance the power of these skills... If one could comprehend the Momentum Character Secret, the benefits Ning Fan would receive would naturally be immense.

However, there was only a mnemonic inheritance in the carved text, lacking the incantation inheritance...

To obtain the incantation inheritance and fully comprehend the Momentum Character Secret, one must pass a test...

"Junior, answer me, in your eyes, what is momentum!"

A voice challenging all beneath the heavens echoed in Ning Fan's Heart Spirit World for a long time.

In the Heart Spirit World, Ning Fan stood atop layers of ocean of clouds, gazing at a colossal golden crow phantom in his heart, his heart trembling intensely.

The Immemorial Golden Crow was overwhelmingly enormous; when it spread its wings, it could cover the entire sky of Ning Fan's Heart Spirit World.

The demon pupils of the Golden Crow gazed at Ning Fan, waiting for him to provide an answer.

The aura of the Golden Crow gave Ning Fan an intangible sense of oppression, not much weaker than the pressure that Ancient Chaos exerted on him.

The Golden Crow was a phantom created by the Ancestral Demon of the East within Ning Fan's heart spirit. If Ning Fan could satisfy the Golden Crow with his answer, the creature would bestow upon him the complete inheritance of the Momentum Character Secret!

Ning Fan realized he must answer the question posed by the Golden Crow's shadow sincerely; otherwise, he might miss a great opportunity...

He pondered for a long time, reflecting on his cultivation journey and myriad insights arose.

He didn't directly answer the Golden Crow's question, but instead lifted his finger to point below the Heaven Separation's peak of the Heart Spirit World.

"In the eyes of the world, this mountain is momentum! Without momentum, nothing forms into a mountain! To the mountain, standing unmoved is its momentum!"

The Golden Crow remained indifferent to Ning Fan's answer, and Ning Fan wasn't concerned, raising his hand again to point at the ocean of clouds beside him, saying.

"In the world's eyes, this cloud is momentum! The clouds rise and fall, embodying the great transformation of momentum."

The Golden Crow still showed no emotion, clearly displeased with such an answer.

Ning Fan pointed to the ground, then the sky, and said, "In the world's eyes, this sky holds an eminent momentum. This ground possesses a momentum of dwelling below..."

The Golden Crow snorted impatiently, "Junior, what I ask is the momentum in your eyes, not the momentum in the eyes of the world!"

"Senior, don't rush, listen as I finish my words."

Ning Fan's gaze abruptly shifted, azure spikes flickered repeatedly; he looked at the mountain below with eyes gradually filling with a domineering and overpowering expression over the world.

"High mountains, low mountains, all have their momentum, but if in my eyes there are no mountains, then these mountains bear no momentum towards me!"

Ning Fan again raised his hand to point at the wandering clouds and said, "If in my eyes there are no clouds, then no matter how the clouds change and fluctuate, they still cannot obscure my sight, having no momentum to rely on!"

Ning Fan pointed to the ground and then the sky, suddenly smiling, "The sky seals above, the ground seals below, cultivators dwelling between heaven and earth naturally sense the momentum of heaven and earth, imprisoned within... But if my heart soars higher than the sky, thicker than the ground, then the momentum of heaven and earth should dissolve before my eyes!"

"In my eyes, everything possesses momentum but also lacks momentum to rely on... this is my answer."

Ning Fan's contemplation on the great momentum of heaven and earth throughout his journey has long evolved beyond its initial form.

If the rain doesn't descend, there is momentum; if the mountains don't move, there is momentum; a hidden dragon in the abyss has the momentum to soar; a caterpillar encased in a cocoon has the momentum to transform into a butterfly; a Human King doesn't kill, possessing the momentum to subdue; if heaven and earth don't contest, there is momentum to overturn...

Previously, Ning Fan understood momentum through the evolution of all things.

Nowadays, Ning Fan comprehends momentum by exploring its essence.

The great momentum of heaven and earth can subdue Masters because heaven and earth rank above Masters, with a momentum to rely on.

Ordinary people feel the towering height of mountains and the vastness of seas because they are lower than the mountains and smaller than the seas.

If people were taller than the mountains, the mountains' momentum would collapse!

If one's heart were broader than the sea, the sea's momentum would cease to exist!

"Nothing in the world possesses momentum to rely on... What do you think of my momentum!"

The Golden Crow's eyes flashed with golden light, a pressure akin to the heavens' destruction immediately descended upon Ning Fan!

This pressure swept through, causing Ning Fan's Heart Spirit World to have an imminent collapse.

Ning Fan's heart spirit was about to crumble, yet his face remained calm.

He was weaker than the Golden Crow, naturally unable to escape the suppression of its momentum, but conversely, if one day his cultivation surpassed the Golden Crow, then this pressure was trivial!

Without uttering a word, he conveyed his thoughts to the Golden Crow through his steadfast expression.

The Golden Crow finally showed satisfaction, recognizing that if Ning Fan's mind held any fear of its momentum, it wouldn't impart to him the heart secret of the Momentum Character Secret.

"You, are worthy to receive my heart secret inheritance! Accept it!"

The Golden Crow's phantom suddenly shattered into countless golden lights, these golden lights merged completely into Ning Fan's Heart Spirit World, instantly causing ancient and arcane heart secrets to gradually emerge within Ning Fan's divine sense...

In the Goblin Ancestor's Cave Mansion, Ning Fan sat for seven days; on the eighth day, he opened his eyes!

His gaze seemed deeper, immeasurable.

The previously cultivated 'Yin-Yang Demon Pupils' manifested at this moment.

Yin-Yang Demon Pupils was the Acquired Dharma Eye Ning Fan cultivated after devouring the Desire-Dissolving Pearl (one eye of the Six Desires Immortal King).

With this Acquired Dharma Eye, Ning Fan could cast a divine skill of Chaos World Purple Rosy Light, using purple light to subdue female cultivators.

Throughout the seven days, Ning Fan concentrated on comprehending the Momentum Character Secret. After mastering this secret, the acquired-level Dharma Eye began evolving toward the innate!

It didn't instantly transform into an Innate Dharma Eye, but it already exhibited the trend of evolving!

Moreover, upon comprehending the Momentum Character Secret, the Yin-Yang Demon Pupils surprisingly obtained a new ability... the ability to discern invisible great momentum!

Ning Fan stood up and walked step by step toward the stone door of the cave mansion.

Due to the formation, this stone door closes automatically; in the past, if Ning Fan wanted to exit the cave, he had to shatter the stone door.

But at this moment, with a sweep of his demon pupils, Ning Fan instantly saw through the veins of the formation on the stone door.

He raised his palm, his movements lightning-fast, and altered the formation on the stone door.

Clearly, it was an extremely profound formation, but in front of Ning Fan, it was like an unclothed woman, everything exposed without concealment...

With Ning Fan's past cultivation in the Dao of formations, it would have been impossible to alter such a profound formation.

But this time, Ning Fan relied on the power of the Acquired Dharma Eye to see the grand momentum of the formation and alter it!

The stone door rumbled open, and Ning Fan's gaze grew slightly more focused.

Looking at the Demon Island Great Array outside the cave, everything appeared clear in structure as well.

It's just that his cultivation level was still low; while altering the stone door formation was doable, directly altering the Demon Island Great Array was not feasible for now...

"Having comprehended the Secret Art of Prestige, the grand formations of heaven and earth are almost completely exposed before my eyes!"

Ning Fan returned to the cave, walked to the fifth mural, and with a slight smile, looked at the countless formation veins on it.

There are a hundred murals in this cave, but only the fifth mural is equipped with a special formation.

The inheritance left by the Ancestral Demon of the East in the cave not only included the Secret Art of Prestige but also a second inheritance hidden within the fifth mural!

If one cannot truly comprehend the Secret Art of Prestige from the first inheritance, the second inheritance cannot be unlocked.

The first inheritance is the 'Secret Art of Prestige'; the second inheritance, hidden beneath the formation, is the inheritance of the Spirit Wheel!

Ning Fan moved like lightning, altering the formation on the fifth mural, and gradually, the mural began to change.

In the mural, the three rings of the spirit wheel in the young man's palm suddenly shone with golden light.

Immediately, Ning Fan's divine sense shook, and his heart spirit was instantly drawn into the mural.

In the mural world, in the vast starry sky, a domineering young man in golden robes and hair sat cross-legged; it was the image of the Ancestral Demon of the East in the painting.

With a tremor of the starry sky, in this mural world, a Ning Fan instantly appeared!

"Oh? You have obtained the heart formula inheritance of the Secret Art of Prestige?" The Ancestral Demon of the East's gaze shifted slightly as he scanned Ning Fan.

With just one look, it seemed as if the entire starry sky could be obliterated.

"Kid Ning Fan, pays respect to the Ancestral Demon of the East!" Ning Fan cupped his fists and bowed to the Ancestral Demon of the East.

"Hehe, since you managed to enter this world within the painting, you are qualified to receive another of my inheritances. Is your spirit wheel the Departure Wheel of the Fu Li race? It seems not yet fully solidified..."

The Ancestral Demon of the East pointed across the void, and immediately, a purple-black light shot out from Ning Fan's body, transforming into a phantom of the Fu Li Spirit Wheel.

"Next, I will teach you the 'Technique of the Five Spirit Wheels', this technique was originally a must-learn for the ancient demons, passed down from the Immortal Emperor, but unfortunately... in today's world, I'm afraid few know this technique..."

"Having attained this technique, if your aptitude is sufficient, you can cultivate the first wheel of the Five Spirits alone, developing demon spiritual qi... As for the second wheel, with enough fortune, it can also be cultivated. The third wheel is a watershed of sorts in the world of true void, whether you can cultivate it depends on your destiny... The fourth wheel is the limit of reincarnation, you may not be able to achieve it... As for the fifth wheel... it is a realm unattainable even by an Immortal Emperor, in the realms beyond, no Immortal Emperor has been able to cultivate this wheel, there is the end of dreams..."

"Ask below the heavens, who can awaken from the dream of dust! You cannot, I cannot, all beings are in a dream!"

"This technique, I give to you!"

The Ancestral Demon of the East suddenly sighed towards the sky, and with a wave of his hand, sent strands of golden light into Ning Fan's divine sense.

As this information merged into Ning Fan's divine sense, Ning Fan's heart spirit throbbed in pain, and he exited the mural world, returning to the cave.

The spirit wheel halo rotated around him, though originally an illusion, now showed signs of solidification!

As Ning Fan's heart spirit returned, without a word, he immediately sat cross-legged again, closed his eyes, and entered a state of cultivation.

At this moment, his illusory spirit wheel had a chance of solidifying, an opportunity he must seize!

He seemed like an old monk entering meditation, yet the illusory spirit wheel, under his spirit sense control, flew out of the cave, out of the demon cave, into the realm of purple mist!

The Technique of the Five Spirit Wheels is a secret technique for cultivating spirit wheels, universally applied among the true spirit races.

This is the highest secret technique of the Ancient Demon Clan; in ancient times, countless ancient demons practiced this technique, but it has since been lost through the ages.

Now, this technique has fallen into Ning Fan's hands!

With this technique, Ning Fan can easily solidify the spirit wheel and cultivate it to reach the first wheel realm!

It's just that solidifying the spirit wheel requires vast energy corresponding to the spirit wheel.

The power of the Fu Li Spirit Wheel is 'illusion', this illusion can transform reincarnation, can obliterate the sky!

In this ninth layer of the Mist Sea, there happens to be a vast amount of purple mist containing illusory power.

As long as enough purple mist is absorbed, Ning Fan can easily solidify the spirit wheel!

"Five Spirits First Wheel, for this demon, solidify!"

Ning Fan's gaze sharpened, and the oppressive force of the Fu Li Bloodline's ancestral blood spread wildly to every corner of the ninth layer at that moment!

Chapter 853: Before Leaving

Ning Fan sat cross-legged in the Goblin Ancestor's Cave Mansion, manipulating the Fu Li Spirit Wheel, devouring vast amounts of purple mist outside the island.

Starting from the sixth mural, they all depicted the ancient secrets of the Ancient Demon Clan.

Golden light continually flew out from the hundred murals, entering Ning Fan's sea of consciousness, causing his mind to gradually gain some secret knowledge.

He learned that in ancient times, every member of the Ancient Demon cultivated the Technique of the Five Spirit Wheels to develop demon spiritual qi...

He learned that the Fiendgods cultivated mana, the Ancient Chaos Grand Emperor cultivated essence, and the ancient demons cultivated spiritual power. Spiritual power is the essence of the ancient demons...

He learned that the Purple Dou Immortal Sovereign's true form was a demon, and the Zi Dou Immortal Domain is a world where demons are revered, gods follow demons, and devils follow gods...

The Technique of the Five Spirit Wheels divides the cultivation of spirit wheels into five stages, requiring the cultivation of five innate spirit wheels. With each completed stage, the number of innate spirit wheels of the ancient demons increases.

Without this technique, Ning Fan might have needed to use the spirit wheel to devour countless indomitable Demon Souls to make the spirit wheel solid.

With this technique, Ning Fan has great confidence in directly cultivating the first spirit wheel in this Ninth Layer of the Mist Sea.

In the Purple Mist World, the Fu Li Spirit Wheel was controlled by Ning Fan and transformed into a hundred-zhang giant purple-black vortex, frantically devouring the surrounding purple mist.

The mist in the ninth layer was initially very dense, but as Ning Fan insanely devoured it, the purple in the mist grew lighter.

The illusionary power within the purple mist was swallowed by the spirit wheel, and during the refinement process, produced threads of purple-black spiritual power that separated from the spirit wheel and floated towards the Goblin Ancestor's Cave Mansion.

Countless threads of spiritual power flowed into Ning Fan's body, causing purple-black flames to gradually ignite on his surface.

These purple-black flames separated into countless threads of fire, gradually forming a giant demon cocoon, enveloping Ning Fan within it.

Within the demon cocoon, the aura of an ancient demon increased day by day.

On the first day, Ning Fan's spiritual power cultivation was only at the Ninth Level of Vein Opening.

By the second day, Ning Fan's spiritual power cultivation had reached the peak Harmonious Spirit stage.

On the third day, Ning Fan's spiritual power cultivation reached the late stage Golden Core realm.

On the fourth day, Ning Fan's spiritual power cultivation broke through to the intermediate Nascent Soul realm.

Time flowed day by day, and Ning Fan's ancient demon cultivation speed started to slow down, while the outer purple mist became thinner.

As the spirit wheel gradually solidified, Ning Fan vaguely felt that within him, the innate divine skill of Fu Li was beginning to truly awaken.

On the forty-ninth day, there was no purple left in the Ninth Layer's mist.

At this moment, the demon cocoon suddenly split open, and a purple-black demon shadow flew out from the cocoon, transforming into purple light, and flew directly outside the cave mansion, spreading its wings above Demon Island!

It was a purple-black Winged Demon with an evil, fierce aura, with spiritual power comparable to the peak of Void Fragmentation.

The Winged Demon's body stretched in the wind, immediately transforming into a size of fifty thousand zhang, with wings wide enough to cover the sky!

This Winged Demon was Ning Fan's Fu Li demon aspect, but at this time, there was a tendency for this demon aspect to further evolve.

The Fu Li race is an indomitable race; the demon race within the clan are all Winged Demons, but their forms vary greatly.

After forty-nine continuous days of devouring purple mist, Ning Fan's Fu Li Spirit Wheel had reached the brink of solidifying completely.

His spiritual power cultivation was only one step away from breaking through the Second Step, entering the realm of Human Profound.

His Fu Li demon aspect had also finally begun to change.

The feathers on the giant wings gradually disappeared, transforming into purple-black scales.

The sharp beak also disappeared in the purple light.

The purple light grew stronger, and the giant Winged Demon gradually transformed into a black-winged, purple-eyed giant butterfly.

At the moment when this black butterfly demon aspect completely solidified, black butterfly shadows suddenly flew out of Ning Fan's spirit wheel.

A powerful aura immediately transmitted from the spirit wheel, and the giant butterfly's aura also simultaneously reached the Human Profound Initial Stage!

"This, is my Fu Li demon aspect... Zi Li is the peacock demon aspect, and I, am the butterfly..."

The giant butterfly whispered something to itself softly.

The butterfly wings contracted, and amidst the purple-black demon light, the giant butterfly transformed back into Ning Fan's figure.

At this moment, his appearance was unchanged, only having a pair of black butterfly wings behind him... The former devil aspect's eight wings had merged into these butterfly wings!

With one flap of the butterfly wings, Ning Fan instantly transformed into a purple-black stream of light, speeding out. These butterfly wings could increase Ning Fan's escape light foundation, enhancing his escape light!

The first innate spirit wheel was completely cultivated!

Ancient demon spiritual power cultivation also broke through to the Human Profound Initial Stage along with the insane devouring of purple mist!

The escape flight using the butterfly wings consumed no mana, and his escape speed was akin to Late Stage Enlightenment!

This was still Ning Fan's speed without unlocking the Rain Yin Yang forces!

With the unlocking of Rain Yin Yang forces, Ning Fan's escape speed increased dramatically, and in this state, his speed was comparable to the Peak of Shekong!

With a thought, the bloodlines of the spirit, demon, and devil races in Ning Fan began to burn.

A wave of his hand summoned the Ghost Eye Clan; golden flames immediately appeared on Ning Fan's form, his body transforming into a golden spear, disappearing instantly.

This golden spear escape technique was the Vertical Golden Light.

The escape speed of the Vertical Golden Light was already comparable to eternal old freaks, and with Ning Fan summoning the butterfly wings, the speed of the golden light further increased by several folds!

The Fu Li race's talent is in speed and illusion.

Demon aspect change with the cultivation of butterfly wings; these wings can significantly increase Ning Fan's escape speed!

"Cultivating the first wheel of the Five Spirit, causing spiritual power cultivation to break through to the Human Profound Initial Stage, causing demon aspect change... The first innate divine skill I awakened from Fu Li is summoning butterfly wings for flight..."

With a thought, the butterfly wings were immediately retracted into Ning Fan's body.

Ning Fan stretched his palm towards the distant purple-black vortex; the vortex's brilliance immediately dissipated, transforming into a palm-sized purple-black halo, flying back into Ning Fan's palm.

Ning Fan stretched his palm flat, and the purple-black spirit wheel rotated in Ning Fan's palm.

The second innate divine ability he awakened was Illusory Art.

Retracting the spirit wheels into his body, Ning Fan formed a hand seal with ten fingers, instantly producing countless purple mists between heaven and earth.

The capability of these purple mists was exactly the same as the ones in the ninth layer of the Mist Sea, but slightly weaker in power.

With Ning Fan's current cultivation, wielding this purple mist divine ability was enough to plunge those at the Initial and Intermediate Stage of Enlightenment into an illusory attack.

Releasing the illusionary purple mist was just part of Ning Fan's second innate ability.

Ning Fan's seal changed, causing the illusionary purple mist he released to attack him under his control.

The reason he did this was to test another ability of his second innate skill.

Trapped in the purple mist, countless illusions appeared in Ning Fan's eyes immediately.

Without consciously breaking the illusions, he simply stood amidst them and uttered the word 'Reverse'.

In an instant, all the illusory attacks on Ning Fan rebounded.

Fu Li's second innate ability not only allowed him to release illusions and perceive them but also to bounce them back!

"Illusion rebound... a decent gift..."

Ning Fan nodded in satisfaction. Not many cultivators in the Four Heavens understood illusions, and at most, they could only integrate illusions into magic treasures or formations.

However, among the upper world demon race, illusions were an exceedingly common means of attack.

Having mastered the ability to rebound illusions, if Ning Fan were to encounter a demon race adept in illusionary arts in the future, he would naturally have the upper hand.

The awakening of two innate divine abilities was an unexpected joy for Ning Fan.

Of course, what pleased him the most was the complete solidification of the Fu Li Spirit Wheel.

The presence of the spirit wheel could generate spirit power.

The existence of spirit power could enhance the divine sense perception of ancient demon cultivators. It wasn't about raising realms, but about exponentially increasing the range, distance, and precision of that perception.

With the cultivation of the first life spirit wheel, Ning Fan's divine sense realm hadn't escalated, but his control over his divine sense significantly advanced.

By meticulously controlling the power of the divine sense, Ning Fan could now extend his divine sense spread distance to even three times what it was before.

His five senses were now many times keener than before.

Even the Medicine Soul power within him had a more nuanced perception than before...

If he were to perform alchemy with the Medicine Soul in this state, the quality of the elixirs he refined would undoubtedly be much higher...

"Ancient God Heart Apertures, Ancient Demon Symbol, Ancient Demon Spirit Wheel... Not until this moment have I truly stepped into the realm of tri-cultivation."

"The Fu Li Spirit Wheel, engulfing illusory power, could cultivate... The illusory power of the ninth layer is incredibly potent, which allowed me to condense the first life spirit wheel in one go... The illusory power needed to condense the second life spirit wheel is too immense, at least a thousand times more than the first spirit wheel... the time it would take is certainly immense beyond measure..."

"To condense the first spirit wheel, demon spiritual power needs to reach the Human Profound Initial Stage; to condense the second spirit wheel, demon spiritual power needs to reach the Peak of Shekong; to condense the third spirit wheel, demon spiritual power needs to reach a Quasi-Saint level..."

"The Eastern Ancestral Demon only cultivated three life spirit wheels, and did not produce the fourth wheel... Therefore, he does not know what conditions are needed to condense the fourth and fifth wheels..."

Ning Fan retracted the spirit wheels and returned to the Goblin Ancestor's Cave Mansion, his gaze sweeping over one mural after another, deeply moved.

From the ancestral cave left behind by the Eastern Ancestral Demon, Ning Fan obtained the Momentum Character Secret and the Technique of the Five Spirit Wheels, and felt a surge of gratitude toward the Eastern Ancestral Demon.

Eastern Ocean Bell, Heaven Sealing Technique, Secret Art of Prestige, Momentum Character Secret, Technique of the Five Spirit Wheels...

Along the way, Ning Fan had already received too many opportunities from the Eastern Ancestral Demon...

The Eastern Ancestral Demon had passed, and the only thing Ning Fan could do to repay him was to light a few strands of incense outside the cave mansion and bow respectfully to it.

The ninth layer purple mist had been devoured by Ning Fan into a faint white mist.

These faint mists, as time moved on, would gradually form into purple mist again, yet no one knew in which year or month this could fully happen.

No one knew that Ning Fan had obtained the ancestral emperor's inheritance from the ninth layer of the Mist Sea; at most, the Divine Void Pavilion only knew that Ning Fan had consumed all the purple mist in this location.

Ning Fan departed all the way back to the second layer of the Mist Sea.

Along the way, those ancient monsters cultivating below the fifth layer, upon seeing Ning Fan emerge, all instinctively showed expressions of desire to converse.

To these enthusiastic old monsters, Ning Fan could only respond with a wry smile.

The three Immortal Venerables in the eighth layer regarded him as an Immortal Emperor, the five shattered minds in the seventh layer treated him as an Immortal Venerable, and the ancient monsters in the sixth and fifth layers held him in high regard, seeing him as shattered minds...

Unfortunately, Ning Fan was neither shattered minds nor an Eternal Immortal Venerable, let alone an Immortal Emperor.

When he announced his true cultivation, all the old monsters were left gaping in shock.

"This child is merely at the pinnacle of the Ghost Profound Stage! How is it possible..." countless old monsters exclaimed in disbelief.

In the second layer of the Mist Sea, Xun Ci and the other four ascent elders were guarding the eight treasure vaults on Dongming Island.

Upon Ning Fan's arrival, the four immediately welcomed him with respect, thanking, "Thank you, Immortal Lord, for returning Dongming Island to its rightful place. We are beyond grateful!"

"It was a trivial matter... Ning Fan intends to enter the treasure vault to retrieve some items, and hopes the elders would accommodate," Ning Fan replied.

