

Humanity 1561

Chapter 1561 Stellar Space Geomagnetic Storm

Along the way, they passed one nebula tomb mound after another, yet there were no signs of damage to these nebula tomb mounds.

Logically speaking, since the azure bird behaved the way it did before, many of the nebula tomb mounds here should have been torn apart, but in reality, they weren't.

Lu Ye speculated that those torn nebula tomb mounds might be able to slowly heal.

It was another two months before the starboat slowly sailed out of the range covered by the Thousand Mounds Cemetery. Lu Ye looked at the star map, feeling secretly thrilled.

According to the directions on the star map, he only needed to pass through a geomagnetic turbulence zone to reach the Jade Conch Galaxy.

This showed just how remote the Jade Conch Galaxy was. Lu Ye was not yet clear about the situation in other directions, but in this returning direction, the closest star system to the Jade Conch Galaxy was Indeterminate. However, there were three regions between the two large star systems: one was the territory that the Insect Race had occupied, even with Lu Ye navigating the starboat, it took more than three months to traverse. Next was the Thousand Mounds Cemetery, then the geomagnetic turbulence zone.

Traversing the Thousand Mounds Cemetery also took three months, but the geomagnetic turbulence zone was much larger than the Thousand Mounds Cemetery. Lu Ye estimated it would take at least over six months.

Once through the geomagnetic turbulence zone, he would finally reach the edge of the Jade Conch Galaxy, and still, he faced the arduous journey to return to the Nine Provinces.

Unlike the relative safety of the Thousand Mounds Cemetery, the geomagnetic turbulence zone was fraught with perils. Even Sun Blaze could get caught up in it, sustaining injuries if not worse. Fortunately,

most of the dangers in the geomagnetic turbulence zone could be observed in advance, so navigating here required utmost caution.

After entering the geomagnetic turbulence zone, Lu Ye dared not lose focus, always alert to every movement while on the starboat. Initially, all was calm, but a few days in, Lu Ye suddenly noticed a peculiar movement approaching rapidly from the side, tens of thousands of miles away.

He looked carefully and saw that in that direction, something resembling a tornado was rolling in. However, unlike a traditional tornado, this one in stellar space was enormous, with a terrifyingly large range. It was visible that this tornado was carrying many meteors of varying sizes, spinning rapidly, creating a scene of chaos.

The word "turbulence" in the geomagnetic turbulence zone referred to these stellar space geomagnetic storms!

The so-called tornado was not a real tornado but a manifestation of a force field, something akin to an origin magnetic field. It was incredibly dangerous because the origin magnetic field was practically the bane of any cultivator. No matter how high one's cultivation, being within an origin magnetic field meant severe suppression, and getting caught in this magnetic storm might render one unable to fend off the meteors of various sizes crashing down under limited power.

Thus, navigating the geomagnetic turbulence zone required adhering to one principle—to stay close to any dead star or desolate planet within the zone. This way, even if one encounters such a stellar geomagnetic storm, a place for quick shelter would be readily available.

As soon as Lu Ye spotted that tornado-like stellar magnetic storm, he took control of the starboat, propelling it with all his might towards a nearby desolate planet.

He landed directly on the backside of the desolate planet, found a canyon, and dove in with Yaya.

As for Lih Shang, he had already taken refuge in Lu Ye's Divine Sea at the first opportunity. For an average cultivator, a stellar magnetic storm posed a great threat, but for the Soul Race, it could be lethal.

Just as they concealed themselves, Lu Ye heard the whistling sound passing by his ears continuously, obviously indicating that the stellar magnetic storm had arrived.

Under the influence of this magnetic storm, Lu Ye's body involuntarily felt heavy, his spirit force seemed locked within, unable to be mobilized.

In this state, he was merely someone with a relatively strong physical body.

Instinctively, Lu Ye activated the power of the Talent Tree, hoping to resist the suppression of the magnetic storm, but quickly he remembered that the power of the Talent Tree seemingly had little effect against this suppression. He had tried this back in the Nine Provinces. When he first delved into the ground fissure of the Nine Provinces to probe the situation of the Insect Race's Great Secret Realm, he relied on the power of the Dragon Throne, which could completely shield from the influence of the origin magnetic field.

What surprised him, however, was that upon activating the Talent Tree's power, its fuel reserves started depleting rapidly. Simultaneously, his body felt lighter, and the suppression vanished without a trace.

Lu Ye was slightly startled but soon understood.

The Talent Tree... was no longer the Talent Tree of old.

When he first ventured into the Insect Race's Great Secret Realm for exploration, the Talent Tree had only undergone one metamorphosis, now it had transformed three times, its power naturally much stronger than before.

However... the cost seemed somewhat significant.

This force field-type suppression was intangible and continuous, hence the Talent Tree needed to continuously burn off impurities, purging the invasive, intangible force field from within, naturally placing a considerable burden on its fuel reserves.

The Talent Tree's current fuel reserve couldn't withstand such consumption. It was better used for cultivation at the All Phenomena Ocean rather than to resist the magnetic storm's suppression.

With this in mind, Lu Ye gently set Yaya down, then summoned the Dragon Throne to shield himself, holding Yaya in his embrace.

It was clear that Yaya also felt the suppression of this magnetic field, her little brow furrowed tightly, looking discontent. However, with her Sun Blaze background, how significantly this suppression affected her, Lu Ye wasn't sure.

This geomagnetic storm lasted for almost half a day before it finally passed. Lu Ye then retracted the Dragon Throne, holding Yaya as they emerged from the ground fissure. Gazing in the direction the storm had departed, he summoned the starboat again and hurried on his way!

In this geomagnetic turbulence zone, although there are many dead stars and desolate planets to seek shelter from, if one's luck is bad and they can't find a suitable refuge when a geomagnetic storm hits, it would be a huge problem.

In such a bizarre place, Lih Shang was of no help at all. Since retreating into Lu Ye's Divine Sea, he hadn't shown himself.

Lu Ye's luck wasn't too bad; several times he encountered the stellar space geomagnetic storms and managed to find shelters in time.

But luck is something that eventually runs out. Once again, he saw a stellar space geomagnetic storm from a distance. Lu Ye searched around hurriedly but failed to find any trace of a dead star or a desolate planet.