"Of course, of course. With the Immortal Lord's ancient ancestor's token, even if you were to empty these eight vaults, we would not dare to obstruct. Certainly, with the Immortal Lord's reputation, he wouldn't do something like this," Xun Ci and the others replied with a laugh, all the while scrutinizing Ning Fan closely.

Ning Fan had been in the lower layers of the Mist Sea for nearly two months, and in these two months, Ning Fan's physical state seemed to have undergone earth-shattering changes, yet Xun Ci and the others couldn't discern exactly what those changes were...

Ning Fan had already refined the innate ghost mask and now awakened the illusory art ability of the Fu Li race.

Within him was a power of illusion that could shield others' perception. Coupled with the power of the innate ghost mask, even the Shenhao Twin Emperors could no longer see through his reality, let alone Xun Ci and the others...

Ning Fan bid farewell to Xun Ci and the others, carrying the token, and entered the eight treasure vaults alone.

On Dongming Island, there were a total of eight treasure vaults. The first five treasure vaults stored a large quantity of First Step cultivation materials, which were of little use to Ning Fan.

But he still made a trip to the first five treasure vaults, taking some useful items for the female cultivators in the Xuan Yin Treasure to use for cultivation.

The female cultivators in the Xuan Yin Treasure, like the ladies of the Rain Immortal World, never lacked cultivation resources.

Limited by aptitude, naturally, there were still very few women who, in this life, could not cultivate up to the Divinity Transformation, Void Refinement, or Void Fragmentation realms...

But wanting to cultivate to the Nascent Soul Realm, possessing thousands of years of life span, is still an easy task. After all, behind them lies an abundance of cultivation resources...

In the sixth treasure vault, there were all kinds of heavenly materials and earthly treasures required for a Fate Immortal.

The seventh treasure vault held items needed for Enlightenment.

The eighth treasure vault contained items necessary for Shedding Void Stage.

The old monsters above Shedding Void usually have their own families, and the cultivation items they need are either bestowed by the Twin Emperors or supplied by their families, seldom taken from the main pavilion of the Commercial Pavilion.

Some precious things are not placed in the main pavilion but are managed personally by the Twin Emperors to prevent the Divine Void Pavilion Cultivators from embezzling...

Among these treasure vaults, the most precious things Ning Fan found were merely the Shekong Dao Fruit, Nine Transformations Silver Grade Elixir, and Middle-grade Dao Marrow.

In terms of quality, they might not be as good as the Luo Family's treasure vault, as more advanced items are in the hands of the Twin Emperors.

In terms of quantity, however, they are unmatched by the Luo family...

Ning Fan stayed in the last three treasure vaults for two hours, and no one knew how much he took away from the vaults.

After Ning Fan left, Xun Ci and four other Commercial Pavilion elders entered the vaults to take an inventory and were immediately stunned.

Three hundred and sixty-eight bottles of Nine Transformation Lead Elixir and Silver Elixir in total! And for pills below the Eighth Revolution, 7156 bottles were missing!

There were 790 missing Fate Immortal Dao Fruits! 58 Missing Enlightenment Dao Fruits! 12 missing Shekong Dao Fruits!

Lower-grade Dao Marrow, 237 drops missing! Middle-grade Dao Marrow, 62 drops missing!

And Dao Crystals, five trillion missing...

The rest of the losses were incalculable...

"Is this the character of the Rain Immortal Monarch? He really dares to take... It's like he's moving out the entire main pavilion, not afraid of angering the Twin Emperors..." An elder, with black lines on his forehead, obviously underestimated Ning Fan's integrity...

Ning Fan had no ties with the Divine Void Pavilion, his goodwill was nearly zero, so why not take the items if he could have them for free!

"So what if he empties the vaults? His status is unquestionable, even the Twin Emperors wouldn't dare to touch him... Moreover, I've heard that the ancestor seems to admire the Rain Immortal Monarch a

lot... The items the Immortal Monarch took are of no use to the Twin Emperors, why would they trouble him for them..."

Xun Ci calmed himself and spoke nonchalantly.

In any case, they needed to report the missing items from the vaults to the pavilion master and the Twin Emperors.

Whether the Twin Emperors would ignore this matter or not was none of their concern...

...

Ning Fan returned to the little demoness's chambers, and after a brief moment of affection, he immediately began closed-door cultivation.

Currently, Ning Fan's cultivation was stuck at the peak of the Ghost Profound Stage, having reached its limit. Unless he breaks through to the Enlightenment, taking Dao Fruits would only be a waste.

He shared some Dao Fruits with the little demoness, and while Ning Fan was in closed-door cultivation, the little demoness also began her cultivation.

The Shenhao Twin Emperors eventually received reports from Xun Ci and others but did not pay it much mind, merely instructing not to spread the word about Ning Fan taking treasures.

Ning Fan found a stone chamber in the palace, and upon entering seclusion, four years passed!

For four years, he did only one thing: refined all the lower-grade and middle-grade Dao Marrows in his hand.

To a body cultivator, Dao Marrow is a supreme treasure, enhancing Body Refinement progression.

Ning Fan's magical power cultivation was stuck at a bottleneck, but his Ancient Demon Cultivation had already broken through the Heavenly Demon Realm, without the hassle of bottlenecks.

Four years of arduous cultivation, Ning Fan refined all the Dao Marrow, causing a drastic surge in Ancient Demon cultivation, reaching the peak of the First Nirvana of Heavenly Demon.

He was just a step away from breaking through to the Second Nirvana of Heavenly Demon!

The little demoness remained in secluded cultivation, refining the vast amount of Dao Fruits Ning Fan gave her, challenging the bottleneck of the Human Profound Middle Stage. Perhaps in a few years, or decades, she would inevitably break through the Human Profound Middle Stage.

Ning Fan stood outside the little demoness's stone chamber, looking at the thick stone door, his gaze filled with emotion.

He was prepared to leave, to depart from the Dongming Star Domain... But the little demoness, she did not intend to leave with him.

Having long shed her sacrificial identity, she was in no peril. She wished to remain at the Divine Void Pavilion, to truly become the Divine Void Young Master, to gradually rise in rank, take control of the Divine Void Pavilion's authority, and become a support for Ning Fan...

The little demoness expressed no wish to leave, and naturally, Ning Fan would not force her. With the presence of the Ancient Chaos here at the Divine Void Pavilion, and her being no longer a sacrificial body, it was a safe haven...

Inside the stone chamber, the little demoness wasn't cultivating, but similarly looked at Ning Fan through the thick stone door.

She knew Ning Fan had decided to leave, for he had too many tasks ahead; the Dongming Star Domain could not confine him.

Yet she chose not to follow him, to not become a mere decorative piece that idles by and wastes resources.

She wanted to stay at the Divine Void Pavilion, ready to wield its power in Ning Fan's time of need, to provide him aid...

"I am leaving... Keep this Jade Pendant with you, if you encounter danger, break it in urgency. Only break it when you truly have no other recourse..."

From outside the stone door, Ning Fan's voice emerged suddenly.

The next instant, a streak of light flashed and entered the stone door, transforming into an Emperor Thought Jade Pendant, landing in the little demoness's hand.

"This... This is..." The little demoness looked at the Emperor Thought Jade Pendant in disbelief, her heartstrings tugged tightly.

She recognized it, this Jade Pendant was the Emperor Thought Jade Pendant, and it should have been a life-saving item given to Ning Fan by the Ancient Chaos Grand Emperor, yet Ning Fan had given it to her...

The little demoness hurriedly pushed the stone door open, intending to return the Jade Pendant to Ning Fan. She knew that Ning Fan, famous after a single battle, appeared glorious, but his position was more dangerous than ever, attracting the attention of numerous Eastern Heaven old monsters...

Ning Fan needed this Jade Pendant more than she did...

But unfortunately, as she stepped out of the stone door, Ning Fan had already left; there was no trace of him left here...

"I have tasks to complete, and once everything is settled, I will return to see you. Take care of yourself... If I find you're thinner when I return, you will certainly face punishment."

Ning Fan's voice, mixed with the misty rain, floated to the little demoness's ears, carrying a hint of teasing.

Punishment, of course, was rather suggestive...

The little demoness spat playfully, thinking to herself how worthy Ning Fan was as the inheritor of the Ancient Chaos, with even his parting words being so teasingly indecent...

Yet why did her heart feel somewhat empty and uncomfortable...

The gentle breeze caressed the little demoness's hair, in such a tender manner, yet with a touch of solitude...

The ever-smiling little demoness surprisingly felt a tinge of melancholy...

...

Ning Fan decided to leave Dongming.

His original intention was to seek the True Thunder World after the competition ended, to fulfill the request of the Lightning Emperor Tai Su.

Naturally, he had another task, which was to complete the Battle Art Fourth Transformation before the War King's body decayed and awaken the War King.

Regarding the cultivation of the War God Art, Ning Fan had made a new decision. After acquiring the "Chaos Ring Art," he found a faster method for cultivation.

Ning Fan was unaware of the location of the True Thunder World. To seek it, he must first go to the Three Thousand Thunder Realm, find someone, and see if he can discover the whereabouts of the True Thunder World from them.

Near the Three Thousand Thunder Realm, there is an ancient teleportation formation. That formation can lead to the Barbaric Wilderness Battlefield of the Divine Demon World...

Ning Fan had a plan in mind. Before leaving the Dongming Star Domain, he went to bid farewell to Xiang Mingzi and Lv Wen.

Visiting Xiang Mingzi was out of courtesy.

Visiting Lv Wen was out of gratitude.

During the competition, Lv Wen had righteously helped Ning Fan greatly. Ning Fan was quite grateful to Lv Wen and naturally had to pay a visit. Officially, he was still the 'Righteous Younger Brother of the Plague King', wasn't he?

As soon as Lv Wen saw Ning Fan coming, he immediately held a grand banquet, summoned countless beauties, and warmly entertained Ning Fan.

Lv Wen still did not know Ning Fan's true cultivation level. He still did not know that Ning Fan was not a cultivator of the Southern Clan.

He was shocked to find that Ning Fan was indeed the inheritor of the Ancient Chaotic Grand Emperor, the one who summoned the Ancestor of Chaos, scaring the Dark Clan into submission...

He secretly guessed that Ning Fan's mission in the Dongming Star Domain might indeed be related to Ancient Chaos, and perhaps had already been completed?

"Heh heh, if Younger Brother Ning returns to the clan, could you perhaps say a few kind words for your elder brother in front of the ancestors..." Lv Wen said with a flattering smile.

"... My matters are not yet finished..." Ning Fan bitterly smiled and gave Lv Wen a vague answer.

"Heh heh, no rush, no rush! Younger Brother Ning, take your time. Even if it takes a thousand or ten thousand years, your elder brother can wait. For us Eternal Cultivators, a thousand or ten thousand years are just a fleeting moment, what's there to wait for?" Lv Wen laughed nonchalantly.

This banquet, Lv Wen drank joyfully, while Ning Fan sighed repeatedly.

He did not know if Lv Wen knew the truth, whether he would still be so friendly...

However, now, as an inheritor of Ancient Chaos, even if Lv Wen knew the truth, even if the Southern Clan got the intel on his impersonation, they mostly wouldn't do anything against him...

After leaving Lv Wen, Ning Fan returned to Tianhai Star.

He informed a few of the Luo Family's elders about his departure, and promised to certainly return after mastering the Battle Art Fourth Transformation.

Luo Xiao's body had already completed the Corpse Seizing and was merging with the Spirit.

Upon learning of Ning Fan's departure, Luo Xiao also hosted a small banquet to entertain him.

Wang Meng insisted on leaving with Ning Fan to serve by his side, but was tactfully refused by Ning Fan.

Given Ning Fan's current strength, there was no need for Wang Meng, still at the Initial Stage of Crossing Truth, to follow him. It was better for him to continue cultivating within the Luo Family.

Luo Xuan did not come to see Ning Fan, her feelings were very complicated...

Inside the clan's cemetery, Luo Xuan stood before a new grave, her beautiful eyes lost and vacant.

That grave housed the body of her elder brother.

In her embrace, she closely held a piece of tattered white cloth, frequently taking it out to examine it...

That white cloth seemed like her treasure. Now she was certain, the owner of this cloth was indeed Ning Fan...

"He turned out to be the inheritor of Ancient Chaos... a presence even the Dark Clan dares not provoke..."

"He managed to claim the top spot in the competition, becoming a Rain Immortal Monarch renowned across the Eastern Heaven..."

"He helped me reclaim my brother's corpse, but I have nothing to offer in return..."

Ning Fan bade farewell to the Luo Family and whisked away.

Luo Xuan suddenly lifted up her delicate chin, watching Ning Fan's receding escape light, she seemed mesmerized.

"Thank you..." she whispered softly, as if murmuring, not knowing to whom she was speaking.

...

Wulan Star, the Chen Family.

In the Elders' Court, a beautiful woman in a black dress was sitting cross-legged, cultivating in her chamber.

She was Chen Lingfeng, a female cultivator of the Chen Family, with an initial stage Human Profound cultivation, who once accompanied Luo Xiao to Spirit Platform Star.

The stronger Chen Family cultivators above the stage of Crossing Truth were all killed by Lv Wen. Now, the highest cultivation in the Chen Family was only at the Ghost Profound Peak-Stage.

As the Chen Family declined, Chen Lingfeng had the qualifications to become an elder of the Chen Family.

However, Chen Lingfeng couldn't feel any joy from this. Recently, she continuously had a premonition of impending doom, as if danger was approaching step by step.

"To think that the Rain Immortal Monarch is so terrifying, a presence even the secret clans dare not provoke... The family head died because of him, and even Elder Lei Jinshi perished because of him..."

"If he finds out that I was the one who tipped off the family head, leading to the assassination attempt against him, I wonder how he would deal with me..."

"Fortunately, he will never know..."

Chen Lingfeng comforted herself for a moment, suddenly lifting her head in slight surprise.

A window, which should have been closed, had been opened at some point...

She got up and closed the window again, turned to head towards her bed, and the sight almost frightened her to death, making her face turn pale instantly.

Under the moonlight, in her fragrant boudoir, a young man in white with a cold and merciless gaze was quietly watching her!

"Chen Lingfeng, isn't it... From today onward, you will be Ning's Cauldron Furnace!"

Ning Fan's eyes flashed with cold light. Inconsequential cultivators could be ignored, but Chen Lingfeng, he would not let her go!

He had already soul-searched several Chen Family cultivators, and the person who set him up to be assassinated on the day of the competition... was indeed Chen Lingfeng!

Chapter 854: Thunderfall Realm

On this night, within the Chen family, five Ghost Profound cultivators mysteriously perished, while the newly appointed Chen family elder, Chen Lingfeng, disappeared.

This event caused a stir on Wulan Star. The Chen family requested the Divine Void Four Pavilions to investigate the matter, yet this request sank into oblivion within the Godly Void Pavilion, with no one paying attention.

The Chen family and Lei family are just remnants of the past. With the deaths of Chen Xuan and Lei Jinshi, they are destined to decline.

No one knows that the killer is Ning Fan.

No one knows that Chen Lingfeng has been taken as a prisoner, confined within the Penitence Palace in Xuan Yin Realm.

In the vast starry sky, Ning Fan held the Inlaid Star Compass of the Three Thousand Thunder Realm, speeding away from the Dongming Star Domain.

His plan was to first go to the Three Thousand Thunder Realm to find someone... That person was the sole disciple of Lightning Emperor Tai Su still alive, who had followed the Lightning Emperor, once appearing together in the Eastern Heaven Immortal World...

"The Thunderfall Realm Master... Xu Yanzong..."

Ning Fan murmured to himself, speeding all the way.

Not knowing how far he had fled from the Dongming Star Domain, Ning Fan gradually felt a sense of being stalked.

With a flash of azure light in his eyes, Ning Fan quickly discerned that far behind him, several dozen old freaks were concealing their forms, tailing him.

The trackers originated from various powers, all of them True Immortal old freaks of Enlightenment and Shedding Void realms, including even Peak Shedding Void masters...

Nowadays, the name of Ning Fan as an inheritor of Ancient Chaotic Grand Emperor has spread across Eastern Heaven, so perhaps no one dares to openly confront him. Yet in the shadows, there are many powers holding various intentions towards Ning Fan...

The exposure of his identity as an inheritor of Ancient Chaos has brought Ning Fan not only benefits but also hidden hostility lurking in the darkness...

Ning Fan's gaze darkened, and while flying, he quickly formed hand seals, causing boundless purple mist to spread across the starry sky.

The numerous old freaks trailing behind Ning Fan were instantly bewildered by the purple mist.

The Enlightenment cultivators at initial and intermediate stages, once confused by the illusion, immediately lost their spirit sense.

The old freaks at late Enlightenment and above only wandered briefly in the illusion, but soon regained their senses.

"Indeed, a rather potent illusion... What a pity, trying to shake off our stalking with such means is futile!"

Among the trackers, an old freak at Peak Shedding Void scoffed disdainfully, waving his large hand to disperse the purple mist instantly.

However, once the mist scattered, there was no trace of Ning Fan in the distance...

"He escaped?"

The old freak at Peak Shedding Void's expression changed, and he immediately divided his body into dozens of clones, forming hand seals.

A spirit sense vast as the sea spread like tides, nearly enough to cover an entire lower-level star domain.

Yet unfortunately, even with his spirit sense spread so wide, he still couldn't detect Ning Fan's whereabouts...

"Strange... Considering his escape speed, there is no reason for him to have fled such an extensive distance in a short time... If he had concealed himself here, it would definitely not escape my clone's perception... Could it be, he possesses a medium dichiliocosm and is hiding within it! Hmm... although a medium dichiliocosm is valuable, if he is an inheritor of Ancient Chaos, owning one is not surprising... Clearly, he is still hiding here!"

"Hmph! I don't believe you can stay hidden in the realm space for life!"

The old freak snorted coldly, immediately flying to a nearby abandoned star, sitting cross-legged in meditation, yet his spirit sense continually locked onto this star domain.

The other trackers also camped like this old freak, setting up camp on nearby abandoned stars, waiting for Ning Fan to show himself.

As seasons passed by, they waited here for decades, yet Ning Fan never emerged... This is a subsequent story, so let's leave it aside.

These people did not know that Ning Fan released the purple mist merely to obstruct their view while summoning the Ghost Mask to leave stealthily.

The stealth capability of the Innate Ghost Mask is naturally beyond the discovery of these trackers.

After summoning the Ghost Mask this time, Ning Fan did not put it away again. Instead, with the silver hair image of the Ghost Mask, he traversed the Eastern Heaven Immortal World.

If he walked through Eastern Heaven in his true form, it would attract too much attention, quickly drawing peering eyes from all sides. Ning Fan certainly did not want to be followed by dozens or hundreds of ill-intentioned trackers wherever he went...

The Three Thousand Thunder Realm is extremely far from the Dongming Star Domain; a normal Enlightenment stage initial master attempting to fly from the Dongming Star Domain to the Three Thousand Thunder Realm would take at least ten years. Of course, if it were a cultivator enlightened with the skill of shrinking the ground below his foot into an inch, it would take at most half a year to reach the Three Thousand Thunder Realm.

The distance allowed Ning Fan the opportunity to cultivate the Vertical Golden Light.

Three drops of blood rolling and boiling produce golden light, which spans ten billion miles at once... This technique consumes a tremendous amount of mana, yet fortunately, Ning Fan can replenish it at any time.

In his Thunder Star, he still holds two lightning strikes of Shedding Void; his lightning diagram contains countless shattered lightning that can be refined to replenish mana.

Despite this, he did not utilize them, instead flew all the way, devouring Five Elements Spiritual Objects to replenish mana.

In the Main Pavilion of the Commercial Pavilion, Ning Fan took away millions of spiritual fires, strange chills, and spirit lightnings...

These spiritual objects might not be of high grade, but they were perfect for the Grand Five Elements Body to absorb and replenish mana.

Moreover, absorbing these Five Elements spiritual objects could not only replenish mana but also slowly enhance the level of Ning Fan's Black Dragon evil fire.

If not for the crazy consumption of the Vertical Golden Light, Ning Fan couldn't have absorbed the Five Elements spiritual objects so quickly.

With the mana replenished, Ning Fan didn't have to worry about mana consumption and started to wildly drive the Vertical Golden Light, dashing through the starry sky.

Initially, the momentum of Ning Fan's Vertical Golden Light was astonishing, occasionally directly colliding with some Cultivation Star, causing panic along the way, as if some Eternal Old Freaks had descended upon a cultivation star.

Gradually, Ning Fan became more and more proficient in displaying the Vertical Golden Light, and the situation of losing control of the escape light didn't occur again.

When he deliberately slowed the escape light, the momentum of the Vertical Golden Light was no longer astonishing.

The starry sky along the way was no longer torn by golden light into terrifying chasms; the sound of the light was also devoid of the howling sound of tearing through the sky, almost silent.

Ning Fan seemed to have transformed into a beam of light, as if no longer possessing a physical form... the light's spread was naturally silent.

If not for catching sight of a golden light streaking across the sky, others would almost not notice Ning Fan flying past...

Even deliberately slowing the escape light, Ning Fan reached the Three Thousand Thunder Realm in just a month.

During that month, he absorbed over seven hundred thousand clusters of spiritual fire and spirit lightning, raising the grade of his Black Dragon evil fire from eighth middle rank to eighth peak.

There was still a slight distance to breakthrough to the ninth grade, which couldn't be achieved by absorbing spiritual objects but must be broken through by insight.

Eighth-level spiritual fire was a Divine Skill commonly used by Fate Immortal cultivators; ninth-level flames, also known as True Fire, could only be controlled by a True Immortal!

To cultivate True Fire, one must at least possess the Crossing Truth Realm cultivation, but not every Crossing Truth Realm cultivator could cultivate True Fire...

"To cultivate True Fire, one must comprehend the essence of truth and break through the Crossing Truth Realm... Crossing Truth is still far away..."

"The Thunder Territory has arrived... this is the Three Thousand Thunder Realm..."

Ning Fan collected the escape light and stood outside a star domain interwoven with thunder light.

This was an Imperial Star Domain, named Thunder Territory, unlike other star domains, this domain had no Cultivation Star, instead, it had a floating thunderous continent.

The entire thunderous continent was divided by the power of the ring into over three thousand thunder realm interfaces, hence people often refer to the Thunder Territory as the Three Thousand Thunder Realm.

This location had a total of ten levels of thunder realm, very similar to the classification of the ten-grade sects of the Dongming Star Domain.

For a first-level thunder realm, the strongest power was at the Golden Core level; second level was Nascent Soul; third level was Divinity Transformation; fourth level was Void Refinement; fifth level was Void Fragmentation.

Sixth-level thunder realms often had a Fate Immortal in residence; seventh-level was Enlightenment; eighth-level was Shedding Void; ninth-level was mumbling.

In the Three Thousand Thunder Realm, there was only one tenth-level thunder realm, where the strongest power of the thunder realms—the Extreme Thunder Palace—was located.

Throughout the ages, if the Palace Master of the Extreme Thunder Palace was an Immortal Emperor, they would take the title of 'White Emperor', and the current White Emperor was an empress named Lan Yunxian.

During the extermination of Senluo, this empress was also present. Ning Fan remembered her motive for attacking Senluo was to retrieve the Thunder King Seal taken by Senluo...

"The Three Thousand Thunder Realm has an Immortal Emperor in residence, here I must not reveal my identity, or I will be spied upon by the Immortal Emperor..."

"The Thunderfall Realm is a sixth-level thunder realm, ruled by Xu Yanzong, who is said to be a Ghost Profound Late Stage Fate Immortal, serving as the Thunderfall Realm Master for four hundred thousand years... but Aci's intelligence suggests this person began following the Lightning Emperor Tai Su fifty million years ago... if he truly is a Ghost Profound Fate Immortal, how could he live such eons... this matter is quite peculiar..."

Ning Fan pondered for a long time, shifting his gaze from the Three Thousand Thunder Realm to an Upper-Level Cultivation Star not far from the Thunder Realm.

That Upper-Level Cultivation Star was named 'Slaughter Demon Star', with the strongest power being the 'Siyao Sect', a Renouncing Emptiness Power...

The Slaughter Demon Star was very famous in the Eastern Heaven Immortal World, not because of the Siyao Sect, but because there was a Key to the Main Gate on this star, leading directly to the God and Demon race battle grounds... the Barbaric Wilderness Battlefield!

If Ning Fan intended to enter the Barbaric Wilderness Battlefield, he would have to go to the Siyao Sect to open the portal with a Campaign Command...

"First, go to the Thunderfall Realm to find Xu Yanzong!"

Ning Fan made his decision and immediately flew towards the outer regions of the Three Thousand Thunder Realm.

He controlled his aura and cultivation speed to the Human Profound level, so as not to attract too much attention.

With a Human Profound cultivation speed, reaching the depths of the Thunder Realm would require at least several months.

Even with the Thunderfall Realm located on the periphery of the Three Thousand Thunder Realm, it took Ning Fan nearly half a month to reach the Thunderfall Realm.

...

Thunderfall Realm, Su Lei Sect.

Thunderfall Realm is a Sixth-Level Thunder Realm, but among the Three Thousand Thunder Realms, it has quite a reputation, as fifty million years ago, there was once an Immortal Emperor in seclusion here... His name was Tai Su!

The secluded residence of the Lightning Emperor Tai Su has long been lost to history, but a venerable sect persists in the Thunderfall Realm to this day.

This sect is named the Su Lei Sect, said to be founded by an ancient cultivator who revered the Lightning Emperor Tai Su.

The Su Lei Sect has persisted to this day, and within the sect, no cultivator has ever reached the Crossing Truth Realm. The highest cultivation among the ancestors is the master of this realm, Xu Yanzong, known as Heavenly Lord Xu.

The current sect leader of the Su Lei Sect is a female cultivator of the Fourth Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm.

The Su Lei Sect seldom recruits disciples from outside. The entire sect consists of fewer than ten thousand members. For a Fate Immortal power, ten thousand is far too few...

In the past, the grand Su Lei Sect usually had a solitary atmosphere, but in recent months, the sect has been bustling day after day, with forces from other Sixth-Level Thunder Realms continually arriving at the Su Lei Sect to propose alliances.

As a Sixth-Level power, the Su Lei Sect should not warrant such attention from other Sixth-Level powers.

But unexpectedly, a few months ago, a disciple of a Seventh-Level Thunder Realm's master took a liking to this sect's leader, intending to make her his concubine!

The master of a Seventh-Level Thunder Realm must be a Crossing Truth cultivator.

As a disciple of such a master, his demand could not be refused by the Su Lei Sect.

From an outsider's perspective, it seemed a stroke of luck for the Su Lei Sect's leader to be fancied by someone of such power.

However, just as drinking water, only the drinker knows its warmth or coolness... The Su Lei Sect's leader was dissatisfied with this union but felt helpless...

"The Profound Thunder Realm is a Seventh-Level Thunder Realm, and its master is a towering cultivator at the Peak Crossing Truth Realm, said to be just a step away from entering the Shedding Void Stage... We, the Su Lei Sect, cannot afford to offend the Profound Thunder Realm! His disciple is greedy and lascivious, not a good match for you, we all know this... But you must marry him, or else our Su Lei Sect might be destroyed because of you alone!"

Within the main hall of the Su Lei Sect, three Human Profound elders sat high above, and one brown-clad elder sternly spoke to a woman below.

Below stood a blue-clad woman at the Fourth Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm, graceful in form and gently elegant, with her eyes filled with despair...

Her name was Liu Yan, the current leader of the Su Lei Sect. During a journey to seek the Dao, she was chanced upon by a disciple of the Profound Thunder Realm's master, and he took a liking to her...

"Liu Yan, whether you are willing or not, you cannot change this! As the leader of the Su Lei Sect, when you need to make sacrifices for the sect, you must do so without hesitation! This is your duty!" the brown-clad elder admonished again.

Liu Yan's delicate face turned pale, biting her lip, she finally gathered her courage, lifted her head, and said desolately, "I wish to see my master... I want to know if he consents to this arranged marriage..."

Upon hearing Liu Yan's words, the three Human Profound elders all changed their expressions, wanting to speak but hesitating.

Liu Yan's master is none other than the master of the Thunderfall Realm... Xu Yanzong!

"So my master doesn't wish to see me... He agrees to sacrifice me too, to protect the Su Lei Sect..." Liu Yan laughed self-mockingly.

"No, the realm master does not wish to avoid seeing you, it's just that..."

One of the Human Profound elders was about to tell Liu Yan something when his words were sternly interrupted by the brown-clad elder.

"Enough! She's merely a junior of the Void Fragmentation Realm, no need to explain too much to her! This matter is settled... Who!"

The brown-clad elder abruptly stood up, his gaze intensely fixed outside the main hall.

Outside the hall, a white-clad young man with silver hair slowly walked in, wearing a ghastly silver ghost mask, his presence exuding the aura of a Human Profound Initial Stage...

It astounded the three Human Profound elders that this person could silently reach the main hall of the Su Lei Sect.

The Su Lei Sect's Sect Protection Array was of a Ghost Profound grade, impossible for anyone at the Human Profound stage to enter the main hall without triggering the array.

Yet this person managed to do it...

Liu Yan was slightly taken aback, turning her head to see a cold-eyed silver-haired youth approaching step by step.

The aura of this silver-haired youth was chilling, sending shivers down the spine... Yet strangely, Liu Yan did not feel fear upon seeing him, instead, she felt an inexplicable closeness.

This sense of closeness was indescribable, and in the past, she only felt this way facing her master.

Unexpectedly, now facing this unfamiliar Senior of Human Profound, she felt this familiar affection...

"Who are you! What brings you to our Su Lei Sect!"

Among the three Human Profound elders, the brown-clad elder took a step forward, his gaze cold, demanding in a stern voice.

He was the highest in cultivation among the three, possessing Human Profound Intermediate Stage cultivation, and with this step, a vast pressure of the Human Profound Intermediate Stage surged fiercely towards the newcomer!

"Who I am, you need not know... I am here to find someone." Ning Fan raised his hand and grasped the air, effortlessly shattering the brown-clad elder's pressure, causing him to stagger back, vomiting blood.

Gasp!

All three Human Profound elders, including the brown-clad one, felt a chill creeping through their bones.

They were certain that Ning Fan could not possibly be of the Human Profound Initial Stage! He was definitively concealing his true cultivation! At least at the Human Profound Peak!

How could he break through the brown-clad elder's pressure so easily without being at the Human Profound Peak!

"Whom does my lord wish to seek..."

The three Human Profound elders looked at Ning Fan with new wariness, their tone markedly more respectful.

In the cultivation world, strength reigns supreme, and Ning Fan's prowess evidently surpassed theirs by far, none dared to be disrespectful.

"I seek Xu Yanzong..."

Ning Fan's words caused even Liu Yan to twitch in surprise.

He was here to find her master...

The expressions of the three Human Profound elders turned peculiar instantly.

The brown-clad elder pondered over Xu Yanzong's instructions, hesitated slightly, then cupped his fists and asked telepathically,

"Is my lord from the lower realm, the Rain Realm..."

Boom!

An unimaginable terrifying pressure suddenly exploded from Ning Fan, bearing down heavily upon the brown-clad elder!

"Who told you this!" A flash of cold intent appeared in Ning Fan's eyes.

His identity as a cultivator from the Rain Immortal World was scarcely known in the Eastern Heaven. How did a mere Human Profound Intermediate Stage here know to say it!

Others could not sense Ning Fan's pressure, but the brown-clad elder, at the center of it, shuddered from the depths of his heart!

He looked at Ning Fan in disbelief, unable to believe that the young man before him could exude such terrifying pressure!

No less than Ghost Profound... potentially much greater!

He couldn't see through the true cultivation of this person, couldn't comprehend his depth!

But from his demeanor, this person was indeed from the Rain Immortal World!

"Daoist, calm yourself, it was the realm master who told me that someone from the Rain Realm would come to find him!"

The brown-clad elder revealed a look of terror, gazing at Ning Fan, explaining telepathically, fearing that a delayed explanation might cause some misunderstanding with Ning Fan.

The other two Human Profound elders, unable to sense Ning Fan's pressure, naturally couldn't fathom his terror, and didn't understand why the brown-clad elder would fear Ning Fan as if he were a ferocious beast.

Liu Yan's beautiful eyes widened in slight shock; the moment Ning Fan released the pressure, she sensed a novel yet familiar power of thunder emanating from him, immediately casting ancient and bizarre images upon her mind...

In those visions, she wasn't a person, but a... artifact spirit...

"It was Xu Yanzong who told you?" Ning Fan's gaze slightly narrowed, retrieving his pressure.

The brown-clad elder instantly felt his entire body relax, and with a forced smile, telepathically responded, "Yes... the realm master told me all this. He said there would be someone from the Rain Realm wishing to see him... He is nearing the Lost World Palace, unable to meet anyone, but if one from the Rain Realm comes, he can meet them..."

"Is that so..." Ning Fan frowned slightly.

This unremarkable Xu Yanzong seemingly had quite some abilities, even predicting his arrival...

Moreover, the brown-clad elder's words touched upon one more thing... Xu Yanzong, nearing the Lost World Palace...

"Daoist, please follow me to the back mountain to meet the realm master." the brown-clad elder urged with a servile smile.

"Very well, lead the way!"

Under the guidance of the three Human Profound elders, Ning Fan left the hall, heading towards the back mountain of the Su Lei Sect.

However, as he left the hall, Ning Fan suddenly looked back at Liu Yan, a hint of puzzlement in his eyes.

"Why does this woman carry a trace of the Lightning Emperor Tai Su's aura..."

Chapter 855: She Is My Artifact Spirit!

Sulei Sect, forbidden area in the back mountain.

Within the forbidden area, there is a stone cave, a place for the Master of Falling Thunder to retreat.

Outside the cave, more than twenty strong members of Sulei Sect guard the place, all the guarding disciples possess cultivations above Divinity Transformation.

The three Void Refinement Realm guards, sitting in a pavilion nearby, discussing current affairs while brewing plum wine, feeling quite relaxed.

"Tsk, tsk, tsk, have you heard, friends? The Extreme Lightning Realm (Level 10) and the seven adjacent Ninth Grade Lightning Realms have all entered a state of martial law. It's said that these eight great lightning realms have descended into chaos. I wonder what has happened to cause those powerful cultivators to panic so much..."

"I've heard a little about this. Apparently, something has gone wrong at Jilei Palace, and now they are searching for someone, but even they don't know exactly who they are looking for... It's quite laughable!"

"Hehe, those powerful cultivators must have encountered some big trouble, but what's it to us? We Void Refinement Realm cultivators just need to eat, drink, and live leisurely, don't bother with other matters, don't bother..."

"That's right, drink, drink! Guarding this rocky seclusion cave is really a leisurely task!"

The three of them were enjoying their drinks when suddenly, a sharp reprimanding voice entered their ears, carrying with it a vast prestige that shattered their wine cups, leaving them severely injured and vomiting blood.

"Hmph! Is this how you guard the seclusion for the Master?"

Upon hearing this voice, the three Mountain Guarding Commanders turned pale with fright, not daring to wipe their blood, they immediately rushed out of the pavilion in panic and bowed upon seeing the newcomer.

"Commander Zhou Wen, Lu Bing, Yu Chou, greet the Law Enforcement Elder!"

Four people arrived, aside from three Human Profound Elders, there was a silver-haired cultivator wearing a ghost face, it was Ning Fan.

The one reprimanding them was the brown-clad Human Profound Elder, who was the strict Law Enforcement Elder of Sulei Sect, feared by everyone within the sect.

Other guarding disciples showed fear upon seeing their commanders being punished, worried they might also be reprimanded by the Law Enforcement Elder.

"Hmph! You are lucky, today I have no time to punish you! Enough, you may step down!"

The brown-clad elder snorted coldly and dismissed the disciples.

The disciples guarding the mountain were relieved as if pardoned from a severe punishment, quickly retreating, but before leaving, each glanced at Ning Fan with curiosity.

The brown-clad elder was always cold and merciless, but towards Ning Fan, he wore a smile full of respect.

They were very curious about who Ning Fan was, capable of causing the Law Enforcement Elder to treat him so deferentially.

Ning Fan's gaze slightly flickered, as he had heard all the words spoken by the three Mountain Guarding Commanders.

Something significant seemed to have happened in the Three Thousand Thunder Realm, leading to martial law... But it appeared to have no connection to him...

"Elder Xu is in the secluded cave for retreat, Daoist friend may enter by yourself, we will wait outside."

The brown-clad elder finished speaking, took out a token, and activated a technique towards the stone cave.

Immediately, the stone door of the cave rumbled open, revealing a dark pathway within.

Ning Fan hesitated slightly, but ultimately stepped into the stone door alone. As he entered the cave, the stone door automatically closed.

The two copper lamps on the stone wall spontaneously ignited, casting flickering shadows across the pathway.

"Young friend, I've been expecting you for a long time... you have finally come..."

Deep within the cave, a hoarse old voice suddenly echoed, carrying a tone of consolation.

Ning Fan's gaze slightly focused, the voice belonged to a Late Stage of Ghost Mystery Practitioner, the aura was filled with dense death energy, close to passing away...

This person was the only surviving disciple of Lightning Emperor Tai Su... Xu Yanzong!

If the information from the little demoness was correct, this person should have lived for more than fifty million years... Could his cultivation really be only Ghost Profound?

Feeling a bit wary, Ning Fan walked towards the depths of the secluded cave.

The end of the cave was a stone chamber, dimly lit, with a small frail figure sitting cross-legged on a mat.

The elder's eye sockets were deeply sunken, his gaze turbid and dissociated, his spirit exhausted.

He exuded a strong death aura, difficult to believe he was still living.

Upon seeing the elder, Ning Fan's forehead sensed a scorching heat from the Thunder Star as if detecting something from the elder.

In an instant, Ning Fan understood how this seemingly Ghost Profound Elder had survived fifty million years of long history.

This person indeed only had the cultivation level of Late Stage Ghost Mystery, yet he was not alive... Thus, never perished...

"So it's... a puppet..." Ning Fan murmured to himself.

This frail elder was Xu Yanzong, a puppet personally crafted by Lightning Emperor Tai Su.

This puppet might not possess strong power, but because it was made by an Immortal Emperor, it contained the lightning power left by Tai Su, allowing it to conceal its identity from some high-level Shedding Void Stage cultivators and mumblings practitioners.

Ning Fan could see through this person's identity at a glance due to the Thunder Star on his forehead which enabled him to perceive the lightning power concealment within the elder.

"Hehe... Young friend truly deserves to be the possessor of the Thunder Star, you could see through my identity at first glance... As you've seen, I am indeed a puppet, crafted by the hand of the Lightning Emperor... Puppets are not living entities, hence they have no lifespan limit, nor are they troubled by lightning tribulations. Yet all things in the world cannot escape the erosion of time... I've done everything to delay the decay of the puppet body, yet it's still destined to decay... My final moments have arrived, but fortunately, you've come..."

"I know you have many questions in your mind, I will answer them for you one by one..."

"The reason I know you come from the Rain Immortal World is because someone told me that once the Lightning Emperor's Dao perished, you would arrive..."

"Who is that person? There's no need for you to ask me, young friend. Asking would be in vain... I do not know that person's identity either, only that they are incredibly mysterious, with a terrifying cultivation level. Even the Lightning Emperor regards them as a predecessor..."

Xu Yanzong coughed a few times, the aura of death in his eyes growing heavier, and saying these words seemed to almost exhaust his energy.

Ning Fan didn't interject, he was contemplating the identity of the mysterious strong figure Xu Yanzong mentioned.

A mysterious strong figure had once told Xu Yanzong that there would be a Rain World cultivator who would come to find him after the Dao annihilation of Lightning Emperor Tai Su...

That mysterious figure was a person even Lightning Emperor Tai Su regarded as a predecessor... Who could that person be... Among the Four Heavens, is there such a terrifying figure?

Even if this person were a Quasi-Saint, it seems it wouldn't be enough to be considered a predecessor by Lightning Emperor Tai Su, right...

"Two hundred years ago, the Lightning Emperor's Dao annihilation occurred, and the Way of Heaven and Earth lost its master... At that time, countless old monsters from the Four Heavens traveled thousands of miles to the Three Thousand Thunder Realm, searching for the Palm Position Dao Fruit, but they couldn't find it... Hehe, naturally, they couldn't find it because the lightning emperor's Dao annihilation did not form a Palm Position Dao Fruit... But since then, I've known, young friend, you would come... I deliberately spread some information in the Eastern Heaven, I thought with your abilities, you would naturally find a way to obtain the information and come to find me..."

"I know your intentions, young friend... Inside my puppet body is an Inlaid Star Compass that indicates the location of the True Thunder World... However, this Inlaid Star Compass is somewhat special, before the Lightning Emperor placed this compass into my puppet body, its artifact spirit had already been extracted..."

"An ordinary Inlaid Star Compass naturally doesn't need an artifact spirit, but the True Thunder World's Inlaid Star Compass requires an artifact spirit to operate... because the location of the True Thunder World is too special, not in the ordinary starry sky..."

"The artifact spirit... is... my... disciple..."

"That artifact spirit, after all, had a mentor-disciple relationship with me... Recently, it seems she encountered some troubles... I hope, young friend, you will treat her kindly... If you can avoid killing, then don't kill... If you could look after her a little, I would die without regret..."

"Young friend... I hope you can fulfill the Lightning Emperor's trust... save the True Thunder World... and unlock the True Thunder World's seals..."

Xu Yanzong seemed to have completed the most important task of his life. He had waited fifty million years, finally waiting for Ning Fan and telling him everything.

His eyes were full of relief, he could finally rest in peace, and go to follow his old master—Lightning Emperor Tai Su. These fifty million years had been too lonely and exhausting for him.

His gaze gradually dimmed, the aura of death he had been suppressing for so long, finally unchecked.

He could find liberation...

The aura of death spread, his puppet body made of Spirit Wood began to decay bit by bit, eventually turning into a pile of ashes.

From the ashes, an ancient Inlaid Star Compass made of Red Jade fell out.

Ning Fan watched silently, powerless to prevent it... Even a Ghost Profound cultivation level puppet would find it extremely difficult to survive fifty million enduring years... This puppet, enduring up to now, had long reached its limit; to continue existing would be a torment...

His initial wariness transformed into melancholy, transformed into a few moments of reflection.

Fifty million years of waiting... This puppet had faithfully completed its task; perhaps it could die without regret...

"Rest assured, Senior, I will make it my life's mission to break the seals of the True Thunder World!"

Ning Fan clasped his hands in salute towards the pile of ashes and picked up the Red Jade Star Compass from the ash heap.

After some thought, he finally erected a tomb within the rocky seclusion cave, burying Xu Yanzong's ashes within.

On the tombstone, there were still only four words... "A Death to See You Off."

Having done all this, Ning Fan took time to carefully examine the Inlaid Star Compass.

This Red Jade Star Compass was vastly different from ordinary Inlaid Star Compasses, not only in appearance but in essence as well.

Ning Fan couldn't articulate what that difference was.

The Red Jade Star Compass gave Ning Fan an eerie feeling. It felt as if the starry sky indicated by this Red Jade Star Compass was a completely different starry sky, existing in the Eastern Heaven, yet not part of it...

"Hmm? There are even lightning power seals on this compass, it seems it needs to be unsealed before it can be used..."

Ning Fan pondered for a moment, not leaving the rocky seclusion cave, and directly began to unseal the lightning power seals on the Star Compass there.

Ten days later, Ning Fan finally completed the unsealing of the Star Compass. After putting away the Red Jade Star Compass, Ning Fan left the rocky seclusion cave.

Outside the rocky seclusion cave, the three Human Profound Elders were still waiting, but at this moment, more or less each of them had some injuries...

"The Domain Master has finally passed..."

At the moment the rocky seclusion cave opened, the three immediately sensed the dense aura of death inside, their expressions darkened, and they sighed softly.

The three had long known that Xu Yanzong was near the Lost World Palace, and he had been hanging on by a thread, waiting for Ning Fan's arrival. Now knowing Xu Yanzong had passed away, they were not too surprised.

But Ning Fan was surprised to find the three injured. He was slightly puzzled but did not ask the reason for their injuries, instead inquiring about other matters.

"How many disciples did Lord Xu have?" Ning Fan's question was somewhat abrupt, but he had no choice but to ask.

The Red Jade Star Compass was very special; it needed an artifact spirit to indicate the location of the True Thunder World.

According to Xu Yanzong, his disciple was the artifact spirit of the Red Jade Star Compass... Ning Fan naturally needed to obtain it.

Upon hearing Ning Fan's question, the expressions of all three Human Profound Elders turned unnatural.

The brown-robed elder hesitated for a long time, his face somewhat unnatural as he replied, "Lord Xu had only one disciple, who is our current Sect Master of the Sulei Sect... Liu Yan..."

"Only one? Then it must be her... Let Liu Yan come to see me." In Ning Fan's mind, he couldn't help but recall the woman he saw at the Sulei Sect's great hall that day.

That woman had once given Ning Fan a peculiar feeling, within her was a trace of Lightning Emperor Tai Su's aura... Now that he thought about it, the woman should be Liu Yan, the artifact spirit of the Red Jade Star Compass without a doubt.

"This..." The brown-robed elder immediately showed a look of difficulty.

Beside him, another Human Profound Elder bitterly smiled and asked, "I wonder why you are looking for Liu Yan, Daoist Friend? Could it be... you have taken a fancy to this girl?"

"No. I have another important matter to discuss with her."

"Haha, I see... as long as you are not interested in her..." The Human Profound Elder slightly breathed a sigh of relief.

The brown-robed elder also came to his senses and said with a bitter smile to Ning Fan, "Daoist friend, I'm afraid it's difficult for you to see Liu Yan. A few days ago, the Lord of the Profound Thunder Realm forcibly took her to the Profound Thunder Realm... We wanted to stop it, but we were too weak and suffered some injuries... Now, I'm afraid she is close to the Profound Thunder Realm."

"What do you mean!" Ning Fan's eyebrows furrowed, questioning why his artifact spirit had been abducted by someone else!

"Ah, Liu Yan was destined for misfortune... She was unfortunate to be fancied by the disciple of the Profound Thunder Realm's Lord, Yujizi. This trip is like a sheep entering a wolf's den, hardly escaping death... Those women who were preyed upon by Yujizi rarely survive the second day... Alas, Liu Yan has no hope of returning, and our sect's master should appoint someone new."

The few Human Profound Elders sighed, not noticing Ning Fan's darkened expression.

He cared not for how the elders of the Sulei Sect disregarded Liu Yan's life and death.

But ever since he took charge of the Red Jade Star Plate, Liu Yan had been his artifact spirit, the assurance for going to the True Lightning World...

No one was qualified to intervene with his artifact spirit!

"Profound Thunder Realm... I'll make a trip there for Liu Yan."

With a flash in his eyes, Ning Fan's figure shook, instantly transforming into an Escape Rainbow, leaving the Sulei Sect in the direction of the Profound Thunder Realm.

The three Human Profound Elders' eyes trembled immediately, thinking perhaps Ning Fan intended to go to the Profound Thunder Realm to fight for Liu Yan!

"This person is at most a Fate Immortal. If he angers the Lord of the Profound Thunder Realm, it will surely end in death... For one Liu Yan, provoking the Profound Thunder Realm is truly unwise!"