As he watched the storm roaring towards him, Lu Ye had no choice but to grit his teeth, summon the Dragon Throne once more, and grab Yaya, placing her against his chest in preparation to withstand the storm head-on.

Instead of dodging, he turned around and charged towards the storm because only by going in the opposite direction could he quickly escape the storm's coverage.

The enormous Dragon Spine Saber was already summoned. The three-zhang high crimson figure plunged into the storm like a drop of water into the sea, causing no ripples.

Previously, he always found suitable places to seek refuge and didn't fully comprehend the terror of a geomagnetic storm. Now being inside, he immediately sensed its peril.

Inside the storm, he soon lost his sense of direction. Even if he exerted all his strength, he could only be carried along with the storm's waves. If that were the only issue, it would be fine, but the storm was filled with numerous meteorites, which, after being spun vigorously for an unknown duration, moved at incredibly high speeds.

Lu Ye wielded the Dragon Spine Saber, attempting to chop a few meteorites headed his way, but his arms went numb from the impact.

An unexpected moment saw him hit squarely by a massive meteorite. Even with the Dragon Throne's protection, Lu Ye's blood Qi surged and stars danced before his eyes.

Within the geomagnetic storm, Lu Ye scrambled around awkwardly. In such a magnificent stellar space phenomenon, individual strength was truly insignificant.

For more than two hours, Lu Ye couldn't get out of the storm, even beginning to doubt whether he could actually make it through, as he was often swept along without the ability to resist.

As Lu Ye was feeling troubled, he suddenly sensed Yaya in his embrace waking up. In the blink of an eye, her aura surged to Moon Jade's level, yet that was its limit... It seemed the storm was also greatly suppressing her.

Just as Lu Ye couldn't understand what was happening, Yaya grabbed his arm and swiftly led him in a particular direction, her expression showing clear urgency.

The next instant, Lu Ye felt an incredibly terrifying force of suction coming from one direction. That suction felt familiar, and then he astonishingly noticed that the rapidly rotating meteorites around him were changing direction, moving towards where the suction originated.

Yaya was straining her grip, clearly resisting the suction, but no matter how she resisted, both figures, large and small, were still slowly being drawn towards the source of the suction, carried by the storm.

The surrounding storm was getting smaller, gradually dissipating into nothing, and that terrifying force of suction also disappeared.

Dazed and confused, Lu Ye suddenly saw a pair of eyes shining like a big sun, staring at his position. Looking beyond, there was a giant bird head and a body as large as a star, emitting a blue glow.

Azure Bird!

Lu Ye was startled, not expecting to encounter the enormous azure bird again in this place. However, this time the azure bird felt different. The last time, it showed no interest in him, but now Lu Ye sensed a hint of hostility in its eyes.

"Papa, quickly remove it!" Yaya suddenly spoke, her expression somewhat tense.

Though Lu Ye didn't know the situation, he hurriedly deactivated the Dragon Throne and put it away.

The azure bird stared at him for a while longer, making Lu Ye's heart pound, but fortunately, the hint of hostility in its eyes gradually disappeared. Then it slowly turned, flapping its wings a couple of times as if about to leave the area.

Lu Ye looked around, realizing the stellar space geomagnetic storm that had enveloped him had vanished without a trace, as if it had never existed.

A storm in stellar space couldn't disappear for no reason; combined with his previous experience and the present azure bird, Lu Ye had a vague guess.

But it was peculiar that the azure bird had traveled from the Thousand Mounds Cemetery to here.

As it was about to take flight, Lu Ye acted on an impulse, taking Yaya with him and jumping onto its back. In the next instant, Lu Ye felt a sensation of stars shifting and constellations moving.

Chapter 1562: Qingfeng World

The speed of the azure bird is incomparable to Lu Ye's piloting of the starboat, with at least a tenfold difference, and this is even when the azure bird is clearly not exerting its full strength. Who knows how fast it would be if it did?

It's hard to determine just how powerful this azure bird is, but the only thing Lu Ye is sure of is that it's stronger than Yaya.

After using her own power, Yaya indeed weakened again, curling up in Lu Ye's arms to sleep. Lu Ye sat upright on the azure bird's back, letting it carry him forward, constantly taking out the star map to check against the surrounding stellar space.

Previously being swept into that geomagnetic storm slightly disoriented him. Losing direction in stellar space is quite troublesome, so he needed to quickly reorient himself.

Luckily, the star map provided by the Reincarnation Tree was fairly detailed. After spending a little time, Lu Ye confirmed one thing: the direction the azure bird is heading is exactly where he needs to go.

That's nice, he can hitch a ride.

Lu Ye hadn't clearly seen how the stellar space geomagnetic storm disappeared earlier, though he had a faint suspicion. Now, after following the azure bird for two days, he finally witnessed it firsthand.

The azure bird seemed to come here specifically looking for geomagnetic storms. Any time it found one, it would dive in enthusiastically, and then its massive beak would open to swallow the enormous tornado, even ingesting the meteorites within it.

Lu Ye couldn't figure out what this azure bird's background was; it could devour things from the Thousand Mounds Cemetery, and now it could also eat the geomagnetic storm.

In just ten days, Lu Ye was amazed to find himself almost through this geomagnetic turbulence zone.

Bear in mind, in his original plan it would take about half a year to traverse this zone, and this was with the azure bird occasionally stopping to eat the geomagnetic storms.

If it hadn't been distracted, it would have been even faster.

The azure bird changed its flying direction, clearly unwilling to leave the geomagnetic turbulence zone so quickly. Seeing this, Lu Ye quickly jumped off its back, watching it depart.

In the span of a few breaths, the azure bird's massive silhouette shrank to a tiny dot in the distance, and Lu Ye summoned his starboat once more, pulling Yaya aboard.

Following the guidance of the star map, they flew safely for about twenty days, finally exiting the range of the geomagnetic turbulence zone.

Strictly speaking, they've reached the Jade Conch Star System, though this is merely the border of Jade Conch.

Lu Ye's spirits lifted as he recalled being chased by Tang Jun long ago, falling unintentionally into the Insect Path and entering the All Phenomena Ocean. Years have passed in the blink of an eye, and after enduring hardships, he finally returned to Jade Conch!