"Ah, I just hope his venture won't anger the Profound Thunder Realm and direct their wrath onto us..."
The three thought cowardly.

In the Thunderfall Realm, a thousand miles from the Sulei Sect.

In a certain deserted mountain, a barefoot little girl, with silver hair and dressed in white, around six or seven years old, picks wildflowers, weaves wreaths, and hums sweet songs while slowly heading towards the Sulei Sect.

She doesn't walk fast, and there isn't even a trace of cultivation aura flowing from her, yet the fierce beasts of the deserted mountain fear the little girl as if she's a tiger.

This innocent little girl once smilingly defeated all the mountain's fierce beasts, displaying terrifying power...

"Little Qianqian is too fierce, Little Youyou too verbose, Little Qingqing too stern, Little Rourou too pretentious... It's more fun to play alone..."

"Hmm... What was this lightning realm called... Hmm... Thunderfall Realm... It seems that's the name... Eh? Such a nice fragrance! I'm so hungry! I want to eat! What smell is this!"

The little girl suddenly lifted her little head, looking in the direction Ning Fan was escaping, drooling came out, with lightning slightly flashing in her big eyes.

"Let's follow quietly!"

With a point of her toe, the little girl's body instantly transformed into a flash of lightning and disappeared from the place!

Although there was no sign of cultivation, her escape speed was comparable to the Initiate Realm of Shekong! This went unnoticed by everyone.

Seventh Level Thunder Realm, Profound Thunder Realm, Tianyue Sect.

Within the Tianyue Sect, red silk and colorful banners were hung everywhere, and the sound of musical instruments filled the air.

Today is a grand day for the Tianyue Sect. Sect Master Yujizi is marrying his 252nd concubine today.

For ordinary cultivators, marrying a few concubines is a trivial matter in the cultivation world and hardly requires a grand banquet.

But Yujizi is different. He enjoys a big show. Even marrying a concubine must be known to the world, inviting Daoist friends from all around to congratulate.

He is a direct disciple of the Lord of the Profound Thunder Realm, and everyone must give him face, and the gifts shouldn't be too sparse.

One escape light after another swiftly arrived, all guests coming to offer congratulatory wishes.

Inside the main hall of Tianyue Sect, Yujizi, dressed in red festive attire, with a glowing face, entertained guest after guest.

Yujizi is a cultivator of the Ghost Profound Early Stage, and those invited must at least be Fate Immortals.

Almost all sect masters with status in the Profound Thunder Realm have been invited by Yujizi.

In the main hall, most of the old monsters pride themselves on their status, attending only because of Yujizi's identity, lacking the intention to flatter him.

But there were also some opportunistic cultivators who, with any chance, immediately put on smiling faces to flatter Yujizi.

"Haha, today is a happy day for Brother Yu. I have nothing valuable to offer, just some Ninghan Marrow to express my feelings, hoping Brother Yu will accept!"

"Congratulations, congratulations! I've heard Brother Yu's new concubine is a sect master from the Sixth Level Thunder Realm... Tsk, Brother Yu's charm is admirable, I'm impressed!"

"Speaking of which, how come Brother Yu's concubine hasn't shown up yet? We'd like to see what kind of beauty has caught Brother Yu's favor."

Ears full of compliments made Yujizi beam, filled with exceptional pride.

Thinking about finally enjoying Liu Yan's delightful form after today, a certain part of Yujizi's body immediately heated up.

The only regret is that the cultivators sent to abduct Liu Yan were slow, yet to return.

No rush. Calculating the time, those people will probably return with Liu Yan soon.

Rumble! Rumble!

Suddenly, deafening thunder rolled from outside the Tianyue Sect.

After hearing this thunder, Yujizi clapped his hands with laughter. This thunder sound was too familiar – it was the sound of the Thunder Chariot!

The Thunder Chariot is a unique escape magical treasure of the Three Thousand Thunder Realm, with exceptionally fast speed, only possessed by Masters of high status.

Relying on the fact that his master is the Lord Xuanlei, Yujizi managed to acquire a low grade Thunder Chariot.

In order to quickly bring Liu Yan back, Yujizi specially handed the Thunder Chariot temporarily to a few subordinates for use.

The long sky outside the Tianyue Sect is currently overcast, with dense black clouds and occasional muffled thunder explosions.

Amid the flashing thunder, four old monsters of the Late Stage of Ghost Mystery, drove a dazzling Thunder Chariot swiftly toward the Tianyue Sect.

Inside the Thunder Chariot, sat a woman with a despairing gaze, she was Liu Yan.

At this moment, her charming face was pale, dressed in a bright red wedding attire prepared for her by the three Elders of the Sulei Sect...

"If my Master knows that I have been abducted by wicked men, he would not sit by idly. Even knowing the other party is a Seventh Level Force, my Master would not be afraid... However, this time Yujizi sent people to abduct me, yet my Master has not stepped out of the rocky seclusion cave, paying no heed to my plight. This can only be for one reason... My Master must have grown too weak to leave it..."

"Master...he is the only person in this world who cares about me..."

"Apart from Master, within the Sulei Sect, there is no one who cares whether I live or die... If Master cannot save me, then there is no one else in this world who will... No one will care about me..."

Boom!

The Thunder Chariot landed heavily outside the main hall of the Tianyue Sect, stirring up countless stones.

Four Late Stage Profound Ghost monsters descended from the Thunder Chariot, opened the door, and let Liu Yan out.

Their eyes were cold, fixed on Liu Yan, should she have any intention of escape, they would surely stop her.

How could a mere woman of the Fourth Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm escape their grasp.

"In! The Sect Master is waiting for you! Dare to resist, anger the Sect Master, and the Sulei Sect shall perish! Dare to take your own life, your Master will surely die with you!" The four old monsters said coldly.

Liu Yan unwillingly clenched her pink fists, unaware her Master had already died.

Were it only herself, she'd rather die than marry Yujizi.

But these four old monsters threatened, if she dared resist or commit suicide, the Sulei Sect and her Master would bear the wrath of the Profound Thunder Realm...

She was unwilling... Yet, dared not disobey...

Entering this main hall door might mean that she could never escape Yujizi's clutches, lucky if merely toyed with and surviving; unfortunate if toyed with to death or gifted to a servant...

"No escape... Must accept fate..."

Liu Yan closed her eyes, tears silently streaming down as she stepped into the main hall.

She appeared delicate and lovely, her figure like a young willow in the wind, most captivating in her seemingly fragile form yet with a stubborn look in her eyes.

Once she entered the main hall, many old monsters' gazes immediately shone.

Yujizi's gaze was intense, as if ignited with flames.

If not for the unsuitable occasion, he'd be eager to strip Liu Yan bare and ravish her.

Suppressing lustful thoughts, Yujizi licked his lips and signaled to a ceremonial elder nearby.

The elder understood, cleared his throat, and bowed to the old monsters in the hall,

"Today is a day of great joy for our Tianyue Sect Master, all the way here to congratulate, on behalf of our Sect Master, I offer a toast!"

This elder was one of the four protectors beside the Lord Xuanlei, a Mid Stage Enlightenment Master sent to protect Yujizi.

The elder raised his glass, naturally the old monsters present didn't dare slack, they raised their glasses and gestured in return.

Liu Yan smiled bitterly; other's great joy was her great sorrow and misfortune.

A maid beside handed her a glass of wine, with a glance she knew, the drink was spiked...

Without refusal, without resistance, she merely closed her eyes and drank the glass in one gulp.

Once the wine entered her stomach, a warmth burst forth, surging within her delicate body, turning her pale cheeks into an unusual flush, her body began to soften...

Sure enough, the wine was drugged...

Liu Yan closed her eyes bitterly, while the old monsters beside drank their wine with content.

The elder nodded with satisfaction, set down his glass, and was about to speak, when suddenly, the mountain peak housing the Tianyue Sect trembled violently!

The Sect Protection Array of the Tianyue Sect, in this instant, was crushed by someone with a single palm!

Outside the main hall, a silver-haired, cold-eyed white-robed youth walked step by step!

Upon seeing this white-robed youth, Liu Yan's previously despairing heart suddenly held a glimmer of hope...

Upon hearing the youth's words, she knew this person came to rescue her, tears of grievance immediately flowed...

"Apologies, she is my Artifact Spirit! I...am taking her away!"

Chapter 856: Slaying the Lord of Thunder

Silence! The entire main hall of the Tianyue Sect was deathly still!

The faces of the guests first showed a moment of surprise, then ridiculed expression as they looked at Ning Fan.

No one expected such a ridiculous scene to unfold at the Tianyue Sect's feast.

A mere Human Profound Initial Stage dared to make such a bold claim, stating that Yujizi's concubine was his Artifact Spirit and that he wanted to take her away... Like a mantis trying to stop a chariot, overestimating his strength!

"Heh, how interesting... A mere Human Profound Initial Stage dares to provoke the Tianyue Sect; today promises to be amusing. I wonder what miserable fate this person will meet."

"To dare to snatch Yujizi's concubine, this person indeed has commendable courage, but... hehe, in the face of absolute strength, what use is courage? Courage without strategy is futile."

"This person speaks such wild words, which is akin to slapping the Tianyue Sect in the face. Yujizi will surely not let him go."

The murmurs around started rising, while Yujizi's smile was forcibly frozen on his face, turning into a grim expression.

"Hmph, whoever you are, you sure have some nerve, daring to intrude on the Tianyue Sect and snatch Yujizi's concubine!"

Though angry at heart, Yujizi suppressed his anger, not acting rashly, intending to first find out the identity of the intruder.

Relying on the power of his master, he acted wildly and dominantly, but he also knew that there were many in the world who were more qualified than he to be wild and dominant, and who had even stronger backgrounds than him.

Ning Fan's cultivation revealed wasn't strong, but his cold gaze towards the heroes gave Yujizi a feeling that he must not be underestimated.

Perhaps this person was the descendant of a Lord of some Eighth Level Thunder Realm... Dare invading Tianyue Sect, maybe he had some reliance...

"Who am I, you are not qualified to know... You, come with me!"

Ning Fan's gaze swept coldly over Yujizi, but the latter half of his words were spoken to Liu Yan.

In Liu Yan's heart, there was an inexplicable and indescribable sense of closeness to Ning Fan, which stemmed from her identity as an Artifact Spirit.

For Ning Fan's words, she wouldn't have much resistance, wiping away the tears of grievance as she walked step by step towards Ning Fan.

She stood adorably behind Ning Fan and suddenly realized that she might be overly compliant with Ning Fan's words.

Yet for some reason, she was willing to follow him... just like a magical treasure that cannot betray its master.

Yujizi's face turned even grimmer; Liu Yan, whom he fancied as his concubine, dared to leave with another man in public!

"Afraid to reveal your identity... Perhaps this person cannot provide any identity that would make me wary, which is why he intentionally says this! False bravado! Without any background, yet dares to provoke me!"

In Yujizi's heart, a cold sneer never stopped, assuming Ning Fan had no backers. Therefore, his confidence also grew, eyes flashing with ferocity.

A person without any background on the Human Profound realm dared to cause trouble in his Tianyue Sect and must pay with blood!

"Four Demon Guards, kill this person! As for that wench... kill her too!"

"Yes!"

With Yujizi's order, four black shadows immediately emerged from the main hall, encircling Ning Fan and Liu Yan!

These four were the ones responsible for capturing Liu Yan, the four Ghost Profound late stage.

Upon receiving the Sect Master's command, the four attacked Ning Fan without hesitation, unleashing black thunder from their palms.

Centered on Ning Fan, within ten zhang, a black thunder barrier emerged, imprisoning Ning Fan inside.

"Four Demon Thunder Realm!"

Many old monsters in the main hall were moved upon witnessing this technique.

In Yujizi's eyes, a hint of pride and cold glimmer emerged.

The Four Demon Thunder Realm was a combined thunder technique created by his master, performed by four Ghost Profound late stage; even the peak of Ghost Profound could be killed!

"Not good!"

Liu Yan's delicate face turned white, feeling a sense of impending death being trapped within the Four Demon Thunder Realm, instinctively trying to retrieve the Ghost Profound jade scroll given by her master from her storage pouch for protection but was stopped by Ning Fan grabbing her wrist.

"Don't be afraid, I am here."

Ning Fan's words were very calm, just a casual sentence, yet it carried a power that made people trust, causing all the panic in Liu Yan's heart to calm down, her beautiful eyes becoming serene.

As long as he was there, it seemed that even if the sky fell, there would be no problem, even if the entire Profound Thunder Realm's powerhouses came to besiege, there would be no concern.

Liu Yan did not know Ning Fan's appearance, did not know Ning Fan's name, did not know Ning Fan's true cultivation... yet the thunderous aura within Ning Fan made her feel incomparably assured...

Boom!

As the four devil guards activated the incantation, within the barrier, black thunder immediately exploded violently, shaking the heavens and splitting the earth.

Under the thunderous kill, even a Ghost Profound peak cultivator would find it hard to escape death.

Ning Fan was indeed at the Ghost Profound peak, but his strength was in no way limited to the category of Ghost Profound!

In his eyes, a cold glimmer began to appear... Originally he intended to casually take Liu Yan away, but since the Tianyue Sect dared attempt to kill him, he could not be blamed for retaliating!

Without using any divine skills, Ning Fan merely raised his palm, seemingly casually grasping with his five fingers.

This grasp, however, precisely seized the vein of thousands of thunderous incantations!

A force of unimaginable collapse instantly crashed in all directions, strong enough to obliterate the Four Demon Thunder Realm capable of annihilating a Ghost Profound peak, yet it immediately disintegrated under Ning Fan's grasp!

In the great hall, all the old monsters looked terrified!

The Four Demon Thunder Realm was actually broken!

Bang! Bang! Bang!

With the collapse of the barrier, the four devil guards immediately coughed up blood and retreated. Before they could regain their footing, their expressions suddenly became extremely horrified.

For they saw Ning Fan suddenly raise his finger and point down, and instantly, four bone-corroding sinister winds arose in the great hall, sweeping up four black dragon shadows, rushing fiercely toward the four guards!

This technique was precisely the Gusts of Wind technique that Ning Fan had comprehended from the Immortalization Stele!

Ning Fan did not use the famous Divine Skills that he was known for in the duel with Mubei, just to avoid exposing his identity.

Under the sweep of the four wind dragons, the four devil guards at the late stage of the Ghost Profound Realm didn't even have time to utter a scream before their bodies, scraped by the sinister wind, instantly decayed into white bones!

Only their Spirits remained unfallen, but as Ning Fan flexed his palm and grasped, they, along with their storage pouches, were all taken by Ning Fan!

The Spirits were naturally erased, preserved for future Secret Method Refinement, and to perform the Divine Blast Technique.

Though the items in the storage pouches were few, they would not let them go to waste!

The bone-corroding sinister wind brushed across the faces of countless old monsters, causing them all to feel a chill of fear.

Yujizi looked at Ning Fan in disbelief, unable to comprehend that Ning Fan was not at the Human Profound Initial Stage, but instead possessed strength comparable to an Enlightenment cultivator!

Enlightenment Masters were extremely rare in the Seventh Level Thunder Realm... Could this person be an Enlightenment Old Demon?

"Die!"

Ning Fan's icy gaze swept toward Yujizi, and as he raised his finger, the four wind dragons immediately surged toward Yujizi, revealing their killing intent.

Under the oppressive sinister winds, Yujizi felt for the first time in his life the sensation of impending death.

Yet before the sinister winds could reach him, the mid-stage Enlightenment Old Master sent by the Lord of Xuanlei to protect Yujizi had already stepped forward, standing in front of Yujizi!

"Don't worry young master, with me here, no one can harm you!"

In the elder's eyes was an overwhelming pride.

With mid-stage Enlightenment cultivations, he was one of the four protectors of the Lord of Xuanlei, named Feng Leizi, he was among the peak powerhouses in the Profound Thunder Realm!

Ning Fan's Gusts of Wind technique was formidable, but he had absolute confidence in blocking it!

He raised his hand, and immediately a bolt of lightning flew from his sleeve, blocking in front of him.

"Wind-Thunder Banner, collect!" Feng Leizi said coldly.

The lightning was Feng Leizi's Dao Weapon, called the Wind-Thunder Banner, which had a great restraint on wind and thunder.

Despite the power of the Gusts of Wind technique, it was precisely countered by the attributes of the Wind-Thunder Banner... What had Feng Leizi to fear!

The Banner shone brightly, and the four black wind dragons were immediately absorbed into it.

Feng Leizi snorted coldly, seemingly with utter disdain for the Gusts of Wind technique, but in the next moment, his eyes were filled with fear!

Suddenly, he saw that the Wind-Thunder Banner in front of him, after absorbing the Gusts of Wind technique, became dim and was covered in numerous cracks.

The next instant, a large hole suddenly broke open on the Wind-Thunder Banner, and the four black wind dragons roared out from it, pressing down fiercely on him and Yujizi.

In the howling sinister winds, Yujizi's face was filled with horror, but he was powerless to resist, letting out a scream as his physical body was annihilated, leaving only a skeleton.

His Spirit was swept back by the sinister winds, extinguished by Ning Fan, and naturally, his storage pouch was taken away.

Feng Leizi was more fortunate, as he was not injured under the Gusts of Wind technique. If struck by the Gusts of Wind black dragons, he would have been severely injured by a single blow.

In dire straits, Feng Leizi resorted to a particularly insidious demonic secret art... Thunder Substitute Technique!

One old monster in the field, merely watching from the sidelines, didn't even react before his position was directly swapped with Feng Leizi's.

Immediately, that old monster, substituting for Feng Leizi, perished in the black wind, while Feng Leizi was drenched in cold sweat!

It was close! If the Thunder Substitute Technique had been used half a step slower, he would have surely died under the Gusts of Wind technique!

But Feng Leizi's act of seizing a substitute immediately incited panic among the old monsters in the great hall.

Countless old monsters' expressions changed dramatically, fleeing the great hall in panic, fearing that under Ning Fan's next attack, Feng Leizi would seize one of them as a substitute.

What scared them even more was Ning Fan's terrifying power, as even the mid-stage Enlightenment Feng Leizi almost suffered a severe blow under the Gusts of Wind technique, forcing him to seize a substitute to protect himself...

"What Divine Art is this sinister wind technique, and why is its power so terrifying! I've never heard of any force in Eastern Heaven possessing such a Divine Art!"

"What's the origin of that Ghost-Faced Cultivator! Could it be... Is he a Ghost-Faced powerhouse from the Slaughter Hall?"

"No... I've never heard of anyone in the Slaughter Hall wearing a Silver Ghost Mask..."

The energy of the four wind dragons exhausted, they gradually disappeared.

Ning Fan glanced casually at Feng Leizi, his use of the Thunder Substitute Technique piqued Ning Fan's interest.

Feng Leizi looked at Ning Fan with despair, uncertain of Ning Fan's strength, but seeing that Ning Fan's power surpassed his own.

Fighting on, even with the secret art of the Thunder Substitute Technique, would hardly ensure his survival against Ning Fan.

"Damn it... If the other three protectors were here, and together with me performed the Four Demon Thunder Realm Technique, even if this person were at the Late Stage Enlightenment, I would have the confidence to kill him!"

"Am I the only one left here to die today..."

Just as Feng Leizi was in despair, a thunderous roar suddenly came from outside the Tianyue Sect.

The sky darkened by black clouds, the lightning seemed furious, as if its wrath could tear the heavens apart!

At the sound of this furious thunder, Feng Leizi's face lit up with joy, and so did the remaining Masters of the Tianyue Sect!

The old monsters from the Profound Thunder Realm who had fled outside the grand hall were greatly astonished!

Amidst the rolling thunder, a thunder chariot blazing with golden lightning approached from afar, respectfully driven by three Mid Stage Enlightenment cultivators!

Low-grade Silver Thunder, mid-grade Gold Thunder... only the Lord of the Seventh Level Thunder Realm is qualified to ride in this golden thunder chariot!

The chariot started far away but in the blink of an eye, it darted directly above the Tianyue Sect.

When the chariot arrived, the three carriage-driving Enlightenment cultivators did not make a move, nor did the person within the chariot come out. Yet, a golden thunder spear streaked from within, fiercely stabbing towards the grand hall of the Tianyue Sect.

The target of the thunder spear's attack was none other than Ning Fan and Liu Yan inside the grand hall!

The one controlling the thunder spear's attack had a cultivation level infinitely close to the Shedding Void Realm!

"Whoever you are, daring to kill my disciple, you must die today!"

From within the golden thunder chariot came the domineering and fierce voice of an old man, the owner of the voice was the Lord Xuanlei!

The thunder spear, with just a flicker, pierced through the Tianyue Sect's grand hall, closing in on Ning Fan at three feet from his Tian Ling, carrying an impact close to the Shedding Void strike.

Ning Fan did not summon the lightning diagram to counterattack, he merely grabbed Liu Yan's slender waist, and as the thunder struck, his figure blinked and vanished from the spot.

In the next instant, the grand hall collapsed!

Not just the grand hall of the Tianyue Sect, the entire Tianyue Mountain crumbled in an instant under the strike of the thunder spear.

The Masters inside the grand hall of the Tianyue Sect suffered indiscriminate attacks, with unknown casualties.

No one knew whether Ning Fan had escaped the thunder spear's attack!

Feng Leizi, with a few other Masters, soared into the air, flying towards the thunder chariot direction, eyes full of reverence and fervor, bowing with clasped fists!

"Subordinate Feng Leizi greets the Realm Lord! If not for Realm Lord's timely arrival and slaying of the rampant one, I would have likely perished at the hands of the rebel!"

"Hmph! Failing to protect my disciple, you shall face punishment after today! As for that rebel, seems he's not dead yet... I will personally slay him to avenge Yu'er!" From within the chariot came a cold, chilling voice.

"What! That person is not dead yet!" Feng Leizi was startled, the three carriage-driving Enlightenment cultivators' expressions slightly shifted as well.

Paying no attention to the shock of Feng Leizi and others, Lord Xuanlei transformed into a dazzling bolt of lightning, dispersing as he stepped out of the thunder chariot.

With a wave of his hand, the thunder spear instantly returned to his grasp.

This is a robust old man with white hair, surrounded by flickering lightning, under his furious brows, his gaze was filled with murderous intent.

Feng Leizi and the four Mid Stage Enlightenment cultivators followed behind Lord Xuanlei, the four Enlightenment protectors of Lord Xuanlei!

High in the sky, Ning Fan and Liu Yan's figures gradually appeared.

Upon seeing Ning Fan emerge, Lord Xuanlei's murderous intent reached its peak!

The thunder spear was horizontal in his hand, and under Lord Xuanlei's feet, golden lightning immediately exploded, and in the heavens, a colossal shadow of an ancient deity appeared!

The giant shadow was bathed in golden lightning, bearing eight thunder drums on its back, wielding a thunder hammer, its eyes like electric arcs.

That giant shadow was the Dao Image of Lord Xuanlei... the Thunder God of Wrath!

"Irrelevant people, leave the Tianyue Sect area! Today I will eradicate the evildoer here!"

"Furious Thunder Barrier! Activate!"

With a point of the thunder spear, the giant shadow of the deity behind Lord Xuanlei immediately unfurled a barrier of thunder light, trapping Ning Fan and Liu Yan within the barrier.

Also within the barrier were Lord Xuanlei, along with Feng Leizi and his four Enlightenment protectors.

This Furious Thunder Barrier is a domain-type Dao Image technique, where within this barrier, Lord Xuanlei reigns as the master of all thunder, his power reaching close to the Initiate Realm of Shekong!

Upon seeing Lord Xuanlei open the barrier, be it the Masters of the Tianyue Sect or the guests who came for the banquet, all showed expressions of fear.

Countless beams of light flew from the ruins of Tianyue Mountain, desperately escaping into the distance.