I wonder how things are in the Nine Provinces. However, before he left, he distributed some purple talismans to his senior brothers, so in the broader environment of Jade Conch, they should have no problem with self-preservation.

Gazing at the surrounding stellar space, it's unfamiliar. Lu Ye had never been to this region before, so he couldn't recognize any familiar constellations. According to the guidance of the star map provided by the Reincarnation Tree, it would take about four or five months to return to the Nine Provinces.

Jade Conch, while remote and poor compared to mainstream star systems, still covers a vast area. When Lu Ye first arrived at Constellation, one exploration took a year. At that time, he'd just ascended to Constellation and had no starboat to use, so the speed of flying through stellar space was slow.

Now, a journey that originally took a year could be done in at most a month with the starboat.

That's the plight of cultivators just ascending to large domains: they're inefficient at everything and need many generations to gradually reach a normal level.

However, Lu Ye didn't plan to return directly to the Nine Provinces, because this trip back to the All Phenomena Galaxy is not just about the Nine Provinces, but the entire Jade Conch.

Thus, he planned to first visit Qingli Dao World or Jade Conch World, to give them advance notice and have them prepare. This way, once he brings people from the Nine Provinces, they can assemble and set off without wasting time.

But the star map from the Reincarnation Tree only marked the location of the Nine Provinces. He genuinely didn't know where Qingli Dao World and Jade Conch World were.

But since everyone is in the same star system, there must be Constellation cultivators wandering outside from these two worlds, and with any luck, he might encounter them and seek information.

With these thoughts, Lu Ye chose to follow the route to the Nine Provinces. However, as he advanced, he became more disappointed, because there were many signs of spirit stones in the stellar space, indicating that few or no Constellation cultivators had been here, or the spirit stones wouldn't still be there.

Places rich in spirit stones are sparsely populated and even rarely frequented by star beasts.

Lu Ye wasn't interested in harvesting those spirit stones — he'd become accustomed to extravagance, and one or two spirit stones couldn't pique his interest. With that time, he could casually catch a White Spirit in the All Phenomena Ocean worth several thousand spirit stones.

After flying for over a month, Lu Ye's spirits lifted again. The signs of spirit stones in the area were decreasing, indicating that either Constellation cultivators frequented this place or star beasts were active. Indeed, before long, he encountered some star beasts.

His initial anticipation turned to inevitable disappointment...

A few days later, a domain appeared ahead. Lu Ye focused his senses, discovering it was indeed a domain — not a dead star or desolate planet, as the domain was teeming with life, surely there were living beings active within it. To determine the level of this domain, he'd need to explore it more deeply.

The only certainty is that this place is neither Qingli Dao World nor Jade Conch World, because outside the domain, there is no sign of Constellation cultivators.

Currently, only three large domains have been confirmed in the Jade Conch Galaxy: one is Jade Conch, another is Qingli Dao World, and the last one is Nine Provinces. However, there are far more domains that nurture vitality and where living beings thrive. Many domains merely possess vitality without births of living creatures in the conventional sense, whereas some have life, but only ordinary flora and fauna.

Alternatively, some domains have stepped onto the path of cultivation, albeit at a low level.

Just like the Blood Refinement World, where the Divine Sea Blood Race is active, yet due to the absence of Constellations, it cannot be considered a large domain.

The Jade Conch Galaxy likely has some domains like that.

Lu Ye is not quite sure about the situation of this domain ahead. After thinking for a moment, he retracts the starboat and, with Yaya, heads towards the domain.

Since he's passing by, there's no harm in a quick look, as it shouldn't take too long.

Breaking through the thick cloud layers, Lu Ye immediately sees the checkerboard pattern of cities and villages below. With his Ocular Power at full capacity, he even spots some lively figures within those cities and villages.

It's a domain occupied by the human race! Moreover, judging by various indications, the human race in this domain has somehow reached the cultivation level, as Lu Ye sees traces of spirit arks flying about.

Without sensing hostility from the domain, it seems the domain's will is not very strong.

Nevertheless, Lu Ye's brows slowly furrow because he faintly feels something unusual about this domain. From outer space, it's clearly full of vitality—a vigorously growing domain. However, delving deeper, Lu Ye feels an odd sensation, a suspicion that something might be amiss in this domain.

Since he can't figure it out, Lu Ye calls for Lih Shang. She flashes out from his Divine Sea, carefully inspects the surroundings, and nods, saying, "There's definitely something wrong."

Yet she can't quite articulate what the issue is.

She softly asks the Yaya in Lu Ye's arms, "Yaya, did you notice anything?"

Both she and Lu Ye are Constellations with limited eyesight; it's normal. Although Yaya's consciousness is damaged, she has Sun Blaze heritage and might unravel some mysteries.

Yaya bites her thumb and points in a direction, "There's something over there!"

"What is it?" Lu Ye asks urgently.

"Don't know!" Yaya shakes her head and then glances to another spot, happily saying, "Daddy, it's so lively there! Let's go."

Lu Ye had long noticed the liveliness there. Unclear about the day's significance, every city and gathering area within this domain is festooned with decorations, especially the city Yaya pointed at, teeming with people.

Seeing Yaya's enthusiasm, Lu Ye simply couldn't refuse her wishes and said, "Alright, let's go!" After traveling in the stellar space for so long, Lu Ye also wanted to join the festivities.

Yaya became even happier, climbing onto Lu Ye's shoulders like a monkey, riding on his neck.

Lu Ye flashed forward to that place, with Lih Shang closely following.

Though cultivators exist in this domain, the highest level is merely True Lake Realm. With Lu Ye and Lih Shang intentionally concealing themselves, no one could possibly notice them.

Very soon, they entered a bustling city, where everyone was cheerfully celebrating as if it were the New Year.

Lu Ye expanded his Mental Consciousness, intently listening, gradually understanding the situation.

This domain is called Qingfeng World. Every ten years, a strong cultivator from the upper world arrives to select suitable cultivation seeds, bringing them to the upper world for cultivation. Hence, this is the grandest festival in Qingfeng World: welcoming the strong cultivator from the upper world and selecting the best cultivation seeds from the domain.

To Lu Ye's surprise and joy, information from the conversations of local cultivators revealed that the so-called upper world is actually Qingli Dao World!

What a coincidence!