The barrier was impenetrable, no one dared to spectate the battle here, and no one's gaze could pierce through the thunder to watch the battle.

A thousand years ago, Lord Xuanlei once battled an Initiate Realm of Shekong, opening the Furious Thunder Barrier.

In that battle, the Initiate of Shekong could not defeat Lord Xuanlei.

And the million miles of land surrounding the barrier were all reduced to ruins, countless innocent beings perished under the thunder power of the barrier...

"There's no need to watch... unless that Ghost-Faced Cultivator is in Shedding Void, they are bound to die within the Furious Thunder Barrier..." countless Masters sighed.

Inside the barrier, Ning Fan's gaze subtly shifted, even with the Tai Su Lightning Star in his possession, the thunder power here was somewhat suppressive...

It was indeed a formidable barrier, but to Ning Fan, who comprehended the Momentum Character Secret, this barrier was rife with flaws, not difficult to break.

Not intending to destroy the barrier, to Ning Fan, the barrier had its advantages.

With the barrier existing, outsiders cannot see the battle within it. Inside this barrier, he has no need for concerns and can unleash his full strength to kill Lord Xuanlei and others!

"Wait for me in the Yin Yang Locket; once the battle ends, I will release you."

Ning Fan waved his hand, directly placing Liu Yan into the Xuan Yin Treasure.

Originally hostile, Lord Xuanlei's eyes immediately trembled.

In this Rage Thunder barrier of his, outsiders could not open storage pouches nor small chiliocosm treasures. This is precisely another formidable aspect of this barrier...

Yet Ning Fan, within this barrier, directly placed Liu Yan into a treasure...

"This person possesses a medium chiliocosm treasure! What on earth is his background!"

A wave of unease suddenly rose in Lord Xuanlei's heart as if his intention to kill Ning Fan was a mistaken decision...

Feng Leizi and the other four protectors also had shocked expressions.

A medium dichiliocosm treasure could only belong to an Immortal Emperor, could the ghost-faced cultivator in front of them be a disciple of an Immortal Emperor? Otherwise, how could he possess a medium dichiliocosm treasure!

If this was not a treasure he picked up, his origins would be rather terrifying...

No! Among the Eastern Heavenly Emperors, there is no Ning Fan as a disciple!

This person might not be an Immortal Emperor's disciple; his medium dichiliocosm treasure might be something he acquired by chance...

"Kill this person, and we can seize his medium dichiliocosm treasure!"

Greed flared in Lord Xuanlei's eyes as he ordered the four protectors,

"Kill!"

Whether for avenging his disciple or seizing the treasure, Ning Fan is a threat that must be eliminated!

Receiving the master's order, Feng Leizi's gaze intensified as he grimly smiled at Ning Fan, intent on revenge.

Previously overwhelmed by Ning Fan, now with all four protectors present and under the master's barrier, it was finally his turn to take revenge!

Feng Leizi and the others, at Mid Stage Enlightenment, instantly surrounded Ning Fan, unleashing black thunder to form the Four Demon Thunder Realm.

Ning Fan did not dodge but quietly watched the four, a deeper chill in his eyes, coldly uttering five words,

"Rain Yin Yang, unseal!"

The moment these words were uttered, Ning Fan's aura surged dramatically. With a swift motion, the Four Demon Thunder Realm instantly collapsed.

Feng Leizi and the others coughed blood as they retreated, looking in disbelief at Ning Fan who shattered the barrier with his palm, exhibiting a faint trace of fear.

For the first time in his life, the once domineering Lord Xuanlei showed a look of shock and regret!

Despite the ongoing Rage Thunder barrier, an endless downpour descended from nowhere.

Amidst the rain curtain, Ning Fan suddenly struck his sword pouch, and five sword shadows, carrying distinct Rain Intent, darted toward the five!

These five swords were the Rain's Five Swords!

Any thunder attempting to block the five swords instantly dissipated under their gleaming blades!

Among them, Weichen Four Swords slashed at Feng Leizi and the others, instantly striking them with billions of sword rains, their bodies exploding into countless blood rains.

The Separation and Union Sword descended directly upon Lord Xuanlei's head, with a might approaching an Innate Treasure!

Lord Xuanlei regretted beyond measure... at this moment, he recognized Ning Fan's identity!

It could be said that almost everyone would recognize Ning Fan's identity given the Rain Yin Yang abilities he just displayed!

"The Rain Immortal Monarch... this person is the Rain Immortal Monarch! A disciple of the Ancient Chaos! A being that even the secret clans dare not offend!"

"No, this sword, I can't block it!"

"Ah!"

A heart-wrenching scream echoed from the Rage Thunder barrier, carrying far and wide.

One sword cleaved the Xuanlei thunder!

Five thick streams of dead energy surged to the sky from within the barrier!

Any Xuanlei realm old monster who heard this scream felt a chilling sensation invade their minds!

When the rain mist dissipated, when the Rain Yin Yang was re-sealed, and when the Rage Thunder barrier collapsed, the ghost-faced, silver-haired Ning Fan reappeared before the crowd of masters!

In his hand, he casually held a thin thread of thunder, with five unconscious spirits impaled upon it!

Those were the spirits of Lord Xuanlei and the protectors including Feng Leizi!

"Who is this person! Could he be an old monster of the Shedding Void Stage after all! He actually killed Lord Xuanlei within the Rage Thunder barrier! Who is he!"

"Ghost face, silver hair... not many silver-haired cultivators within Eastern Heaven... could he be the Thunder Punishment Venerate of the Extreme Thunder Palace!"

At this moment, who dared say that Ning Fan's solitary intrusion into the Tianyue Sect was a laughable act...

Only those speaking such foolish words were laughable...

Chapter 857: The Palace Master Is Missing

Just half a day passed, and a piece of news that shocked many old monsters spread across countless Seventh Level Thunder Realms.

Even some old monsters from Eight-level Thunder Realms showed some reaction upon hearing this intelligence.

The Lord Xuanlei, who was a half-step into the Shedding Void Realm, was slain just half a day ago!

Moreover, including forces under Tianyue Sect and others, numerous entities under Xuanlei Lord were wiped out by the assailant...

The murderer was a silver-haired cultivator with a ghostly mask! His cultivation level was unknown, his origin was unclear, but he's said to be an old monster from the Shedding Void Realm!

When the news reached Thunderfall Realm, the three Human Profound Elders of the Sulei Sect were absolutely stunned.

These three would never have dreamed that Ning Fan possessed such terrifying power, directly attacking Xuanlei Realm and rescuing Liu Yan...

The fallen Lord Xuanlei was, after all, just the lord of a Seventh Level Thunder Realm; this kind of news was not enough to draw attention from the Ninth Grade Lightning Realm.

Other Thunder Realms only sighed in awe but did not intend to interfere. Among the Three Thousand Thunder Realms, each governs itself; no one would meddle in Xuanlei Realm's private matters...

...

Ning Fan left Xuanlei Realm and temporarily settled in a nearby Fifth Level Thunder Realm.

The Fifth Level Thunder Realm, Tianshui Realm.

Upon evading to this place, Ning Fan casually found a deserted mountain and established a cave abode.

After wiping out the multiple forces under Lord Xuanlei, Ning Fan acquired numerous spoils, but this was not his intention; his original goal was merely to retrieve Liu Yan.

Liu Yan is the artifact spirit of the Red Jade Star Plate; she is indispensable for heading to the True Lightning World...

Now Ning Fan has a substantial fortune; from this battle, only a few Thunder Dao secret techniques among the spoils could slightly intrigue Ning Fan.

For now, Ning Fan had no plans to take stock of the spoils; with a thought, he released Liu Yan from the Xuan Yin Treasure.

"Senior... are we... safe now..." Liu Yan's face was flushed unnaturally, and she lightly gasped, her voice intermittent.

"Rest assured, Lord Xuanlei and his follower have died by my hand; you will not be troubled again." Ning Fan said calmly.

"Thank you... so much... for saving my life..." Liu Yan bowed gracefully, strongly resisting the water-like enchanting intentions in her eyes, unwilling for Ning Fan to discover her awkwardness.

At this moment, the power of the seduction drug still raged within her; the drug was extremely potent, and even with her Fourth Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm cultivation, she could not suppress it...

But even being drugged, she must restrain its effects... Her master told her never to be disrespectful in front of a high-level senior.

In Liu Yan's eyes, Ning Fan could kill Lord Xuanlei, most likely a Shedding Void Realm old monster, a senior she could never aspire to reach in her lifetime.

In front of Ning Fan, she definitely must not lose her manners...

"Hmm? You've been poisoned with a seduction drug?" Ning Fan's gaze swept over Liu Yan with a somewhat unusual expression.

"Yes..." Liu Yan's voice was as soft as a mosquito's; after all, she was still a woman, and such matters were indeed difficult to speak of.

She bowed her head slightly embarrassed, the waterfall-like hair covering her rosy cheeks, her chest heaving slightly, breathing somewhat quickly, with breath fragrant like orchids.

"I'll help you detoxify."

Ning Fan's calm words passed into Liu Yan's ears, instantly making her pretty face pale; she bit her lip bitterly and pleaded softly,

"No... there's no need... this poison... is not a serious concern..."

The powerful seduction drugs often had no cure; the only detoxification method was through union...

In Liu Yan's eyes, Ning Fan's detoxification proposal implied he intended to do such things with her...

She felt an inexplicable closeness to Ning Fan, yet this closeness was not of a romantic nature. To be harvested by Ning Fan and to indulge beneath him was something she could not do...

Including this meeting, she had only met Ning Fan twice in total... She didn't know Ning Fan's identity, appearance, cultivation... knew nothing, so how could she rashly agree to do such things with a stranger...

"The seduction poison is tricky; if left untreated, within three days it will certainly lead to self-immolation from desire... Are you sure you don't want my help to detoxify?" Ning Fan looked at Liu Yan with a slightly teasing expression.

"No... really no need... thank you for your kindness..." Liu Yan's face turned red, she declined softly.

"That wouldn't do... you are my artifact spirit, I cannot allow you to die from the poison."

For some reason, Ning Fan suddenly felt a playful heart toward this woman who would rather die to maintain her purity.

He stepped closer to Liu Yan, and she instinctively retreated like a startled doe until she was backed against the wall with no escape...

"No... don't..." She closed her eyes in despair, long eyelashes catching some tears.

Clearly rejecting words, under the influence of the seduction drug, her voice became as soft as a cat's purr...

Her heart beat fast, almost jumping into her throat... She felt some vague fear, afraid of being plundered empty by the man before her...

The cultivation world is indeed very cruel... Without strength, wanting to live purely is really difficult...

"Rest assured, I have no interest in your body. With my mastery of bewitching techniques, detoxifying seduction poison doesn't require union..."

Ning Fan sighed softly, no longer teasing Liu Yan. With the Mind Reading Technique, he clearly saw all Liu Yan's inner worries.

In his eyes, Liu Yan was merely an artifact spirit, nothing more; he had no further thoughts, nor would he.

Being exposed, Liu Yan felt some embarrassment, blinking at Ning Fan with a reluctant smile... She seemed to have harbored lowly intentions...

"Sleep for a while, once you wake up, everything will be fine..."

Ning Fan said nothing more, revealing demon eyes, immediately from which countless purple rosy glows flew out, sweeping over Liu Yan.

In the instant these purple glows brushed over her, Liu Yan was immediately numbed all over, fainting to the ground, while the seduction poison within her was directly swept away by the rosy glow.

This rosy glow, after Yin Plucking Finger and Yin Imprisoning Rope, was Ning Fan's third technique to restrain women—Chaos World Purple Rosy Light.

This divine skill could not only subdue women but also help them remove seduction poison.

Seeing Liu Yan quietly sleeping, breathing evenly, Ning Fan slightly pressed his finger, instantly a stone bed appeared in the cave abode.

With a flick of his sleeve, a breeze arose from his sleeve, immediately rolling Liu Yan onto the stone bed.

After finishing all this, Ning Fan's gaze slightly condensed, walking toward the cave entrance.

Since leaving Xuanlei Realm, Ning Fan had felt like he was being followed.

The stalker's cultivation was very peculiar, not revealing any aura, yet it gave Ning Fan an eerie sense of danger.

Strangely enough, the stalker seemed to harbor no hostility, occasionally even giggling deliberately, allowing Ning Fan to detect her presence.

What was the stalker's purpose, and what were her intentions...

"You've followed me all the way here, aren't you planning to show yourself?" Ning Fan's eyes glimmered slightly as he looked towards a patch of flowers outside the cave residence.

He was quite certain the person was hiding among the flowers.

"Oh? I'm not the only one stalking you? Is there also someone called 'Your Excellency'?"

From the flowers, a crisp voice suddenly sounded. In the next moment, a silver-haired little girl, barefoot, appeared, hopping and skipping while humming an unfamiliar tune.

"Where, where? Where's that 'Your Excellency' hiding! Oh my, to be able to escape my senses, not bad! You know, even little Qingqing, who is the best at invisibility techniques, can't evade my detection!"

The little girl darted up a tree like a small monkey, looking left and right, yet couldn't find anyone hiding here... Instead, she casually plucked a wild fruit from the tree.

With a tap of her foot, she turned into a flash of lightning, instantly appearing behind Ning Fan, munching on the wild fruit and giggling, her strange speed sending a chill down Ning Fan's spine.

If he hadn't sensed the little girl had no ill intent, Ning Fan would have attacked from behind...

Turning around, he took a closer look at the little girl, nearly pushing the state of Unity of Heaven and Man to its limit.

Feeling at such a close distance, Ning Fan gradually realized the little girl in front of him had many unfathomable aspects.

There was no cultivation aura at all, yet the sense of danger she posed to Ning Fan was no less than a Mid-stage Shedding Void Realm old monster, perhaps even more.

Inside the little girl, there was clearly no cultivation, but with just a thought, she could unleash lightning and form divine skills...

What kind of being is she? Lightning Spirit? Thunder Demon? No, neither... just a flesh-and-blood little human girl...

This little girl seemed to harbor many secrets.

Moreover, this little girl gave Ning Fan a sense of familiarity, as if it was just an illusion...

Ning Fan quietly activated the Mind Reading Technique but could not discern any of the little girl's thoughts; he could only hear endless crackling of thunder from her mind...

"Hmph! Ghost Eye brother, you tricked me, there's absolutely no one else hiding here!" The little girl exclaimed angrily after double-checking.

After a few bites, finishing off a wild fruit, her stomach suddenly rumbled.

She was hungry... Her hunger wasn't something ordinary food could satisfy...

The moment this hunger arose, the little girl suddenly fell to the ground, her small face full of pain, deathly pale and frightening, as her fleshy body began to turn into specks of lightning, showing signs of collapse and dispersion.

"This is... Nine Revolutions Thunder Body!" Ning Fan's gaze changed.

Nine Revolutions Thunder Body is a special innate ability to control thunder, and any cultivator with this Thunder Body is a powerful figure in the way of thunder.

This Thunder Body can evolve nine times, each evolution granting an additional turn, greatly enhancing the cultivator's strength.

However, during each evolution, the owner of the Thunder Body must merge spirit with body, temporarily losing all cultivation, only able to wield limited lightning-based divine abilities...

Some Thunder Body cultivators temporarily lose part of their memory during evolution...

Ning Fan's gaze focused; the little girl in front of him was undoubtedly a holder of the Nine Revolutions Thunder Body.

She should be undergoing the evolution of her Thunder Body, temporarily losing all her cultivation...

Due to not replenishing her lightning power in time during her Thunder Body's evolution, the little girl's evolution was on the verge of failure.

If the evolution failed, it would result in the collapse of the Thunder Body, leading to total death... Most holders of the Nine Revolutions Thunder Body died from failed evolutions.

"This little girl might also end up failing her evolution and dying..."

Ning Fan's gaze flickered as he pondered which faction this little girl belonged to.

To possess Mid-stage Shedding Void Realm strength, she must be an old monster of a certain level, yet why would she be running around outside during such a critical evolution period, without anyone to protect or supply her with thunder power...

To watch her die here... or to save her...

Ning Fan contemplated silently for a moment and finally made a decision. Just before the little girl's body was about to collapse, he extracted some shattered thunder power from the lightning diagram and transferred it into the little girl's body.

In the face of an enemy, he could naturally be cold and ruthless. But this little girl seemed to have no hostility...

"Did this girl follow me here because she detected my thunder aura..." Ning Fan felt a bit speechless.

His guess was pretty close to the truth...

The shattered thunder in the lightning diagram was obtained from slaying an Innate Thunder Spirit, its thunder power pure.

Once this thunder power entered her body, the little girl immediately felt a warm sensation; her pained little face quickly turned into a blissful smile. She comfortably belched before falling asleep lazily on the ground...

She slept sweetly, her silken silver hair resting casually by her ear, with no sense of caution...

In such a situation, Ning Fan could easily kill the girl with just a flick of his hand...

"Was this girl truly a Shedding Void Realm old monster before her Thunder Body evolution... or did she lose part of her memory due to the evolution, leaving her defenseless against other cultivators..."

Ning Fan frowned. He had no enmity with the girl and naturally wouldn't kill her in her sleep.

However, it was impossible for him to supply her indefinitely with thunder power for her Thunder Body's evolution.

A casual encounter; having saved her once was already a kindness, and there was no obligation to continue supporting her...

After a thought, Ning Fan bent down, picked up the little girl, placed her on the stone bed inside the cave residence, and left the cave with the still sleeping Liu Yan.

Let the little girl sleep... She'll find her way home when she wakes up and gets hungry.

...

Ning Fan summoned the long-unused Blood Lotus Spirit Equipment and left Tianshui Realm.

He covered his face with the Ghost Eye Mask, standing with folded arms atop the Blood Lotus, with Liu Yan sleeping soundly nearby.

After an unknown amount of time, Liu Yan finally awoke.

Seeing that the charm toxin within her body had been cleared, Liu Yan's pretty face turned pale, and she quickly looked inwardly at herself.

Upon discovering her Virgin Yin was still intact, she displayed a look of shame... She seemed to have judged Ning Fan with the heart of a villain once more.

"Thank you, Senior, for taking action to remove the bewitching poison for me..." Liu Yan's pretty face was flushed as she lowered her head and thanked him in a low voice.

"You are my artifact spirit; I will naturally save you. You don't need to mention such words of gratitude in the future." Ning Fan said faintly.

"Artifact spirit... It seems those visions weren't false..." Liu Yan sighed slightly.

Since the first encounter with Ning Fan, some images had frequently appeared in her mind, where she was the artifact spirit of a stellar disk.

She initially thought those images were false, but Ning Fan repeatedly mentioning the term 'artifact spirit' was enough to prove those images were not false.

She was not stupid and immediately guessed that Ning Fan's reason for going to the Tianyue Sect to save her was not for her appearance, but because of her status as an artifact spirit.

And she also realized that while Ning Fan had no interest in her body, he needed her to accomplish something. Before achieving his goal, Ning Fan did not intend to let her leave.

"Does Senior need my artifact spirit status to accomplish something?" Liu Yan cautiously asked.

"Yes."

"After accomplishing this task, may I gain freedom?"

"You can, but before completing this task, you must stay by my side to prevent unexpected changes. Take this! Use your artifact spirit power to nurture it!"

Ning Fan patted his storage pouch, took out the Red Jade Star Plate, and handed it to Liu Yan.

Liu Yan's beautiful eyes were immediately surprised... In those fragmented images, she was once the artifact spirit of this star plate...

This star plate requires the integration of artifact spirit power to indicate direction.

There are two ways to integrate artifact spirit power. One is to annihilate Liu Yan and refine the star plate with her soul.

Although this method is cruel, it is quick, and the artifact spirit power can be integrated into the star plate in just a few days.

Another method is to let Liu Yan actively use her artifact spirit power to nurture the star plate.

This method will not cause much harm to Liu Yan, but the integration speed of the artifact spirit power will be very slow, and it might take decades to succeed...

"Thank you, Senior, for sparing my life..." Liu Yan naturally knew the two methods of integrating artifact spirit power and was slightly grateful that Ning Fan chose the second method.

"Your master begged me that if I could refrain from killing you, I should refrain. Anyway, I am not in a hurry to go to that place, so it is not necessary to kill you and sacrifice the treasure. As long as you can complete the task of integrating the spirit into the star plate within decades, that's enough. Afterward, you may regain your freedom, and I will not stop you from going wherever you wish."

"Senior's life-saving grace is impossible for me to repay. As for integrating the spirit into the star plate, I will do my utmost. I just have one small request... Could Senior send me back to the Sulei Sect first?"

"Why do you want to return to the Sulei Sect?" Ning Fan asked with a frown.

"I was held captive by Yujizi, and I am sure my master is very worried... I wish to return to the Sulei Sect to see my master, and afterward, I am willing to follow Senior and help him nurture the star plate." Liu Yan pleaded.

"Are you returning to the Sulei Sect just to see your master?"

"Yes."

Ning Fan was silent for a long time and finally said faintly, "Your master Xu Yanzong has already returned to the Lost World Palace..."

"My... master... indeed... is truly..."

Liu Yan sorrowfully lowered her eyelids, with glimmers of tears glinting.

She already knew her master was close to returning to the Lost World Palace and understood that it was because he was powerless to save her that he allowed Yujizi to take her away.

However, she never expected that her master had already fallen...

She did not believe Ning Fan would lie to her; there was no need for him to deceive her about such a matter.

Without her master, the indifferent Sulei Sect was no longer a home to her, and she would no longer have any attachment to the Sulei Sect.

Yet, she still wanted to return... Even if it was just to pay respects before her master's grave, it would be worthwhile...

"Do you wish to return to pay your respects to your master?" Ning Fan asked faintly.

"Eh?" Liu Yan was slightly startled, not yet reacting, but Ning Fan had already changed the direction of the Blood Lotus, taking Liu Yan with him, detouring towards the Thunderfall Realm to return to the Sulei Sect.

At the moment Ning Fan arrived at the Sulei Sect, the entire Sulei Sect was in chaos.

Three Human Profound Elders greeted Ning Fan in trepidation, fearing any disrespect might offend this peerless ominous star!

"We juniors did not know that seniors were Shekong Cultivators and offended you before; we hope for senior's magnanimity!"

"No problem, you are dismissed! I will only stay here for a while, then leave."

"Yes!"

The cultivators of the Sulei Sect were dismissed by Ning Fan, and Ning Fan waited alone outside the rocky seclusion cave, while Liu Yan paid respects to her master's grave within.

No one knew how much time passed before Liu Yan dried her tears and walked out. She no longer had any attachment to the Sulei Sect, and with a grateful smile towards Ning Fan,

"Thank you, Senior, for giving me the opportunity to pay respects to my master. From today onwards, Liu Yan is homeless and seeks to follow Senior."

"Mm."

Ning Fan nodded, rolled his sleeves, and left with Liu Yan.

The Red Jade Star Plate will take at least decades to integrate with artifact spirit power. During this time, Ning Fan cannot go to the True Lightning World, but he can complete another task.

To cultivate the War God Art!

Ning Fan sped along, leaving the Three Thousand Thunder Realm, flying towards the Slaughter Demon Star outside the Thunder Domain.

His goal was naturally to pass through the Siyao Sect's key to the main gate, reach the Barbaric Wilderness Battlefield, and use its endless battle intent to cultivate the War God Art.

Cultivating the War God Art there is more effective than at the Luo Family's Broken Spear Peaks.

Slaughter Demon Star, Siyao Sect.

In the restricted area of the key to the main gate, each Eastern Celestial Cultivator intending to go to the Barbaric Wilderness Battlefield was undergoing strict scrutiny from the Siyao Sect.

Not everyone has a Campaign Command allowing them to freely enter the Barbaric Wilderness Battlefield.

Ordinary cultivators want to enter the Barbaric Wilderness Battlefield during non-world war periods, which is quite difficult, requiring a pass issued by the Four Oceans Sect.

And having a pass doesn't mean you can enter the Barbaric Wilderness Battlefield at will. For ordinary cultivators, the main gate opens only once every ten years.

Moreover, if unable to pass the Siyao Sect's ability assessment, one cannot enter the Barbaric Wilderness Battlefield.

To enter the Barbaric Wilderness Battlefield outside of war times, one must at least withstand the attack of Loose Immortal cultivators for the time it takes an incense stick to burn as a minimum requirement.

Currently, as it is nearing the time for the next opening of the main gate, hundreds of cultivators are here undergoing the assessment in the forbidden land.

Among these people, there are more than 20 Fate Immortals and 2 Crossing Truth Realm True Immortals, who naturally do not need assessment.

The remaining cultivators are all in the Void Fragmentation realm, and they are taking turns undergoing assessment by the Loose Immortal cultivators of the Siyao Sect.

Continuously, there are Void Fragmentation cultivators failing, and masters passing the assessment.

The one presiding over this assessment is the Dao Child of the Siyao Sect... Chi Zhen!

Siyao Sect... Chi Zhen!

This person once participated in the disciple recruitment ceremony of the Slaughter Hall with Ning Fan. That year, he was still at the Human Profound Middle Stage, and decades later, he has now broken through to the Human Profound Advanced Stage.

Such cultivation speed is astonishingly heard of, shocking many old monsters.

But Chi Zhen never felt complacent; on the contrary, he was very dissatisfied with his own cultivation speed...

"Back then, he hadn't even stepped into the Second Step, and I was at the Human Profound Middle Stage... Now, I've just broken through to the Human Profound Advanced Stage, while he has already become the renowned Rain Immortal Monarch of Eastern Heaven..."

"Ning Fan... Will I never surpass him in my lifetime..."

Chi Zhen sighed slightly, and suddenly, his gaze focused as he looked beyond the forbidden land.

Outside the forbidden land, he saw a male and female cultivator rushing straight toward this place, seemingly intending to enter the main gate directly.

"Halt, who goes there!"

Chi Zhen leapt into the air, blocking the two individuals, his gaze probing as it swept over them.

The female cultivator was not much of a concern, only possessing cultivation at the Fourth Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm, clearly unqualified to enter the main gate.

But the male cultivator, his face hidden by a ghostly mask, had an aura so hidden that Chi Zhen couldn't discern his cultivation at all.

"Oh? Is it him?" Ning Fan's gaze briefly swept over Chi Zhen, slightly surprised in his heart, but said nothing. He merely slapped his storage pouch, taking out a token for Chi Zhen to see.

Upon seeing this token, Chi Zhen's expression immediately changed, gasping, "A Campaign Command! A Fourth Rank Celestial Supervisor's Campaign Command!"

Not only Chi Zhen, but everyone who heard the words "Campaign Command" looked at Ning Fan with disbelief.

In the Four Heavens, any cultivator qualified to possess a Campaign Command is without exception an old monster of the Timeless Realm!

Countless cultivators secretly speculated, could Ning Fan be an eternal old freak, or was he a descendant of some ancient freak...

"I want to enter the Barbaric Wilderness Battlefield." Ning Fan said in a hoarse voice, this voice was a false one.

"Yes! Since senior holds the Campaign Command, there is no need to wait here. You may enter and exit the Barbaric Wilderness Battlefield as you wish! This junior will immediately open the main gate for you!"

Chi Zhen's face was full of excitement, being able to exchange a few words with someone suspected to be of the Timeless Realm was an immense honor for him.

If he knew that the ghostly masked man before him was not an eternal old monster but his former rival, his feelings would be quite complicated.

As Chi Zhen took out the formation compass and performed hand seals, the seal above the main gate immediately began to loosen.

Ning Fan directly took Liu Yan and entered the Barbaric Wilderness Battlefield, not noticing that as he entered, a small tail quietly followed after him...

"Ah! I'm so hungry, big brother wait for me, I haven't had enough to eat yet!" A silver-haired little girl, her form hidden, clingily whined as she slipped through the main gate just before it sealed again...

...

The Tenth Grade Thunder Realm, Extreme Lightning Realm!

In the Extreme Lightning Realm, black lightning continuously tore through the sky, heading straight for Jilei Palace, with deafening thunderous sounds echoing along the way.

These were the sounds emitted by the Black Thunder Carriage, which is a high-grade Thunder Carriage, and only Shedding Void Stage, Shattered Thought Rank old monsters have the right to ride it!

Besides the Black Thunder Carriage, there were actually four Six-Colored Thunder Carriages rushing back to Jilei Palace.

Six-Colored Thunder Carriages, only those old freaks of the Timeless Realm have the privilege to ride them!

Once the four Six-Colored Thunder Carriages landed, exceptionally beautiful women, all with silver hair, hurriedly exited each and entered Jilei Palace, each possessing an Eternal Immortal Venerable cultivation level!

These four women were the four immortal protectors of Jilei Palace, the 'Yue Lu Qing Lan' Four Immortal Honors: Qianyue Immortal Honor, Youlu Immortal Honor, Qingxiao Immortal Honor, Roulan Immortal Honor.

"Damn it! Haven't you found the whereabouts of the Palace Master yet! A bunch of useless fools!" The moment she entered Jilei Palace, Qianyue Immortal Honor immediately berated the gathered Thunder Realm cultivators.

Her fiery temper was notorious.

"Hmph! I've long said to imprison the Palace Master directly. Without the Thunder King Seal to suppress her, the Palace Master's Nine Revolutions Thunder Body evolution is extremely dangerous! Once she escapes to the outside world without replenishing lightning power... the consequences are simply unimaginable! Hmph! This time when we capture the Palace Master, we'll certainly imprison her under Thunder Mountain and keep her locked away!" Qingxiao Immortal Honor knitted her elegant brows.

"Waaah... The Palace Master and I are as close as sisters. If she dies outside due to insufficient lightning power... I'd rather not live as well... a three-foot white silk for a lover's death... I want to die with her!" Roulan Immortal Honor's voice was tender, her sobbing sounds sending chills down one's spine.

"..." Generally verbose and long-winded, Youlu Immortal Honor was uncharacteristically silent today, holding a crystal filled with shadowy thunder in her arms without uttering a word.

"Waaah... Sister Youlu, why aren't you speaking..." Roulan Immortal Honor asked coquettishly.

"...I'm trying to locate the Palace Master... Though the Palace Master has mastered the technique of concealing her aura, and her appearance has greatly altered, I could still vaguely sense a trace of her presence within the Three Thousand Thunder Realms before... but now, I can't sense anything at all... Could it be..."

At her words, Youlu Immortal Honor's face immediately turned dark, her expression resigned yet serious.

The other three Immortal Honors also showed varying degrees of shock.

"Has the Palace Master left the Three Thousand Thunder Realms?! Not good!"

Things have gotten out of hand... Once the Palace Master leaves the Three Thousand Thunder Realms, they will find it exceedingly difficult to retrieve her.

And if the Palace Master fails to replenish her lightning power in time... she will likely be consumed by the backlash of her Thunder Body...

It's all because the Jilei Palace lacks its treasured artifact... the Thunder King Seal! If the Thunder King Seal were here, where would there be any risk in Thunder Body evolution...

"Damn it! Send the order, every Shedding Void Stage and above cultivator in Thunder Realms level eight and higher is to mobilize, swearing to retrieve the Palace Master across the entire East Heaven range! Should anything happen to the Palace Master, I'll have all of you buried with her!"

No semblance, no clear whereabouts, divine skills, eerie...

Can this person truly be found...

Chapter 858: Gouchen Barbarian Domain, Mulan City

Barbaric Wilderness Battlefield, also known as Ancient Barbarian Domain, is an interface older than the four heavens and nine worlds.

In each of the Four Heavens immortal world, there is a portal that can access this ancient domain; similarly, in the Upper World Land of Demons, there is a portal to enter this place.

Since ancient times, within this ancient domain, the four heavens cultivators have clashed with the Upper World demon race over four hundred times.

Every time a realm war erupts, countless cultivators and demon race members bury their bones here... Every plant and tree contains the resolute and unyielding battle spirit of ancient cultivators.

Entering the Barbaric Wilderness Battlefield is easy, merely crossing the portal... but leaving is not an easy task.

The portal to depart only appears once every ten years across the various domains of the Barbaric Wilderness. Thus, even possessing a Campaign Command, one cannot leave at will...

The Barbaric Wilderness Battlefield is divided into forty-two domains, among which the demon race occupies seven domains, the four heavens cultivators occupy five domains, and the remaining domains are unclaimed territories, densely populated with countless ancient barbarian beasts...

Upon entering the portal, Ning Fan immediately, along with Liu Yan, is randomly teleported to the Gouchen Barbarian Domain within the Five Domains of the Human Clan.

The Gouchen Barbarian Domain was once occupied by the demon race. However, during a realm war millions of years ago, the four heavens cultivators seized control of this domain.

In sight, a blood-red continent stretched out, with sand and wind sweeping across the sky. Beneath the swirling dust, the remains of ancient cultivators, leftover weapons, the desolate war spirit burst forth everywhere.

Ning Fan did not know to which barbarian domain he was randomly teleported by the portal.

As Ning Fan formed incantations with his ten fingers, soft rains immediately descended and scattered towards the distant horizon.

Since cultivating the Five Spirit First Wheel, the perceptual range of the Heaven Prying Rain Technique noticeably increased.

With Ning Fan's current cultivation, he could have his spirit sense rain cover an entire mid-level star domain.

Yet this wide range of spirit sense could only cover a corner of the Gouchen Barbarian Domain... Indeed, the entire Ancient Barbarian Domain is vast.

Within this corner, Ning Fan sensed a total of forty-five cities.

Half of these cities were ravaged by the flames of war and had long become ruins and relics. The rest of the cities, to varying degrees, had cultivators stationed within.

Ning Fan entered the Ancient Barbarian Domain during a non-realm war period, and currently, large-scale wars between the cultivator and demon races occur rarely in the Barbaric Wilderness Battlefield.

Liu Yan, with a cultivation merely at the fourth Heavenly Layer of Void Fragmentation, had not participated in realm wars before nor entered the Ancient Barbarian Domain. Upon entering, she was inevitably awed by the overwhelming battle spirit lingering in the air.

She did not ask Ning Fan why he held a Campaign Command, why he came to the Ancient Barbarian Domain... She wisely remained silent about it all.

"Let's first find a cultivation city to inquire about the information concerning the Ancient Barbarian Domain... Hmm? There's a city in the north, facing a minor demon race invasion..."

After dismissing the rain technique, Ning Fan remained silent for a while, then suddenly flicked his sleeve robe, transforming into a golden light along with Liu Yan, flying toward the city being invaded by the demon race.

Mulan City, a cultivation city situated at the border of the Gouchen Barbarian Domain.

This city had merely thousands of cultivators guarding it, mostly possessing Nascent Soul and Divinity Transformation cultivation, with only over twenty Void Refinement realm cultivators and five Void Fragmentation cultivators, all being permanent domain cultivators, distinct from outside cultivators.

This was a small city, serving as a temporary resting place for the Four Heavens Great Powers during realm war periods, not overseen by any powerful cultivators.

The City Lord was merely a Loose Immortal cultivator, but just half an hour ago, Mulan City's formation was breached, and that Loose Immortal City Lord miserably perished at the hands of a demon cultivator.

Attacking Mulan City were only four demon cultivators, yet none among these four demons was anything less than a rogue devil cultivation!

The leader, a rogue devil man, was just a step away from the Human Profound Realm!

"Haha! With Mulan City's Lord dead, who here now can pose a threat to us! Kill kill kill, the old man loves slaughtering the human race!"

A rogue devil bull-headed man with eyes like copper bells sneered endlessly as he rampaged through Mulan City. With each attack, masses of low-level cultivators fell.

A Human Void Fragmentation cultivator attempted to stop the bull-headed demon race from continuing the massacre, but was swallowed whole when the bull-headed man opened his massive maw.

"Hmph! Brother Bull, don't kill all the female cultivators in this city! I still want to keep a few to play with!" A snake demon man watching the bull-headed demon race's indiscriminate killing voiced a cold, dissatisfied snort.

He was also one of the four attacking demons.

The four rogue devils were like entering a realm without humans, slaughtering this small city would just be a matter of time.

The remaining four Void Fragmentation cultivators in the city showed expressions of despair.

During non-realm war periods, border towns were frequently harassed by demon races... Given the strength of this city, waiting for the Four Oceans Sect to send aid seems unlikely; it might end up being completely slaughtered...

"Unable to escape fate..." Among the four Void Fragmentation cultivators, the highest cultivation one, a beautiful woman, smiled bitterly.

Opposite, the snake demon man had already spotted her, coming with an evil grin... With her cultivation at the third Heavenly Layer of Void Fragmentation, if she fell into the hands of this demon, it would be difficult to escape dishonor...

"To become a Cauldron Furnace... I would rather die in battle, preserving my purity!"

The beautiful woman's eyes suddenly showed a resolute and fearless expression, an expression that simultaneously appeared in the eyes of countless defending cultivators!

In the cultivation world, not all cultivators fear death, especially in this Ancient Barbarian Domain, with countless cultivators consistently living on the edge of life and death, fearless of dying!

The intense battle spirit in the Ancient Barbarian Domain is precisely because there are too many cultivators here who would rather die than yield!

"Burn!"

At this moment, the beautiful woman suddenly shouted tenderly, igniting her primordial spirit flame.

Within the cultivation city, countless cultivators likewise ignited their primordial spirit flames at this moment!

"A bunch of lunatics!"

Including the snake demon man among them, the four rogue devils immediately showed a sullen expression.

In theory, cultivators at the third Heavenly Layer of Void Fragmentation, along with thousands of Divinity Transformation cultivators, are unlikely to harm rogue devils.

But if they fight desperately, they might still inflict some injuries on the four rogue devils.

The snake demon man no longer intended to capture the Cauldron Furnace. At this moment, he only planned to kill all the Masters of this city as quickly as possible, to prevent any unforeseen changes.

The four rogue devils were already prepared to go all out, and countless Masters of this city were ready to fight desperately.

However, at this moment, the sky suddenly turned dark with thick clouds, a torrential downpour fell, and thunder roared, shaking the world.

Amidst the thunderstorm, above the cultivation city, a golden light suddenly flashed, revealing a man and a woman.

The woman had the Fourth Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm cultivation, undoubtedly a member of the Human race... the man wore a ghost mask and had silver hair, his cultivation level was not discernible.

Yet with just a wave of this silver-haired man's hand, the primordial spirit flames within the bodies of countless Masters igniting their nascent souls all extinguished and became calm.

In an instant, the entire Mulan City echoed with gasps!

"Second Step Cultivator! Only Second Step Cultivators can easily extinguish the primordial spirit flames of the First Step Cultivators using great divine power!"

The beautiful woman's eyes, filled with despair, suddenly gained a glimmer of hope.

The four rogue devils all, at this moment, showed expressions of fear.

"Not good! A Human Second Step old monster has arrived! Fast escape!"

Without saying a word, the four rogue devils immediately transformed into escape rainbows, seeking to flee.

The silver-haired man waved his hand, and rain intent swept across them, causing the four rogue devils to scream miserably, their bodies dissolved into blood.

With a grasp and call, four demon souls immediately fell into Ning Fan's hands, and without a word, he directly searched their souls and erased their memories.

Then, raising a hand, he crushed the four demon souls... these demon souls were of no use, not primordial spirits, they couldn't be used to cast the Divine Blast Technique.

At the moment of the four demon souls' demise, Ning Fan's Immortal Guard Token unexpectedly flickered with a faint light.

This was the sign of increased military achievement points... with more military achievement points, his Immortal position would gradually rise. Perhaps one day, unbeknownst, Ning Fan's eighth-rank Immortal Guard might ascend to the seventh-rank steward...

"From the memories of these four demon cultivators, I got quite a bit of ancient realm intelligence..." Ning Fan murmured to himself.

He took action to slay demons not out of affinity for humans or aversion to demons. He simply appreciated the Masters of this city more and disliked these four rogue devils somewhat.

Compared to the strong who revel in killing, he preferred the weak who refuse to yield even in death.

The fallen Masters, their residual souls gradually disappeared, unable to reincarnate again...

The Barbarian Wilderness Ancient Domain is a realm that exists outside of reincarnation. Even if a First Step Cultivator dies here, they cannot reincarnate...

"It's unfortunate to let these unyielding residual souls dissipate... if the Heavenly Dao's reincarnation doesn't accept you, I will."

Ning Fan waved his sleeve, and the force of residual souls between heaven and earth flew into his sleeve.

Ordinary Masters couldn't see the residual souls, and naturally didn't know what Ning Fan was doing.

No one knew that Ning Fan, with his hand hidden in his sleeve, summoned the Fu Li Spirit Wheels, gathering these unyielding residual souls within them.

The stubborn remnants of these residual souls could gradually enhance the level of the Fu Li Spirit Wheels.

And the Fu Li Spirit Wheels can construct reincarnation, allowing their residual souls not to disperse.

Not only demon race residual souls can enter the Fu Li Spirit Wheels... with Ning Fan's identity of cultivating three races, humans can naturally enter as well.

If one day, Ning Fan's Spirit Wheels are perfected, they can, like the Purple Dou Immortal Sovereign, grant these residual souls a new life... a Fu Li's life!

"Thank you, Senior, for saving us! Could we ask if Senior is a Four Oceans Sect cultivator who came to aid?" The beautiful woman and the other three Void Fragmentation cultivators stepped forward to greet Ning Fan respectfully and asked.

"No."

"Is Senior a passing outsider cultivator?" The beautiful woman was slightly surprised.

"Yes. I have just entered the Barbarian Wilderness, intending to rest briefly in this city and gain some intelligence on the Barbarian Wilderness Ancient Domain. Could you tell me some ancient realm intelligence?" Ning Fan asked politely.

Upon hearing Ning Fan would temporarily stay in Mulan City, the beautiful woman and others were overjoyed.

Recently, border cultivation cities like Mulan City had often faced small-scale demon race attacks.

If Ning Fan were to hold fort, Mulan City would be as steady as Mount Tai!

"Of course!" The beautiful woman and others readily agreed to Ning Fan's request.

The four of them each took out a jade scroll, imprinted the memories about the ancient domain from their minds into the jade scroll, and handed them to Ning Fan.

Ning Fan received the jade scroll, scanned it briefly, then put it away, and asked, "Do you have a complete map of the Barbarian Wilderness Forty-Two Domains?"

"Well... not hiding from Senior, every few hundred years, the terrain of the Barbarian Wilderness Ancient Domain changes, with some Barbarian Domains even switching places... we only have maps from tens of thousands of years ago, which are already quite inaccurate in recording the forty-two domains' geography..."

"No matter, give me one."

"Yes!"

The beautiful woman took out another jade scroll, imprinted the Barbarian Wilderness map into it, and respectfully handed it to Ning Fan.

Ning Fan nodded in satisfaction, took Liu Yan, and escaped into the city, creating a cave abode on a low mountain in the northern part of the city to temporarily reside.

Liu Yan lived in a nearby cave abode, wholeheartedly integrating the Red Jade Star Disk.

Ning Fan resided in his cave abode, organizing the ancient realm intelligence he had obtained, gradually gaining a preliminary understanding of the Barbarian Wilderness Ancient Domain.

The Barbarian Wilderness Forty-Two Domains, demons occupied seven domains, the Four Heavens occupied five domains... the remaining thirty Barbarian Domains were unoccupied areas rampant with Barbarian Beasts.

Barbarian beasts are native creatures of the Barbarian Wilderness Ancient Domain, neither human, nor demon, nor devil.

Humanoid barbarian beasts cannot cultivate throughout their lives, as weak as ordinary people, building cities to survive in the chaotic wilderness era... they are known as Stone Warriors.

If a barbarian transforms into a beast, they will lose all memory, transforming into a powerful barbarian beast, recognizing no kin, killing like demons...

Outside of domain war periods, the God and demon clans rarely send forth experts above the Shedding Void realm to battle, even Fate Immortal and Enlightenment rarely take action.

Small-scale conflicts like those in Mulan City are rather common.

The battle intent in the Gouchen Barbarian Domain is extremely dense, almost ten times that of Broken Spear Peaks.

But here is not the strongest place of battle intent in the Barbarian Wilderness Ancient Domain... those unclaimed barbarian domains, their battle intent is the strongest.

Once a domain war erupts, these unclaimed barbarian domains will be requisitioned by the God and demon clans as battlefields, where large-scale battles generally occur.

"So the best place to cultivate the War God Art isn't the Gouchen Barbarian Domain then..."

"Forget it, let's first try to condense the Fierce Origin Crystal in this Gouchen Barbarian Domain..."

Ning Fan couldn't help but feel somewhat expectant.

His return to the Barbarian Wilderness Ancient Domain to cultivate the War God Art is due to his improved method of cultivating it.

Previously, the War God Art required condensing Battle Crystals using the Condensing Crystal Technique, consuming them to increase the flames of war.

With Ning Fan's improvements, the method was replaced by the Fierce Origin Technique.

The Fierce Origin Technique is the sect-defining technique of the ancient celestial sect, the Lieyuan (Fierce Origin) Sect, created by Saint Luyuan of Ancient Chaos.

This technique can condense Dao laws into Fierce Origin Crystals, adapted by Ancient Chaos to cultivate the Twenty-Seven Yin-Yang.

This condensation method far surpasses the Condensing Crystal Technique of the War God Art, and the energy contained in the Fierce Origin Crystal is far more than that of the Battle Crystal.

After mastering the First Transformation of the War Mantra, Ning Fan could use the Condensing Crystal Technique of the War God Art to produce low grade Battle Crystals.

However, condensing middle-ranked Battle Crystals is extremely difficult.

But with the Fierce Origin Technique, Ning Fan could barely condense low grade Fierce Origin Crystals in an intensely battle-intent area.

The energy of battle intent contained in a low grade Fierce Origin Crystal almost rivals the high grade Battle Crystals of the Luo Family!

At the Luo Family, high grade Battle Crystals are extremely rare, only Family Head Luo Shix can condense them, even Ning Fan cannot.

But Ning Fan forged a new path, using Fierce Origin Crystals as a substitute for Battle Crystals, greatly enhancing the cultivation speed of the War God Art.

The only trouble is the battle intent intensity at Broken Spear Peaks is insufficient to gather War Law and to condense Fierce Origin Crystals.

Thus, Ning Fan chose to come to the Barbarian Wilderness Ancient Domain to cultivate the War God Art. Here, it should suffice to condense low grade Fierce Origin Crystals.

Ning Fan took out a pile of Dao Crystals from his storage pouch, casually picked one up, and performed the Fierce Origin Technique.

His Fierce Origin Technique hand gestures were still quite unfamiliar, even though the battle intent in the Barbarian Wilderness Ancient Domain was sufficient, it was difficult to condense Fierce Origin Crystals.

Failure, failure, failure...

Continually, Dao Crystals shattered into powder, scattered across the ground like lime.

The journey of Ning Fan crafting Fierce Origin Crystals was challenging, for ten consecutive days, he couldn't condense a single low grade Fierce Origin Crystal.

Gradually, Ning Fan gained some insight into the use of the Fierce Origin Technique.

On the eleventh day, Ning Fan finally condensed his first low grade Fierce Origin Crystal.

On the twelfth day, Ning Fan condensed three low grade Fierce Origin Crystals.

On the thirteenth day, Ning Fan condensed ten low grade Fierce Origin Crystals.

From then on, Ning Fan could consistently condense over ten low grade Fierce Origin Crystals each day, with minimal failure!

Three months later, piles of hundreds of Fierce Origin Crystals formed a small mountain before Ning Fan.