Lu Ye had been searching the stellar space for traces of cultivators from Qingli Dao World or Jade Conch World, but after a month of fruitless efforts, he accidentally stumbled upon Qingfeng World and discovered information about Qingli Dao World.

It appears Qingfeng World is a lower world under Qingli Dao World, much like the relationship between Blood Refinement World and Nine Provinces now.

In Blood Refinement World, there are currently no Blood Race entities, only a large number of humans surviving. The big sects from Nine Provinces have carved out pieces of territory there, where talented cultivators born within these territories have chances to be invited for cultivation in Nine Provinces.

Although the methods differ, the result is the same—selecting the best talents.

Chapter 1563: Need a Hand?

In three days, people from the Qing Li Dao realm will come here to guide a batch of cultivation seeds. Since that's the case, I only need to wait here for three days, and then I can return together with the people from Qing Li Dao realm.

With this plan in mind, Lu Ye turned his head and saw Lih Shang standing with Yaya at a stall. Both of them, big and small, were holding onto something with four hands, cheeks puffed up, looking very happy eating.

Lu Ye walked up and saw that the stall seemed to be selling something like candied haws, but the fruit on the skewers was clearly not ordinary fruit, but a type of red spirit fruit.

The big and small were eating very quickly; a few bites finished a skewer, and another skewer with a few more bites. When Lu Ye walked over, they each had a skewer in hand.

Lu Ye was a little puzzled. It was normal for Yaya to act like this; she had a child's nature. But why was Lih Shang like this too? And she's a soul body; was it okay for her to eat these things?

As if sensing Lu Ye's gaze, Lih Shang's face turned slightly red, deliberately avoiding his eyes, and ate even more vigorously.

The stall owner was smiling broadly.

Soon, those candy-like things were completely eaten by Lih Shang and Yaya, and only then did the stall owner speak: "The price is three hundred sixty-two top-grade Spirit Stones." The things he sold were not popular, mainly because the price was a bit high; he had only sold a few skewers over several days. However, unexpectedly, two big customers came and cleaned him out at once, naturally making him happy.

Lih Shang and Yaya licked the sugar syrup stuck on their lips and then turned to look at Lu Ye.

Lu Ye was looking around, and when he realized it, his expression froze.

It was clear they expected him to pay!

But as someone already in the Starry Skies realm, who would carry Spirit Stones on them? After advancing to the Starry Skies realm, Lu Ye had left unused items in the Righteous Blood Sect's treasure vault.

Yaya had nothing to her name, so relying on her was out of the question, and Lih Shang seemed to have no storage ring or anything like that either...

It was possible to use other things to settle the bill, like spirit treasures or elixir pills.

But the strongest cultivators in Qingfeng World did not exceed True Lake Realm capabilities, and the spirit treasures Lu Ye possessed were of top grade. Even if he took them out, people of Qingfeng World couldn't handle them. As for elixir pills, those suitable for Starry Skies realm would spell disaster if taken by True Lake cultivators.

Eating without paying wasn't an option.

The stall owner seemed to notice Lu Ye's predicament as well, and his face darkened: "Customer, eating without paying in Qingfeng City, you better consider the consequences!"

To prepare for the arrival of top cultivators from the upper world in three days, security in Qingfeng city was extremely tight. Anyone daring to cause trouble was dealt with severely, so, although many cultivators were gathered in Qingfeng City at this time, none dared to break the rules.

"Wait a moment," Lu Ye said, and his figure flickered and disappeared.

The stall owner was stunned. Although his cultivation wasn't high, he had the level of Cloud River realm and couldn't see how Lu Ye vanished. He immediately realized that Lu Ye's cultivation was far superior, likely a top True Lake.

Meanwhile, on the west side of Qingfeng City, beside a huge square, at the Zhengyang Sect station, Sect Master Zhu Shang wore a heavy expression as he looked to his side. Around him were elder-level figures of Zhengyang Sect, who were all nervously observing.

In front of them, a woman who looked about twenty sat with a flushed face, emitting hot steam. Her entire person seemed on the verge of being steamed. Beside her were two healing cultivators providing treatment.

Suddenly, the woman opened her mouth and spat out a mouthful of blood that resembled burning molten iron more than ordinary blood.

After spitting out this blood, the woman's condition improved slightly, but just slightly.

"How is it?" Zhu Shang asked tensely.

One of the healing cultivators shook his head: "Zhu Yue is injured by Yang Fire, and unless it's removed, it's difficult for her to recover. But rest assured, Sect Master; her life is not in danger anymore; if she is taken back for gradual healing, she will recover within half a year."

Upon hearing this, Zhu Shang's expression did not show joy but instead flickered as if struck by lightning: "Half a year..."

Top cultivators from the upper realm would arrive in three days, and the grand competition was in full swing; half a year was too late!

The top cultivators come to Qingfeng World every ten years, and the grand competition happens once in ten years, strictly following the rules set by the upper world. Preparation had begun half a year prior, with competitions at Spirit Stream, Cloud River, and True Lake levels, selecting the top ten in each category, making thirty people who could leave with top cultivators, heading for cultivation in the upper realm.

Zhengyang Sect is one of the big sects in Qingfeng World, but in this generation, their Spirit Stream and Cloud River disciples didn't perform as expected. Only at True Lake level did Zhu Yue emerge, with great hope to challenge for a top ten spot. But unexpectedly, she was injured in recent fights; these weren't ordinary injuries, and her injuries were now too severe to continue in the competition.

Being guided into upper realm cultivation is every Qingfeng World's cultivator's dream, bringing rare honor to their sect. Not only receiving rich resources gifted by top cultivators, but if their disciples establish themselves in the upper realm, they can return home with benefits.

Hence, Qingfeng World's major sects highly value this competition; anyone with a hint of potential to win is heavily nurtured and expected.

Zhu Yue was only one step away from final victory, but ultimately fell here, naturally causing Zhu Shang and a group of elders to be heartbroken.

"Sect Master, since the situation has reached this point, we can only wait for the next ten years. Fortunately, Zhu Yue is still relatively young, so even after another ten years she will not lose her eligibility," an elder comforted.

Zhu Shang's expression was bitter. Indeed, now that the situation has reached this point, there is nothing the Zhengyang Sect can do to change it. They can only wait for the next ten years and hope the disciples will perform better.