Observing the mountain of Fierce Origin Crystals, Ning Fan smiled with satisfaction.

With these low grade Fierce Origin Crystals as assurance, his War God Art cultivation speed will absolutely surpass anyone from the Luo Family.

Additionally, consuming Fierce Origin Crystals has another benefit... integrating the battle intent of the Fierce Origin Crystals can be used not just for cultivating the War God Art.

It can also cultivate the War Yin and Yang!

This time leaving Eastern Ocean Bell, Ning Fan specially visited the Luo Family, where the ancestors of the Luo Family bestowed upon him a cultivation technique.

That technique is a Nine-Star Technique, the main technique of War King Luo Hou, named the Unbeaten Scripture!

It's a primary cultivation technique focused on battle intent, combining excellently with the secret art of the War God Art.

Instead of immediately consuming Fierce Origin Crystals to cultivate the War God Art, Ning Fan instead took out the Unbeaten Scripture to comprehend and cultivate first.

Three months later, Ning Fan had preliminarily mastered the Unbeaten Scripture and began condensing the Embryonic Star of War.

Seven days later, the center of Ning Fan's brow bore a third divine star of battle intent, though just in embryonic form.

Only then did Ning Fan begin consuming Fierce Origin Crystals for cultivation.

The energy contained in low grade Fierce Origin Crystals is comparable to high grade Battle Crystals, seemingly without any upper limit of consumption.

In this regard, it's undeniably another blessing of the Fierce Origin Technique.

For three entire years, Ning Fan stayed indoors, devouring hundreds of low-grade Fierce Origin Crystals.

After three years of arduous cultivation, the flames of war within Ning Fan had increased to 102 in total.

Possessing ninety-nine flames signifies the ability to cultivate the second transformation of the War Mantra.

The number of Ning Fan's war flames was enough to achieve the second transformation, the only thing missing was a bit of enlightenment, a moment of opportunity...

To break through to the second transformation of the War Mantra, he ultimately required a blood-chilling battle to truly understand it!

Regardless, being near the completion of the second transformation within three years, Ning Fan already had reason to be proud.

Moreover, while nearly completing the second transformation, the embryonic star of war on Ning Fan's forehead had evolved into a war Yin-Yang Star by one-thousandth.

The cultivation of War Yin-Yang was also complete by one-thousandth.

"Three years of arduous cultivation only increased the progress of War Yin-Yang by one-thousandth..."

"When I was cultivating Rain Yin-Yang back then, I only consumed one Fierce Origin Crystal to achieve Rain Yin-Yang... However, that Fierce Origin Crystal was of Heavenly Grade..."

The grade of Fierce Origin Crystals ranges from low, middle, high, finest... Heavenly Grade surpasses the finest as an attribute-less Fierce Origin Crystal.

The cultivation speed of low-grade Fierce Origin Crystals is naturally far inferior to that of the Heavenly Grade ones.

"The barbarian domain overrun by barbarian beasts has been the main battlefield of the realm war in previous years, where remnants of war intent are stronger. There, one might be able to condense a middle-grade Fierce Origin Crystal..."

Middle-grade Fierce Origin Crystals are extremely beneficial, whether for cultivating the War God Art or War Yin-Yang.

"Forget it, after breaking through the bottleneck of the second transformation, I'll check out other barbarian domains... What is that sound!"

Ning Fan's expression suddenly changed, and he walked out of the cave dwelling.

At this moment, Liu Yan was also startled into coming out of her cave dwelling, and in Mulan City, countless cultivators, shocked and in disbelief, stepped out of their cave dwellings!

Over three years, with Ning Fan guarding Mulan City, the city experienced no battles and no demon dared to invade for three years.

But at this moment, a massive surge of intense killing intent approached from the distance, targeting Mulan City!

Amidst those powerful auras were a few of the Fate Immortal level, and one aura whose strength was comparable to the initial stage of Crossing Truth!

The entire Mulan City was instantly thrown into chaos, fearful that it might be a large-scale invasion by the demon race.

"It's not demons, it's barbarian beasts! It's the barbarian beasts attacking the city!"

Someone was the first to recognize the true adversary, exclaiming in shock, causing all the cultivators in the city to display stunned expressions.

In the Gouchen Barbarian Domain, barbarian beasts had long been eradicated, and there shouldn't be such a large scale of barbarian beasts appearing.

This group of barbarian beasts came from another barbarian domain. Why did they travel thousands of miles here, heading straight for Mulan City?

The beast tide advanced too quickly; unless one were a Second Step cultivator, no one could escape the beast tide's assault!

"Senior, with Mulan City on the verge of collapse, what should we do!"

Left with no alternatives, a beautiful woman and three others at the Void Fragmentation realm approached Ning Fan together, asking for help.

Though they understood that even if Ning Fan were a Second Step cultivator, possibly only a Fate Immortal, he wouldn't be able to annihilate the entire herd of beasts single-handedly...

However, if Ning Fan could use his Instant Shift ability to lead the city's cultivators to escape, they might stand a considerable chance of fleeing the beast tide.

"Fight!"

Ning Fan gave a one-word response, and his figment flickered, flying to the northern front of Mulan City, blocking the path of thousands of beasts alone.

He needed a blood battle to break through the second transformation of the War Mantra, and if these barbarian beasts came to die, he naturally wouldn't let them go.

However, to Ning Fan's dismay, when he blocked the beast tide, he saw a hidden silver-haired little girl suddenly appear at the forefront of the beast tide.

Her hands were holding seven or eight wild fruits filled with rolling lightning power, grinning as she fled away.

Behind her, the entire army of the beast tide, driven to madness, wished nothing more than to tear her to pieces.

The reason these barbarian beasts initiated a beast tide was that the sacred fruit they had guarded for years was stolen by the silver-haired little girl.

"Not tasty... too little lightning power... I still prefer Brother Food's shattered lightning molted relics..."

"Sigh... I've been searching in this desolate place for many years, yet I still haven't found Brother Food... Every day, I can only survive on wild fruits, how pitiful I am... boohoo..."

The pitiful little girl had, on that day, been separated during the real gate's teleportation with Ning Fan, traveling separate paths...

She had followed Ning Fan into the Barbaric Wilderness Ancient Domain, only to be unable to find Ning Fan after entering...

Suddenly, the silver-haired little girl showed a look of surprise.

In front of her stood a dilapidated cultivation city, outside of which was Brother Food, whom she 'dreamed of' day and night!

"Hehe, finally found you! My Brother Food!" the silver-haired little girl transformed into a streak of lightning, directly colliding into Ning Fan's embrace.

Behind her were tens of thousands of barbarian beast armies...

"It was you!" Ning Fan felt at a loss.

He had unexpectedly reunited with this Nine Revolutions Thunder Body little girl in the Barbaric Wilderness Ancient Domain...

No, this mischievous girl must have followed him all the way here... Her aim was still on the shattered lightning within his lightning diagram...

Chapter 859: Harbinger of Calamity

"Brother Food! Xianxian has been looking for you for a long time! Finally found you!"

The little girl excitedly snuggled in Ning Fan's embrace... The scent of lightning on Ning Fan was really enticing.

Ning Fan was speechless... He hadn't even asked, and this little girl had already confessed everything.

As expected, she had followed him all the way here...

Roar!

With a commanding beast roar, a dark wave of beasts halted a hundred feet in front of Ning Fan.

Tens of thousands of Barbarian Beasts, most with blood-red eyes and low spirit awareness.

Only a few with higher cultivations showed a glimmer of intelligence in their eyes.

The blood-red in these beasts' eyes gave Ning Fan a sense of familiarity, yet it felt somewhat different.

It was very much like the scent of Calamity Thought, yet slightly different...

"Foreign Clan Cultivator, hand over this girl, and I might leave you a complete corpse!"

Among the horde, a giant black-scaled Barbarian Dragon, as large as a mountain, coldly spoke.

It was the only Enlightenment-stage beast among the horde, and the only one capable of human speech.

The beast's eyes shone fiercely, looking at Ning Fan as if he were already a dead man.

No matter what, it wouldn't let Ning Fan go... Though the beasts came for the sacred fruit, they didn't mind exterminating some foreign races along the way.

To the Barbarian Beasts, whether they be the Four Heavens Masters or the demon race, they were all foreign, all enemies!

"Leave me a complete corpse? That depends on whether you have that ability!"

Ning Fan's eyes flashed coldly; he put down the little girl in his arms and said indifferently, "Your matter will be settled later... Go and hide first!"

The silver-haired little girl, despite being able to perform mid-stage Shedding Void lightning powers, lacked combat awareness; it wouldn't be surprising if she got eaten by an Enlightenment-level beast.

"Okay, okay... Brother Food, hurry up, I'll go find a place to eat fruits first..."

Swoosh!

The little girl turned into a flash of lightning, disappearing from the spot, reappearing on the roof of the highest building in Mulan City, swinging her bare feet, happily munching on wild fruits.

As soon as the little girl left, the horde's attack came.

Countless Barbarian Beasts surrounded Ning Fan like a tide, while the Enlightenment-stage black-scaled Barbarian Dragon opened its massive mouth. A black-red glow immediately condensed into an intense beam within it.

With a piercing sound, the black-red beam shattered the skies, striking Ning Fan.

The ground began to split on both sides from where Ning Fan stood, spreading destructive waves, indiscriminately killing countless Barbarian Beasts...

Barbarian Beasts were ruthless, even among themselves, they could kill without batting an eye.

"This is bad! It's Barbarian Flash! The Senior..."

The beautiful woman defending the city, along with three Void Fragmentation Elders, were instantly thrown into a panic.

That black-red beam was named Barbarian Flash, a signature skill of Enlightenment-stage above Barbarian Beasts, with immense destructive power.

For a Master of equal stature to these beasts, being hit directly by Barbarian Flash left little chance of survival...

In their view, Ning Fan most likely died from this one strike of Barbarian Flash.

Only Liu Yan knew that Ning Fan wouldn't be defeated by just a mere Barbarian Beast. In her memory, Ning Fan was capable of slaying Shedding Void Realm old monsters like the Lord Xuanlei!

The black-red light continued to ripple through the air, smoke and dust filled the sky.

The wind rose, the smoke dispersed, revealing Ning Fan, dressed in white, with silver hair flowing, unscathed, his gaze beneath the Ghost Mask icy and impassive.

"So this is the Barbarian Flash of the Enlightenment-stage Barbarian Beast... Indeed, there's a hint of Calamity Thought's aura within this Barbarian Flash, yet it's distinct from it..."

"Barbarian Beasts are formed as Barbarian Humans transform into beasts, losing their memories, becoming ferocious, acknowledging no kin... This behavior is akin to a cultivator controlled by Calamity Thought..."

"The Barbarian Wilderness Ancient Domain is a world without reincarnation, where any cultivator, regardless of their level, will be abandoned by reincarnation upon death... What exactly is this Barbarian Wilderness Ancient Domain?"

"Barbarian Flash is a body art... Driven by Calamity as power, a body technique..."

Ning Fan's mind raced; if not to verify a guess, he wouldn't have taken a direct hit from the Barbarian Dragon.

Yet with his formidable Heavenly Demon Physical Body, even a direct hit from Barbarian Flash wouldn't cause him any harm.

Moreover, after taking a hit from Barbarian Flash, he surprisingly gained significant insights into this technique.

Amidst the fierce wind, Ning Fan's fingers formed seals, executing the First Transformation of the War Mantra.

The force of 102 flames of war instantly converged in his heart, swiftly brimming through his entire body, causing his Ancient Chaos Grand Emperor cultivation to soar.

However, due to the suppression of the Innate Ghost Mask, the transformation of the War God Art did not turn his silver hair red, making it rare for anyone to recognize that Ning Fan had used the War God Art of the Eastern Heaven Luo Family.

This could be another powerful aspect of the Innate Ghost Mask.

The moment the War God Art nearing its second transformation was employed, Ning Fan's Ancient Chaos Grand Emperor cultivation broke through the Second Nirvana of Sky Demon and continued to escalate to the peak of the Second Nirvana.

At this moment, Ning Fan's physical defense alone was sufficient to contend with a Late Stage Enlightenment!

Under the Dual Cultivation of body and techniques, Ning Fan was undoubtedly a master among the Late Stage Enlightenment, even before unleashing the Rain Yin Yang!

"The Barbarian Flash is essentially a divine skill akin to Calamity Thought... With my Heavenly Demon Physical Body and the Power of Calamity Blood within me, I should also be able to perform a Barbarian Flash!"

A trace of the Power of Calamity Blood within him was mobilized by Ning Fan. Immediately, a crimson light of Calamity Thought appeared in his eyes.

Just then, Ning Fan abruptly raised his hand and pointed a finger, from which a black-red beam of extreme light burst forth, fiercely sweeping across the Barbarian Beast Horde!

This light was so pure, far exceeding the usual level of barbarian beasts.

With genuine Calamity Blood within him, Ning Fan's Barbarian Flash was unmatched by any barbarian beast!

Utilizing the peak physical strength of the Second Nirvana of Sky Demon to wield this Barbarian Flash blow, its power was enough to astonish any Late Stage Enlightenment!

"Ba... Barbarian Flash! Could it be that this senior's true self is actually a barbarian beast!"

"Impossible! Human-shaped barbarian beasts have no cultivation; how could this senior be a barbarian beast!"

"Among the Four Heavens Great Powers, occasionally there are elders interested in the Barbarian Flash of beastkind, creating similar divine skills... This Barbarian Flash must be a divine skill this senior comprehended and created!"

"Makes sense... This senior's Barbarian Flash is evidently mightier than the barbarian beasts, clearly not an ordinary Barbarian Flash..."

Mulan City was abuzz with speculation.

Meanwhile, panic started to flow among the Barbarian Beast Horde.

These beasts were ruthless, merciless, even daring to gnash their jaws at Shedding Void Realm old monsters and Fragmented Thought Elders.

But at the instant they witnessed Ning Fan's Barbarian Flash of Calamity Thought, for the first time in their lives, they understood fear!

To them, the Power of Calamity Blood within Ning Fan's body seemed like heavenly might! The Barbarian Flash unleashed by Calamity Blood exuded a pressure akin to a higher being!

A Turtle-shaped Barbarian Beast of Ghost Profound Peak-Stage cultivation, paralyzed by terror, forgot to dodge the Barbarian Flash attack. As the flash descended, it was instantly blasted into pieces...

A Bear-shaped Barbarian Beast of Ghost Profound Late Stage was trembling all over, crouching on the ground, attempting to resist the Barbarian Flash blow, but was immobilized with fear...

That Initial Stage Shedding Void Realm Black-scaled Barbarian Dragon, at this moment, had no trace of fierceness in its eyes, only fear, rising for the first time a thought of escaping!

From the memory within its bloodline, emerged a terrifying term, describing Ning Fan's kind of strong presence!

At that moment, how could it dare to remain here, or utter wild words, pledging not to leave Ning Fan's corpse whole... It could only strive to flee for its life!

The Black-scaled Barbarian Dragon flapped its massive wings, turned around to escape, but unfortunately, it could not escape!

As the Barbarian Flash arrived, it was facing its calamity, as unavoidable as heaven, leaving no route for escape!

With the arrival of the black-red extreme beam of Barbarian Flash upon it, its dragon scales, which could withstand attacks from a Post-Nirvana Immortal Treasure, were completely broken at this moment.

Dragon scales, shattered!

Dragon blood, dried!

Dragon bones, crushed!

Dragon destiny, extinct!

It barely managed to issue a wretched scream, and in the next instant, everything it possessed was buried in that Barbarian Flash!

"...Messenger of Calamity..." The last memory to arise from its bloodline, although it did not comprehend what it meant...

Tens of thousands of barbarian beasts were enveloped by the extreme light of the Barbarian Flash, their mournful cries incessantly echoing.

The sound of exploding beast bodies continuously spread far in the vast ancient battlefield...

As the extreme beam of Barbarian Flash faded away, not a single barbarian beast was left in sight, only blood rain, dyeing the soil of the ancient battlefield black... All barbarian beasts perished under Ning Fan's Barbarian Flash blow!

Hiss!

A deathly silence descended upon Mulan City.

No one, including the four Void Fragmentation Masters, anticipated that Ning Fan would be a powerful old monster comparable to the Late Stage Enlightenment, obliterating tens of thousands of barbarian beasts with a single blow!

Liu Yan was equally stunned, witnessing Ning Fan's unstoppable side for the first time.

On that day in the Tianyue Sect, she only saw Ning Fan killing some small fry, though knowing he eliminated Lord Xuanlei, after all, she did not witness it firsthand... Now, abruptly seeing Ning Fan wipe out the entirety of the beasts with Great Divine Power, naturally felt visually impacted.

Even the little silver-haired girl focused on chewing the holy fruit frowned, puzzled, "What is this power... Never seen it... Never before witnessed..."

Staring at the utterly destroyed ancient battlefield, Ning Fan was inwardly shocked.

"Is this... the power of Calamity Thought! A force comparable to the Power of Reincarnation!"

"If I had more Calamity Blood within me, the power of this Barbarian Flash could rise even further!"

Ning Fan patted his storage pouch and took out a sealed jade box, which contained Calamity Blood from an Innate Thunder Spirit.

This Calamity Blood was ten times more than what he had in his body; if it were refined...

"...perhaps this Barbarian Flash could become a Great Divine Power I wield to traverse the heavens and earth in the future."

Ning Fan's eyes flashed, and he put away the jade box. Now was not the time to refine the Calamity Blood.

Through the strike of Barbarian Flash, the bottleneck of Ning Fan's Second Transformation of the War Mantra had loosened. He only needed one closed-door meditation to break through the second transformation...

Closed-door meditation was not the priority. The priority was understanding what that silver-haired little girl was up to...

Ning Fan stepped out and vanished from the ancient battlefield outside the city, appearing in Mulan City.

Jumping onto the rooftop of a building, Ning Fan walked step by step towards the silver-haired little girl, his brow slightly furrowing.

This little girl was not an enemy; otherwise, Ning Fan would not have shown her mercy.

But this little girl was a presence comparable to the Mid Stage of Shedding Void, and her constant entanglement was not something to be easily ignored...

"Brother Food! You're amazing! Xianxian admires you so much!"

Seeing Ning Fan walk towards her, the silver-haired little girl jumped up and plunged into Ning Fan's arms with a strange cultivation speed, leaving Ning Fan somewhat defenseless...

Feeling the little face rubbing around in his embrace, Ning Fan felt a headache coming on and sighed slightly, speaking directly.

"You're so persistent in following me; is it for those shattered lightning?"

"Yes, yes, the thunder fruits in the Extreme Thunder Palace are not delicious, and the fruits here are not tasty... Brother Food's shattered lightning is the best!" Mentioning shattered lightning made the little girl drool all over Ning Fan...

"My shattered lightning is naturally delicious..." It was the shattered lightning left after the death of an Innate Thunder Spirit, rare and unattainable...

Looking at the silly girl in his arms, Ning Fan's mind spun quickly.

From the silly girl's few words, Ning Fan learned that she came from the Extreme Thunder Palace.

Thinking a bit further, Ning Fan immediately understood that only a place like the Extreme Thunder Palace could raise a little girl at the Mid Stage of Shedding Void...

"Your Thunder Body Evolution requires lots of thunder bodies; my shattered lightning is not enough for you to eat... and those shattered lightning, I still need them, can't give them all to you." Ning Fan spoke straightforwardly.

"Give me, give me... I really want to eat..." The little girl desperately rubbed in Ning Fan's arms, but Ning Fan remained unmoved.

Suddenly, the little girl remembered something, smiled mischievously, lifted her little head, and with a "pop," kissed Ning Fan on the face, smiling smugly,

"Little Rourou said not to kiss boys casually; if you do, the other party must be responsible... Hee hee, I kissed you, you're mine now, you have to be responsible for me, not giving me food means I'll starve to death! You're not being responsible!"

A female scoundrel!

These three words instantly popped into Ning Fan's mind.

He didn't know where this little creature learned all this nonsense... Kissing a man means he has to be responsible for her, on what grounds...

"I'll give you at most one-tenth of the shattered lightning, and... please stop pestering me in the future..."

Ning Fan almost had the impulse to throw the little girl out of his arms, but after some thought, he held back and made a compromise.

Giving one-tenth of the shattered lightning could be seen as forming a good relationship with the Extreme Thunder Palace...

"Not enough, Xianxian wants to eat more, wants to eat it all!" the little girl yelled.

"Don't push your luck!" Ning Fan's eyes sharpened, though facing cultivators with no grudges, he wouldn't be cold and ruthless, he wouldn't let the other party manipulate him either.

Even if the other party seemed like a little girl... but since the other party was an old monster of the Shedding Void Realm, it was needless to say that she was likely hundreds of years older than Ning Fan.

"Uwaa... you're so fierce! You're fiercer than Little Qianqian!" The little girl buried her face in Ning Fan's chest, crying loudly.

Seeing Ning Fan remain indifferent, the little girl sneered, wiped away her tears, and huffed.

"Brother Food, you have no sympathy!"

"..."

"I'm already yours, and you don't even care about me!"

"..."

"Give me all the shattered lightning to eat... I can help you fight if that's not enough; I can protect you! I'm very strong!"

The little girl suddenly jumped out of Ning Fan's embrace, waving her little pink fists, full of confidence.

"You protect me... in exchange for shattered lightning? Are you sure..." Ning Fan's eyes slightly flickered, this proposal seemed interesting.

If in the future Ning Fan ventures to other Barbarian Domains for training, he will definitely need someone to guard the gateway as a protector.

Liu Yan cannot be relied upon, and the Shekong Puppet is a Desire Puppet, requiring Ning Fan to personally manipulate it with Puppet Threads to fight, which also cannot be relied upon...

If this little girl, who can match the Mid Stage of Shekong, could help keep watch, Ning Fan would feel more assured in closed-door cultivation.

"Hmph, don't look down on me, I'm really strong! Let me tell you, just a few years ago, I killed a big red-haired demon king, he was really strong, what's his name... Oh right, he was called... called Big Mushroom..." She accidentally mixed up the name of Senluo.

"Alright, I know, you killed a Big Mushroom, you're very strong..." Ning Fan responded with a hint of exasperation, unaware of a red-haired demon king named Big Mushroom in Eastern Heaven.

"Hmph! You don't believe me! I'm really strong! Just yesterday, in my dream, I had a sister named Little Momo, who had a magical pen, and whoever she wrote died instantly!" The little girl pouted angrily.

"Yes, you have a very strong sister... who could kill me with a single stroke..." Ning Fan said, exasperated.

"Boo hoo... just let me eat it, please, good brother..."

No matter what, nothing worked. The little girl sat on the ground, pouting and throwing a tantrum.

Ning Fan let her cry and ignore her, contemplating whether to give all the shattered thunder to this little girl.

His original intention was to use those shattered thunders to condense Fierce Origin Crystals and cultivate Thunder Yin-Yang. However, judging from War Yin-Yang's cultivation progress, those shattered thunders were far from enough for Thunder Yin-Yang's cultivation...

Giving them to this little girl wasn't out of the question...

"You promised to give me the shattered thunder, and I'll... I'll sleep with you!" The little girl finally abandoned all dignity.

Ning Fan was speechless; he didn't think this little girl, with the body of a six or seven-year-old, was qualified to sleep with him.

"Alright then... there's no need to sleep with me. I can give you the shattered thunder, but you have to stay by my side temporarily. When needed, you must protect the gateway for me. If you agree, I can give you one-tenth of the shattered thunder right now, and when you finish eating it, I'll give you more."

"I agree! I agree!" The shameless little girl drooled and agreed without hesitation.

"...Here, come along..."

Ning Fan flicked his finger, immediately extracting one-tenth of the lightning power, sealed it in a jade box, and handed it to the little girl.