"Need help?" a mysterious voice suddenly sounded.

The group was startled and looked up, greatly surprised, as they saw an unfamiliar young man who had somehow appeared here. It seemed as if he had been standing there all along, yet before he spoke, no one noticed him.

Immediately, a True Lake cultivator at the elder level shouted angrily, "Who are you to dare to intrude into the Zhengyang Sect's location?"

The young man appeared not to hear and simply looked at Zhu Shang and said, "I can heal her, but I need some Spirit Stones, top-grade Spirit Stones!"

The elder who spoke earlier said urgently with a stern voice, "Ignorant child, how dare you speak such nonsense! Seize him!"

The two healing cultivators who had treated Zhu Yue earlier were the strongest healing cultivators in our sect and famous throughout Qingfeng World. Even they could only save Zhu Yue's life. This abruptly appearing young man had a knife at his waist, a competent and neat look, clearly dressed as a combat cultivator, how could he possibly know how to save someone?

As he gave the order, the Zhengyang Sect cultivators were about to take action.

Zhu Shang, however, raised his hand and said, "Stop!"

He stared at Lu Ye, speaking in a deep voice, "You can save her?"

"Yes, I can!" Lu Ye stared at Zhu Yue, scanned her with his Mental Consciousness, already understanding the situation in her body. If it weren't for needing Spirit Stones for payment, he wouldn't bother to intervene in these matters. Considering he's a Constellation Late Stage cultivator, it's laughable to say he frets over Spirit Stones.

Indeed, money can impede a hero.

"If she can't be healed within half a day, then it will be meaningless!" Zhu Shang continued, as Zhu Yue would compete in the next contest in half a day.

"No need for half a day!" Lu Ye said as he stepped forward to Zhu Yue, raising his hand to pat her shoulder.

Zhu Shang instinctively wanted to stop him but decided otherwise. He couldn't discern Lu Ye's depth, and Lu Ye's calm demeanor suggested genuine confidence.

Since the sect had no other solution, letting him try was no harm.

Lu Ye didn't even activate his spirit force, only slightly stimulated the Talent Tree's power, sweeping along the flow of Zhu Yue's spirit force.

After three metamorphoses, Lu Ye knew the Talent Tree's power could not only burn away impurities invading one's body but also others' bodies, though he needed to control it carefully to avoid harming while attempting to save.

Zhu Yue's issue was merely Yang Fire invading her body, considered as foreign power. The Talent Tree could naturally burn away cleanly.

Initially, under the treatments of two healing cultivators, Zhu Yue showed slight improvement, but it was only slight. However, as Lu Ye's palm landed, Zhu Yue's flushed cheeks rapidly returned to normal, her strained expression became peaceful, and the previously hot body showed no sign of anomaly.

The Zhengyang Sect cultivators were astonished. Despite not understanding the specifics, Zhu Yue's change revealed Lu Ye's method's effectiveness.

Yet... how is this possible? Such a technique is extraordinarily mystical, especially puzzling the healing cultivators striving to comprehend, but seeing nothing.

Lu Ye then casually took out an elixir pill, scraped some elixir pill powder off, opened Zhu Yue's mouth, blew the powder gently inside it, then stepped back two steps and said, "Cultivate for a bit, and things should be fine."

The numerous Zhengyang Sect cultivators were stunned. After a while, Zhu Shang instructed the two healing cultivators, "Check her!"

The two healing cultivators snapped back to reality, hurriedly went forward, examined briefly, then revealed shocked expressions. After a moment, one said, "Sect Master, Zhu Yue... is fine!"

Looking aside at Lu Ye, they almost hailed him as divine.

Zhu Shang laughed heartily, sweeping away previous despondency, turned to Lu Ye, "Fellow Daoist..."

Lu Ye extended his hand, "My reward!"

Zhu Shang's words were interrupted but didn't mind, quickly took out a storage ring and gathered around the elders to load all the Spirit Stones carried into it, then handed it to Lu Ye.

Lu Ye accepted it wordlessly.

Chapter 1564: Come With Me

"Sect Master, Zhu Yue has woken up!" came the sudden exclamation from the healing cultivator nearby.

Zhu Shang quickly stepped forward to investigate and indeed saw Zhu Yue slowly opening her eyes. She didn't seem too exhausted or weak; instead, her eyes were bright and spirited.

"Yue'er, how do you feel?" Zhu Shang asked anxiously.

Zhu Yue replied, "I feel fine. Who just saved me?" Even though she was somewhat disoriented earlier, as a cultivator, she could still perceive a bit and knew that it wasn't someone from the Zhengyang Sect who saved her.

"It was this Fellow Daoist..." As Zhu Shang spoke and glanced back, Lu Ye was nowhere to be seen. No one noticed when Lu Ye disappeared, just as they hadn't sensed his sudden arrival.

In front of a street stall, Lu Ye hurried back to pay the vendor and then started to wander around leisurely with Lih Shang and Yaya.

With plenty of Spirit Stones on hand, he wasn't worried about them splurging. Walking past stalls, Lih Shang bought many trinkets for Yaya, dressing her up beautifully, and even purchased several new outfits for her. With the new clothes, Yaya looked even more adorable.

Lu Ye followed behind the two, feeling utterly bored, wishing for a Moon Jade star beast to suddenly appear in front for a grand battle.

Later that day, Lu Ye's eyes lit up, as someone blocked the way ahead—it was an elder from the Zhengyang Sect. Judging by his demeanor, he was evidently here specifically to find Lu Ye.

"What's the matter?" Lu Ye asked.

The elder first gave a respectful bow before speaking: "Pardon the interruption, Fellow Daoist. Our Sect Master is grateful for your lifesaving deed earlier and has instructed me to come find you. He cordially invites you to visit our sect's premises for a short stay."

Lu Ye felt amused. The Zhengyang Sect's people were right on time, so he nodded and said, "Since your Sect Master invites me, lead the way."

Turning to Lih Shang, he asked, "Want to come along?"

Lih Shang snorted lightly, "You go by yourself. I'll take Yaya for more wandering!" With that, she took Yaya's little hand and squeezed into the crowd.

Lu Ye couldn't understand what was so interesting to explore in a True Lake-level place!