The little girl took the jade box, almost giddy with happiness, and followed Ning Fan, skipping towards Liu Yan and the others.

The entire Mulan City was silent at the moment, with every eye fixed on Ning Fan, not daring to breathe loudly.

"Senior... who is this little kid? Quite adorable..." Liu Yan asked curiously, looking at the silver-haired little girl.

"She will follow us from now on. Just call her Xianxian... that seems to be her name." Ning Fan replied coolly.

"How did you know I'm called Xianxian!" The little girl was startled.

"...You've mentioned it several times before..." Ning Fan was speechless, realizing that this little girl was somewhat scatterbrained, eccentric, unruly, and a bit off-kilter...

The little girl was handed over to Liu Yan for care, and once the beast tide subsided, Ning Fan began closed-door cultivation again.

This time, the secluded cultivation lasted for four months. During those four months, Ning Fan not only refined the Blood Lightning of the Innate Thunder Spirit, but also completely mastered the Second Transformation of the War Mantra.

Four months later, Ning Fan and his party left Mulan City, heading towards the unoccupied Barbarian Domain.

The unoccupied Barbarian Domains near the Gouchen Barbarian Domain did not possess particularly strong battle intent.

The farther north they flew, the stronger the battle intent in the air became.

Above a Barbarian Domain filled with ancient forests, Ning Fan slowed his escape light and descended with Liu Yan and the little girl.

This ancient forest, with its intense battle intent, ranked among the top three in the entire Barbarian Wilderness Ancient Domain, being one of the main battlefields of countless world wars.

Here, middle-ranked Fierce Origin Crystals could likely be condensed...

Roar!

The moment Ning Fan and company set foot in the ancient forest, dozens of powerful beast roars echoed from its depths.

The owners of these beast roars were all savage beasts beyond the Enlightenment stage, and they harbored murderous intent towards everyone as soon as Ning Fan and others entered the forest!

Savage beasts are inherently domineering, and anyone trespassing into their territory is to be killed without mercy!

Ning Fan frowned slightly and was about to act, but the little girl boldly stepped forward.

"Big brother, you go ahead and train, leave these fierce beasts to Xianxian!"

As soon as she finished speaking, the little girl turned into a flash of lightning and shot into the depths of the ancient forest.

Soon, wails of savage beasts weeping and howling came from all directions...

It was then that Ning Fan realized that when this little girl got serious, her battle awareness was extraordinary...

Vaguely, Ning Fan seemed to have seen such a heroic figure somewhere before, but couldn't recall where...

Chapter 860: Wu Chen, Once Again

The barbarian beasts in the ancient forest were cleared by the little girl alone.

In the depths of an ancient towering tree, Ning Fan opened up three cave dwellings, one for each person.

Liu Yan nurtured the star compass here, the little girl protected Ning Fan here, while Ning Fan focused entirely on practicing the War God Art.

Ning Fan's heart and spirit gradually merged with this ancient forest... The forest floor's decayed leaves were of unknown thickness, accumulating over countless years.

Beneath these decayed leaves, one could occasionally find the bones of fallen warriors and some spirit-exhausted and rusted magical treasures.

The ancient battle spirit was condensed yet undispersed in this forest. Ning Fan closed his eyes, and as if he could hear the cries of countless unyielding souls.

War! War! War!

Back then, the golden spears and armored horses were already irretrievable... yet the battle spirit of this place was immortal and inherited!

Ning Fan's understanding of the War God Art deepened... battle spirit, that "intent" is an indestructible will...

One day, two days, three days... No one knows how many days passed, Ning Fan's heart perfectly merged with this place's battle spirit.

In this moment, he finally opened his eyes and began to perform the Fierce Origin Technique, condensing the Fierce Origin Crystal.

Here, he aimed to create not a low-ranked Fierce Origin Crystal, but a middle-ranked one!

Failure, failure, failure...

Piece after piece of Dao Crystal turned to dust in Ning Fan's hands, the difficulty of condensing middle-ranked Fierce Origin Crystals was far greater than low-ranked ones.

A month passed, and Ning Fan was still continuously failing.

Two months passed, and Ning Fan still hadn't formed even half a piece of middle-ranked Fierce Origin Crystal.

Three months passed, and Ning Fan was still failing, but in his heart, he finally seemed to understand something.

The reason why he still couldn't condense the middle-ranked Fierce Origin Crystal was because the battle spirit here wasn't strong enough!

At this moment, Ning Fan stepped out of the cave dwelling and performed an Earth Escape Skill, burrowing deeper into the ancient forest.

The earth's crust in the Barbarian Wilderness Ancient Domain changes once every few centuries.

Four Heavens separated over billions of years, experiencing domain wars 400 times, crust movements nearly a million times... The past battlefields of domain wars had long been buried deep in the earth.

The battle spirit there is stronger than on the surface; there, a middle-ranked Fierce Origin Crystal can surely be condensed!

Ning Fan burrowed all the way to the bottom of the earth's crust, and here, the intensity of the battle spirit could slightly disturb Ning Fan's stable spirit sense.

Here, Ning Fan finally condensed the first middle-ranked Fierce Origin Crystal... The battle spirit intensity of a middle-ranked Fierce Origin Crystal was equivalent to Luo Family's finest ranked War Crystal!

Since War King Luo Hou entered slumber, no one has been able to condense the finest ranked War Crystal!

Feeling the intense battle spirit within the middle-ranked Fierce Origin Crystal, Ning Fan smiled satisfyingly, accompanied by the remains of countless Ancient Cultivators, continuing to condense middle-ranked Fierce Origin Crystals.

For two whole years, Ning Fan condensed middle-ranked Fierce Origin Crystals, nearly 10,000 pieces in all.

The next eight years, Ning Fan returned to the surface cave dwelling, continually refining middle-ranked Fierce Origin Crystals, increasing the number of flames of war.

During the eight years, the little girl ate one-tenth of her shattered thunder, then asked Ning Fan for another tenth.

During the eight years, Liu Yan, besides nurturing the star compass, gained a trace of resonance with the compass, her cultivation greatly improved, breaking through to the Fifth Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm.

Eight years passed, the number of Ning Fan's Life-bound Battle Fire had reached 1,200!

As for his War Yin and Yang cultivation progress, it improved by one twentieth in those eight years!

To break through the Third Change of the War Technique, one needs to possess 999 flames of Life-bound Battle Fire.

Ning Fan's War God Art was stuck at the brink of breaking through to the Third Change's bottleneck; he needed a battle to breakthrough the War God Art!

In the surrounding millions of miles, the barbarian beasts were already cleared out of boredom by the little girl.

Having arrived at the ancient forest for ten years... Ten years passed, Ning Fan stepped out of the ancient forest for the first time.

He left the ancient forest alone, leaving Liu Yan and the little girl temporarily within the cave dwellings.

As Ning Fan's spirit sense moved, the sky immediately filled with dark clouds, rain poured endlessly, and the rain mist gradually scattered afar.

Ning Fan's spirit sense scattered far, searching for a barbarian beast he could battle.

Suddenly, Ning Fan's gaze subtly changed, withdrawing the boundless rain mist, without hesitation, instantly transforming into a beam of golden light, flying swiftly towards a certain direction of the Barbarian Domain.

He never expected to encounter an old acquaintance in this Barbarian Wilderness Ancient Domain...

...

On an unoccupied Barbarian Domain, above a certain Black Marsh Great Swamp, a group of cultivators were fighting while retreating.

This group comprised four Masters, each with a cultivation above Enlightenment, wearing blood-red ghost faces.

These four were four Ghost-faced Assassins from the Slaughter Hall, who accepted a task from the hall to collect barbarian corpses and entered the Barbarian Wilderness Ancient Domain together.

Their task was to collect over a hundred barbarian corpses of Enlightenment Savage Beasts.

Among the four, three were at the Initial Stage of Crossing Truth, and one was at the Mid Stage. With their combined strength, defeating some barbarian beasts at the Initial or Mid Stage of Enlightenment was no difficulty, nor was collecting barbarian corpses.

Their movements were secretive; they often targeted lone beasts and had never encountered any danger.

This time, the four found two solitary barbarian beasts, joined forces to slay them, and sealed away the barbarian corpses.

However, what they didn't expect was that within the two beasts, there was actually a strange Nascent Soul concealed.

In the intelligence recorded by the Four Heavens, there was never any instance of a barbarian beast having a Nascent Soul or demon pill.

Having stumbled upon this barbarian Nascent Soul, the four dared not be negligent and sealed it away, planning to take it back to the Slaughter Hall and present it to their Sect for thorough study, potentially earning great merit.

Unexpectedly, right after they sealed the strange baby, it instantly provoked the murderous intent of all the surrounding barbarian beasts!

Behind them, more than twenty Enlightenment Savages had gathered, chasing the four, and their numbers kept increasing!

"What on earth is that strange baby that could arouse the murderous intent of all the beasts here!"

The highest cultivation among them was a white-haired elder at the Mid Stage of Crossing Truth, whose face was obscured by a ghost mask, yet the resolute gaze revealed his stern character.

"Brother Yu... let's just get rid of that strange baby... there are too many barbarian beasts, we can't handle it..." said a female cultivator covered by a ghost mask.

She was clad in blood-colored war armor and was a Physique refinement cultivator, named Yue.

"Younger sister Yue is right, we better ditch the strange baby," said another mid-aged Enlightenment cultivator.

"I also think we should get rid of that strange baby early," added the last cultivator, a burly man who had only broken through Enlightenment a little over a decade ago and was not particularly stable in his realm yet.

"Alright, we'll discard the strange baby!"

The elder with the surname Yu sighed slightly; although he'd like to bring the strange baby back to claim merit, he knew it wasn't worth continuing to anger the pursuing beasts over it.

Gritting his teeth, Elder Yu took out a sealed jade box and threw it harshly behind him, hoping this deed might quell the beasts' wrath.

The jade box hit the ground, and a strange baby, deathly still, dropped onto the earth, only the size of a palm, yet bearing two heads.

As soon as the beasts saw the strange baby fall, they immediately halted, their gaze heavy.

One of the beasts swallowed the strange baby in one gulp, mourning towards the vast sky for a prolonged moment.

Several breaths later, all the beasts revealed fierce glints, once again pursuing the four with even more murderous intent!

"Trouble... we've returned the strange baby to these beasts, yet they still refuse to let us go."

Elder Yu's gaze grew heavy, yet before he could formulate a plan, large groups of barbarians approached from various directions!

Seeing the tide-like swarm of beasts approaching, all four ghost-mask assassins turned nervous.

"Fight to the death!" Elder Yu's gaze sharpened as he uttered these two words.

The other three likewise steeled their gaze, knowing that the only way out was to break through the siege by fighting to the death, giving them a slim chance of survival.

Surrounded by nearly seventy Enlightenment Savages, the four's hope seemed bleak...

Each barbarian beast opened its giant maw, with black and red Barbarian Flashes condensing within...

Whoosh!

A golden escape light, sharp and swift, approached directly without any reservation, suddenly appearing amidst the beast tide.

As the golden light dispersed, it revealed a silver-haired youth also wearing a ghost mask, though his mask, unlike the others' blood-red masks, was silver.

His crimson gaze swept coldly, and the normally fearless beasts showed expressions of fear.

The Barbarian Flashes accumulating in their mouths dared not be released!

An invisible aura gathered around the silver-haired youth, a pressure that others could barely sense, yet the beasts could tangibly feel!

"Who is this person! With just a look, he can subdue the hoards!" the three ghost-mask assassins, including Elder Yu, were all shocked.

However, the Wu surnamed cultivator's gaze faltered; from this silver-haired youth, he sensed a faint trace of familiarity...

"Brother Wu, long time no see..." the silver-haired youth smiled faintly.

This voice entered the Wu cultivator's ears, instantly causing his gaze to shake with disbelief.

This Wu cultivator was none other than Wu Chen, who shared a significant friendship with Ning Fan!

At this moment, Ning Fan's appearance with a silver-haired and ghost mask was vastly different from before, but this voice, Wu Chen would remember for a lifetime.

Though others might not know, he knew this silver-haired youth must be Ning Fan without a doubt!

The beasts were only briefly intimidated by Ning Fan; with a roar from the beast that swallowed the strange baby, all the beasts resumed their ferocity, sweeping away their inner fear, and released many Barbarian Flashes.

A total of seventy-five Enlightenment Savages; the strongest among them had even reached the Late Stage of Enlightenment.

Seventy-five Barbarian Flashes swept down; Wu Chen and the others' hair all stood on end, never having felt death so close.

Even Ning Fan's eyes showed a hint of gravity, and without a word, he directly summoned the Contrary Star Demon Armor, uttering the word 'Reverse'.

At that moment, the trajectory of the Great Dao's operation was subtly modified by the power of the Contrary Star Demon Armor.

Countless Barbarian Flashes rushing at the four reversed direction all at once, rebounding towards the beasts that issued them.

This scene surpassed the understanding of Wu Chen and others. Upon closer inspection, they discovered that Ning Fan was wearing the legendary Contra Star Demon Armor!

"The Contra Star Demon Armor! A rare treasure hard to obtain in the Shedding Void realm!" the Enlightenment female cultivator exclaimed, and the others were equally shocked and confused.

Even Wu Chen, who was most familiar with Ning Fan, now had a look of astonishment on his face.

All the Barbarian Flashes were rebounded, and immediately, cries of agony echoed all around.

Six Barbarian Beasts with slightly lower cultivations were directly killed by the rebounded Barbarian Flashes. Of the remaining sixty-nine beasts, more or less sustained injuries.

From afar, the presence of seven Shedding Void Realm Barbarian Beasts was rapidly approaching.

Ning Fan's gaze instantly sharpened... Shedding Void Barbarian Beasts almost always stayed in their nests to cultivate, why would seven appear today...

With the Shedding Void Barbarian Beasts joining the battle, Ning Fan did not continue to tangle with the beasts. With a pinch of his fingers, he released a sky full of purple mist and quietly escaped with Wu Chen and others into the purple mist.

When the purple mist dispersed and the Shedding Void Barbarian Beasts arrived, there was no trace of Ning Fan and his group.

From the sky, countless fine raindrops descended...

"Those different race creatures escaped! What shame!"

A mid-Stage Shedding Void Dragon Elephant Barbarian Beast let out an angry sound, wanting to pursue Ning Fan and others but struggled to find them...

Its best ability was its spirit sense tracking divine skill, but with the falling rain, all traces were submerged in the rain...

...

In a desolate valley, Ning Fan and Wu Chen appeared bodily, evading the pursuit of a multitude of beasts.

Due to the addition of seven Shedding Void Barbarian Beasts, Ning Fan did not linger in battle, fearing Wu Chen and others' insufficient strength would lead to death under the beasts' siege.

If he were alone, he wouldn't mind challenging the beasts.

What surprised him slightly was the Shedding Void Barbarian Beasts acting out of character, leaving their nests...

"We are most grateful for your intervention in saving us!" The elder surnamed Yu and three Ghost-faced Assassins all cupped their hands in thanks to Ning Fan.

They knew well, if not for Ning Fan's intervention, chances of their death under beasts' besiege were sure to be high...

Wu Chen also cupped his hands to Ning Fan in thanks but did not reveal Ning Fan's identity... Naturally, he understood Ning Fan wore the ghost mask to hide his identity.

His identity was too sensitive for current Eastern Celestial Cultivators.

"It was no more than a lift of the hand, no need to speak of it..."

Ning Fan's gaze turned to Wu Chen and asked,

"After so many years apart, I didn't expect Brother Wu to have succeeded in Enlightenment. However, I'm curious, why is Brother Wu here in the Barbarian Wilderness Ancient Domain, and why did you draw so much killing tribulation?"

Ning Fan had long seen Wu Chen's ghostly appearance, naturally recognizing him.

Upon hearing Ning Fan knew Wu Chen, the three Ghost-faced Assassins were startled but asked no more.

Wu Chen had already calmed from his initial shock and was naturally happy to reunite with Ning Fan in the Barbarian Wilderness Ancient Domain. Thinking back to Ning Fan's rescue, he felt a sense of nostalgia...

Thousands of words were in his heart, wanting to share drinks with Ning Fan, yet lamented that it was not the right place.

"Ah, it's a long story... We are currently resting in a Barbarian City, and it won't be too late to explain once we reach that city."

"Going to the Barbarian City... is fine as well..."

Ning Fan followed Wu Chen and their group, flying towards a nearby Barbarian City.

A Barbarian City is inhabited by humanoid Barbarian Beasts.

Humanoid Barbarian Beasts have no cultivations, neither their form nor temperament differs from mortals.

The Barbarian City Wu Chen and others were residing in was named Yue Clan City.

While still a few miles from the city gates, Wu Chen's group landed, removed their ghost masks, subdued all Evil Qi, and entered the city like mortals.

Ning Fan, though not removing his ghost mask, also subdued all traces, appearing no different from a mortal.

This Barbarian City wasn't large, only inhabited by a few thousand barbarians, with ancient statues erected all around the city.

These statues were named Barbarian Images, possessing divine skills of intimidating Barbarian Beasts, preventing them from attacking the city.

Without the protection of the Barbarian Images, a single barbarian beast could bloodily cleanse a Barbarian City.

"So this, is a Barbarian City where Barbarians live..."

Ning Fan followed behind Wu Chen and others, walking down the blue stone avenue, glimpsing at the countless fruit and snack stalls along the street, pondering.

This was distinctly a mortal marketplace...

Occasionally, a few Barbarian maidens enjoying spring wandered by, their slender waists tied in silk, brushing past Ning Fan and leaving a lingering fragrance.

There were also valiant travelers, merchants, and peddlers coming and going within the city.

If not in the Barbarian Wilderness Ancient Domain, Ning Fan would never believe these seemingly ordinary creatures were barbarians, capable of transforming into beasts...

The group led by the elder surnamed Yu tactfully took their leave upon reaching a tavern, leaving only Ning Fan and Wu Chen to summon the waiter and order wine, recounting their farewells in detail.

None knew that Ning Fan and Wu Chen were of different races, that they were cultivators.

Seated within the tavern, the two appeared just like ordinary travelers, drinking heartily.

No one disturbed them in their secluded corner as they conversed.

After some exchange of words, Ning Fan learned that Wu Chen had successfully passed the Crossing Truth Realm fifteen years prior. His current venture into the Barbarian Wilderness Ancient Domain was to undertake a task of collecting barbarian corpses.

The reason they were being pursued by Barbarian Beasts, even luring the Shedding Void Barbarian Beast in pursuit, was due to a strange infant...

"If not for Brother Ning's appearance, I would likely have died at the mouths of that beast horde... Your great kindness goes beyond words! I never imagined that after decades apart, Brother Ning would have achieved such renown and strength, truly making me feel ashamed... Haha, cheers!"

Wu Chen laughed heartily, cracked open the clay seal on the wine jar, and immediately began to drink deeply.

Ning Fan had countless romantic encounters in his lifetime, yet few true friends, Wu Chen being one. Meeting Wu Chen in the Barbarian Wilderness Ancient Domain brought him joy.

As they drank together, Ning Fan gradually shared a brief account of his journey with Wu Chen.

Upon hearing that Ning Fan had yet to achieve Crossing Truth, Wu Chen felt quite incredulous.

"I never imagined that the mighty Rain Immortal Monarch truly hasn't crossed yet... I had thought that during the grave comparison, Brother Ning was merely suppressing his cultivation, but it seems I guessed wrong... Yet I didn't expect Brother Ning truly secured first place in the comparison with Guixuan cultivation... Impressive! Rarely do I admire anyone, but Brother Ning undoubtedly earns my respect! Those days... Haha..."

Wu Chen couldn't help but recall the scene of their first meeting.

Back then, he was understanding the truths in the Rain Immortal World, while Ning Fan was merely a Void Refinement Realm cultivator...

A hundred years later, he finally broke through to the Crossing Truth Realm, while Ning Fan had pursued relentlessly and was likewise on the verge of crossing, with strength far surpassing his own...

'I, Wu Chen, lawless Wu, the dust that slaughters cities!'

'Brother Ning must be observing the void, yet what I see is not the void...'

The past vividly flashed before his eyes, and Ning Fan also shared a knowing smile, lifting a wine jar with one hand to drink deeply.

Wu Chen continued to inform Ning Fan about major events in Eastern Heaven from recent years.

Such as Jilei Palace's efforts in the last decade, frantically searching throughout Eastern Heaven, yet nobody knew whom they sought.

Also, the successful repairs of the Supreme Pill Sacred Domain's domain gate, definitively allowing its reopening in approximately ninety years.

However, this reopening, due to the reinforcement of the domain gate, will allow even Crossing Truth cultivators to enter...

But there's a downside; the price of reinforcing the domain gate means, once the Supreme Pill Sacred Domain is opened this time, it cannot be reopened again...

"Oh? That's unexpected, Crossing the Truth can also enter... I was worried that breaking through Heavenly Demon would prevent entry..." Ning Fan expressed slight surprise.

"Haha, Brother Ning entering the Supreme Pill Sacred Domain, is unsurprisingly for Medicine Sect's head disciple... Haha, Brother Ning is indeed a charming person!"

"Speaking of which, Brother Ning rarely enters the Barbarian Wilderness Ancient Domain, why not cross here... This place's Barbarian City is no different from the mortal realm, making it quite fitting for transformation and understanding truths, and the Barbarian Wilderness Ancient Domain does bear numerous 'Dao-Seeking Fruits'. Consuming one could slightly increase the likelihood of successful crossing... Nine Crossings to Truth Bridge isn't easy, any chance to improve success is good."

Wu Chen's words fell upon Ning Fan's ears, causing his gaze to flicker slightly, yet he smiled and shook his head.

Ning Fan's primary task was to train the Battle Art Fourth Transformation; crossing into truth could be postponed.

"Our team's task is to collect a hundred Enlightenment Savage Beast corpses. We've currently collected over forty, and we can likely complete the task in seven to eight years, leaving the Barbarian Wilderness Ancient Domain... If Brother Ning hadn't happened to arrive that day, I would likely have perished in that group of Barbarian Beasts... Really damned dangerous!" Wu Chen sighed.

"Is there any need for Ning Fan's help in collecting Barbarian Corpses?"

Wu Chen had done Ning Fan a favor, so naturally, Ning Fan didn't mind helping in return.

"Haha, no need... I still wish to use this slaughter to stabilize my realm. If Brother Ning intervenes in this, I'm afraid it would only take a few days to gather all the Barbarian Corpses, which would be dull." Wu Chen laughed and politely declined Ning Fan's offer.

"Want to stabilize the Crossing Truth realm, huh..."

Ning Fan thought for a moment and pulled a storage pouch out to hand to Wu Chen.

Upon receiving the pouch, Wu Chen looked inside and his gaze immediately shifted, revealing a solemn expression as he returned the pouch to Ning Fan.

"These Dao Fruits are too plentiful, too precious, Wu Chen cannot accept them!"

"Back when I took things from you, I didn't hold back... Just accept it." Ning Fan smiled nonchalantly.

Wu Chen was momentarily stunned, then burst out laughing heartily, accepting the storage pouch without pretension.

That wine session lasted nearly half a day before Ning Fan finally took his leave.

Wu Chen still had the task of hunting Barbarian Beasts, while Ning Fan had the task of training the War God Art, so they couldn't linger together.

"The next time we meet... who knows in which year it will be..." Wu Chen sat alone in the tavern, full of emotions.

...

Ning Fan left Yue Clan City, making his way back to the Black Marsh Great Swamp.

Due to the presence of the Shedding Void Barbarian Beast, Ning Fan hadn't fought with full effort, and the bottleneck of the War God Art remained unbroken.

He returned both to break through the bottleneck of the War Art and to seek out the so-called strange infant...

He had some concern about the strange infant capable of provoking pursuit by the Shedding Void Barbarian Beast...