The Zhengyang Sect elder spoke up from the side: "Rest assured, Fellow Daoist. I will immediately assign a female disciple to accompany your wife and daughter. All expenses in Qingfeng City will be covered by our Zhengyang Sect!"

Lu Ye nodded, "That's considerate."

Since they were openly extending goodwill and even helped ease the situation, Lu Ye found no reason to refuse.

The elder quickly took out a communication device to give a few instructions, then led Lu Ye to the Zhengyang Sect premises, maintaining a humble demeanor along the way.

Lu Ye estimated that they must have discerned something. Although he deliberately didn't activate his spirit force earlier to conceal his cultivation, they weren't fools and couldn't have been entirely oblivious.

Originally, upon learning that Lu Ye had agreed to the invitation, Zhu Shang immediately ordered a banquet to be prepared. However, Lu Ye had no intention of attending a banquet.

Being a Constellation, there wasn't much to discuss with a group of True Lake cultivators. It's not out of disdain; the difference in realms and experiences meant they wouldn't find common ground in conversation. Given the time, it would be better to refine a few pieces of spirit jade, so he only asked Zhengyang Sect to prepare a quiet room.

The Zhengyang Sect dared not neglect, and soon Lu Ye was led into a secluded chamber.

The people from Qingli Dao World would arrive in three days. He decided to hide here for three days for peace and quiet. As for Lih Shang and Yaya, he was entirely unworried. If he wanted to find them, he could just send a message anytime.

Refining spirit jade and deriving spirit runes made two days pass in a blink. There was no news from Lih Shang's side, she was probably having fun with Yaya.

Outside the quiet chamber, a woman hesitated, it was Zhu Yue whom Lu Ye had treated.

When she previously awoke, Lu Ye was nowhere to be found. Knowing that her savior was now here, she naturally wanted to personally express her gratitude.

However, as Lu Ye was in secluded cultivation, she didn't dare disturb and hence waited after each contest to see if there was an opportunity.

She was confused; was the person inside truly a mighty cultivator from the upper world?

The reason for such a thought wasn't because she discerned something, but due to Zhu Shang's speculation. Though Qingfeng World was only True Lake in realm level, it was a subordinate world to the Qingli Dao World. Many cultivators from their realm had been brought into the Qingli Dao World, so Qingfeng World's cultivators weren't entirely ignorant of higher realm cultivation matters.

Previously, Lu Ye had used a healing elixir pill to aid Zhu Yue's recovery, scraping off a bit of elixir powder. Zhu Shang noticed this, remaining outwardly composed but inwardly greatly shocked.

Because the elixir pill Lu Ye took out closely resembled those used by Constellation cultivators as described in rumors.

Combined with Lu Ye's incredible techniques, Zhu Shang naturally had some ideas.

Ordinarily, senior cultivators from the upper world were expected to arrive in Qingfeng World the next day, but there was no rule stating they must adhere strictly to this timing; arriving earlier or later was quite normal.

So seeing signs of upper world senior cultivators here already, and especially since they came to rescue Zhu Yue, led Zhu Shang to misunderstand, thinking perhaps that this senior cultivator was interested in Zhu Yue herself or her aptitude, intending to bring her to the upper world, which prompted the aid.

But regardless of the situation, establishing a good relationship in advance was never wrong, which is why he instructed Zhu Yue to seize an opportunity to thank Lu Ye face-to-face.

Unfortunately, since Lu Ye's arrival, he remained in the quiet chamber not showing himself, leaving Zhu Yue without a means to meet him even if she wished to.

After waiting for a while, seeing that the next round of the competition was about to start, Zhu Yue was about to leave.

But at that moment, the door of the quiet room suddenly opened, and an unfamiliar young face came into view.

Zhu Yue was delighted and quickly bowed, "Zhu Yue of Zhengyang Sect greets Fellow Daoist, many thanks for your previous assistance."

Lu Ye glanced at her and said, "Come with me!"

Having said this, he stepped outside. Although Zhu Yue was somewhat confused, she quickly followed.

Soon they left the grand hall where the quiet room was located. Lu Ye activated his spirit force, enveloping Zhu Yue, and soared into the sky.

Zhu Yue let out a cry of surprise, her face showing an astonished expression. She finally determined that this young man, who appeared younger than herself, was indeed a strong cultivator from the upper world, because the spirit energy emanating from him was something she had never felt before, immensely powerful and solid. Even someone like her, a top True Lake cultivator, felt insignificant as an ant before him.

This movement also alarmed the group from the Zhengyang Sect, but by the time they came out to investigate, Lu Ye and Zhu Yue were nowhere to be seen. After some inquiries, they only learned that the two had suddenly soared into the sky for unknown reasons.

In mid-air, Lu Ye swiftly flew in a certain direction. Although Zhu Yue was not in any danger as she was protected by his spirit force, the astonishing speed still made her anxious.

"Did anything unusual happen around the location 3,500 miles away?" Lu Ye asked as he flew.

The reason he suddenly emerged from the quiet room was because he sensed some anomalies.

Just moments ago, he suddenly realized that the foundation of the entire Qingfeng World was rapidly fading! Moreover, some strange movements were emanating from the depths underground.

Due to the distance, True Lake cultivators of this domain could hardly detect it; only a Constellation like himself could sense a bit.

He couldn't understand what the situation was and happened to see Zhu Yue at the door, so he brought her along, planning to inquire. After all, Zhu Yue was a cultivator of this domain and should have some understanding of the situation.

Upon hearing his words, Zhu Yue calculated briefly and replied, "No unusual changes have occurred, but there is naturally an abyss there."

"An abyss? Anything special about it?"

"It doesn't seem particularly special. The cultivators of this domain have delved into it before but found no anomalies."

The exploration by True Lake Realm cultivators doesn't count as precise, given the limited power and the origin magnetic field wreaking havoc underground. The deeper one goes, the greater the suppression, and the depth the cultivators of this domain can explore is limited.

"Have the people from Qingli Dao World checked it?" Lu Ye asked.

"No anomalies have been found, and it doesn't dare to trouble the strong cultivators of the upper world," Zhu Yue replied.

Lu Ye nodded, asking no more questions. However, he was sure there was definitely something abnormal inside, because when he first arrived at Qingfeng World, Yaya suggested there was something at that location.

But at that time, the topic was sidetracked, and Lu Ye didn't investigate further.

Glancing at him, Zhu Yue asked cautiously, "Aren't you a Senior Cultivator of Qingli Dao World?" Lu Ye's previous inquiry made her perceive something.

"Just passing by," Lu Ye casually explained.

Within a short moment from 3,000 miles away, they arrived, indeed seeing a massive abyss that seemed like a crack extending across the earth.

Zhu Yue, still reeling from the exhilarating sensation, suddenly realized they had arrived and felt deeply the terrifying cultivation of Lu Ye.

"Wait here," Lu Ye instructed, then directly leaped into the abyss, heading downward.

Zhu Yue dared not venture inside recklessly and chose to wait patiently. At that moment, her audio talisman stirred, upon checking she found that her father, Zhu Shang, was inquiring about the situation.

Zhu Yue explained briefly, and Zhu Shang chuckled bitterly, "If that's the case, although he's a Senior Cultivator, he's not from the upper world?"

"He said he's just passing by!"

"Then it's over."

"What's the matter, Father?"

"The competition has already begun, how can you rush back in time?"

Zhu Yue froze, only then realizing she seemed to have missed the competition! She was instantly filled with grief and anxiety. For Lu Ye, 3,000 miles wasn't a problem, but for her, a True Lake cultivator, it's a considerable distance. Even if she rushed back now, she wouldn't make it in time for the event.

Within the abyss, Lu Ye continued downward, gradually losing sight of any light. The origin magnetic field, however, grew more intense. But Qingfeng World's foundation was limited, so the origin magnetic field here wasn't very strong. Even a typical Constellation wouldn't be suppressed too severely, let alone him being protected by his Talent Tree.

The sounds emanating from below became increasingly pronounced, seemingly like drums, yet upon careful listening, they seemed to be a peculiar heartbeat, pounding with a rhythmic thump, thump, thump.

Chapter 1565: World Devouring Beast

At this moment, the commotion coming from the underground depths was extremely evident, and within the Nine Provinces, all the True Lakes had sensed something, each one filled with uncertainty, clueless about what was happening.

In the Abyss, Lu Ye continued his descent. The abyss was extremely deep; it was spacious at first but became narrower the further down he went. Halfway through, it was almost impassable for a person, and further ahead, there was simply no path.

Lu Ye had no choice but to pull out the Boulder Mountain Saber, violently breaking through the obstacles ahead, moving forward without hindrance.

After descending countless fathoms, Lu Ye suddenly felt the obstruction vanish, and a hot breath blew in his face, causing him to fall into a spatial area.

Looking around, the place was filled with rolling and flowing magma. Numerous large and small bubbles emerged from the magma, constantly bursting.

Evidently, they had reached the core of the Qingfeng World.

Even though Qingfeng World was just a True Lake-level domain, the harsh environment here was not a place an ordinary cultivator could linger. The origin magnetic field was thick and chaotic, not to mention the intense heat, which even a Constellation couldn't withstand.

However, Lu Ye felt like he was bathed in a spring breeze. If he wished, he could fully unleash the power of the Talent Tree to absorb the surrounding scorching energy, using it as fuel to store in the Talent Tree.

But doing so would damage this domain, and the scorching energy here was not high-quality, so even if Lu Ye absorbed it, the benefits would be limited.

The thudding sounds became increasingly prominent, emanating from within the magma. Standing there, Lu Ye could clearly feel the essence of the domain flowing away, as if there was a bottomless pit beneath the magma, frantically devouring the essence of this domain.

Could it be that thing?

Lu Ye had a vague guess, but without seeing it, he couldn't be certain.

Without hesitation, he dove into the magma, the Talent Tree protecting his body, wrapping him in invisible roots, isolating the scorching magma.

Lu Ye continued his descent, and after a moment, he frowned because from the depths of the magma, he sensed a strange vitality.

Following the vitality forward, it wasn't long before Lu Ye reached the source of the anomaly.

Focusing his mind, what appeared before him was an egg about three meters high, oval-shaped. The eggshell looked like stone but was clearly not real stone. The surface of the eggshell was covered with complex patterns, which flickered incessantly as the essence of Qingfeng World was devoured, and the vitality within the egg continued to rise.

It really was that thing! The moment Lu Ye saw this egg-like object, he knew he was right. After all, only this creature uses the essence of a domain to hatch its offspring.

The World Devouring Beast, a very peculiar star beast.

Generally, star beasts don't pose much threat to domains; they live within the stellar space due to their lack of interest in lower domains and the risk of offense in higher domains.

But not all star beasts are like this; some pose a significant threat to domains.

Just like the Great Lust Demon Spider Lu Ye encountered before, this kind of star beast requires a large amount of flesh and blood as a carrier to reproduce. So when it's time for them to reproduce, they invade suitable domains.

The inexplicable destruction of many domains is significantly related to this type of star beast.

The World Devouring Beast, however, doesn't need flesh and blood as a carrier for reproduction; instead, it requires the essence of a domain as nourishment, hence it must find a domain with vitality and essence.

Once a suitable domain is found, the World Devouring Beast will place its eggs inside the domain, silently devouring the domain's essence, allowing the offspring eggs to hatch.

This process is very secretive, usually hard to detect.

When Lu Ye first arrived at Qingfeng World, although he sensed something was amiss with the domain, he couldn't pinpoint the anomaly due to this reason.

Now, with the World Devouring Beast's egg about to hatch, the commotion was stirring, allowing him to notice it.

According to the records in Xiyuan Pavilion, even if he left things be, this domain wouldn't face too great a disaster, at most losing some essence. Once the offspring of the World Devouring Beast hatched, they would naturally leave the domain.

In short, the World Devouring Beast is the nemesis of all not-so-powerful domains. The essence devoured for the World Devouring Beast's hatching might take hundreds or even thousands of years to replenish.

This time, Lu Ye could choose to ignore it, but what about next time? What if this World Devouring Beast, once grown, fixes its eye on the Nine Provinces or its subordinate worlds?

Therefore, in the stellar space, regardless of the cultivator clan, whenever they encounter a World Devouring Beast, they eradicate it completely to prevent its reproduction from impeding the growth of their home galaxy's domains.

Moreover, compared to other star beasts, the crystal nucleus of a World Devouring Beast is extremely valuable, far beyond that of ordinary star beasts.

Lu Ye felt that the World Devouring Beast within the egg had already formed and was about to hatch. It seemed to have sensed his hostility, as the beast inside was restlessly writhing, exerting its strength against the eggshell, causing cracks to appear.

Just as Lu Ye observed the World Devouring Beast egg, outside Qingfeng World, a starboat was slowly approaching this domain. This starboat was quite large, two levels high, and engraved on the body of the starboat were four big characters: Qingli Dao World.

It was clearly the starboat from Qingli Dao World.

Three figures stood on the deck, two men and one woman. One of the middle-aged men possessed cultivation of the Constellation Late Stage, while the other man and woman were relatively young, both only had cultivation of the Constellation Mid-Stage.

These three came from Qingli Dao World, arriving at Qingfeng World to guide cultivators with potential. They were from one of the top three forces of Qingli Dao World.

By their calculations, they arrived a day early; the great competition in Qingfeng World had not yet ended. But this was not an issue, as navigating through stellar space made it difficult to precisely control the exact time.

"Is this Qingfeng World?" The female cultivator looked at the domain ahead with a curious expression. Although she had known of Qingfeng World since she began her cultivation, and knew of the existence of other domains, this was the first time she had seen such a rich and vibrant domain. The ones she had seen before were mostly desolate planets or dead stars.

"Is this Junior Sister Tang's first time here?" The Constellation Mid-Stage man beside the female cultivator smiled slightly, "Though Qingfeng World is a small domain without deep foundations, it has a unique charm. You should take a good look this time."

The female cultivator laughed, "It is indeed my first time here, but before coming, Senior Brother Li told me a lot about Qingfeng World, so I have quite an understanding of it."

The Senior Brother Li she mentioned was originally from Qingfeng World, brought to Qingli Dao World over three hundred years ago, where he joined her sect to cultivate, and is now a Constellation Late Stage cultivator with exceptional aptitude.

There are quite a few people like Senior Brother Li in Qingli Dao World, scattered among the big sects.

While the two spoke, the leading middle-aged man remained silent until they finished talking and then spoke up, "The rules of Qingfeng World's great competition were established nearly a thousand years ago by the Moon Jade ancestors. Regardless of which senior brother or sister from your sect advised you before coming, our goal in bringing people here is based solely on the competition results, with no personal considerations involved, understood?"

There is human sentiment in the cultivation world too, and those who were previously brought into Qingli Dao World with decent cultivation often thought of their old sects in Qingfeng World, wanting to bring some people to Qingli Dao World. But this must not become a precedent, or everyone would privately bring people to Qingli Dao World, losing the initial purpose of selecting talent from the lower world.

Because of such considerations, the cultivators who come to guide people each time are natives of Qingli Dao World to prevent favoritism.

"Understood, Senior Brother Zhou!" Both replied in unison.

Senior Brother Zhou was about to say something more when suddenly his expression changed. He turned his head towards a direction and shouted sharply, "Who goes there, demon!"

As he spoke, his palm struck out, and within his palm, a burst of dazzling golden light exploded.

This sudden change startled the two Constellation Mid-Stage cultivators. Instinctively looking over, they saw the area illuminated by the golden light, where a thick and long tail bizarrely manifested, silently curling towards their starboat.

Both were shocked, evidently not expecting an attack even here. If not for Senior Brother Zhou's vigilance and early detection, they might have been caught in its trap.

The tail was not a normal tail; the thick and long body suddenly spread out into a fan shape, transforming into a fish tail. That fish tail heavily slapped down, dispersing the strike Senior Brother Zhou hastily unleashed, causing the starboat to shake violently.

As the two Constellation Mid-Stage cultivators were about to extend aid, Senior Brother Zhou cried out, "Careful, there's more than one!"

Just as he spoke, another tail had already morphed into view, seemingly larger than the previous one, slapping onto the starboat again.

At this point, the three from Qingli Dao World finally made out what was attacking them.

They were actually two star beasts resembling manta rays, huge in size, flat bodies, with fierce giant mouths on their bellies, interlocking fangs, and a long tail extending behind like a giant dragon.

Senior Brother Zhou, with his extensive experience, instantly recognized what those two star beasts were, exclaiming, "World Devouring Beasts!"

Moreover, they were two World Devouring Beasts at the Constellation Late Stage level!

He immediately realized they were in big trouble!

For ordinary star beasts, cultivators with their methods generally had no fear in fighting peers of the same level. But World Devouring Beasts were different; they possessed an ability to constantly shift

between reality and illusion, making them imperceptible just a moment ago because they were in a phantom state, unseen by the naked eye, untouchable by conventional methods.

Though his own strength was quite good, dealing with one World Devouring Beast was already strenuous; the other two may not be able to handle the second World Devouring Beast even if they combined forces.

What puzzled him was why World Devouring Beasts appeared here. It seemed they were either preparing to lay eggs, or they had already laid them, and now their offspring were hatching, and they came to greet their young.

Chapter 1566: Breaking the Siege

It's highly likely to be the latter situation! Senior Brother Zhou judged in his heart, because if these two World Devouring Beasts simply came to lay eggs, they probably wouldn't attack them voluntarily. World Devouring Beasts themselves are not considered violent star beasts unless they are protecting their offspring!

In other words, there are their offspring hatching in Qingfeng World, which is why they are preventing our entry.

With this thought, Senior Brother Zhou shouted, "I'll lure the big one away first, then find a way to support you. Hold on!" He was someone experienced in battle arrays, and immediately thought of a strategy to defeat the enemy. For now, only the three of them working together could prevail over one World Devouring Beast, so they had to lure one away first.

As the battle erupted, because of their close proximity to Qingfeng World, the booming sounds immediately traveled into the domain, leaving countless cultivators within the domain confused. They looked up but couldn't see anything, except for the occasional flash of light, like lightning splitting the sky.

In the magma at the core of the earth, Lu Ye looked at the World Devouring Beast that was about to hatch and slowly drew out the Boulder Mountain Saber. He suddenly recalled something, which was that when a small World Devouring Beast hatches, its parents would surely come to escort it. Therefore, if his guess was correct, there were probably two large World Devouring Beasts waiting outside Qingfeng World at this moment.

Almost at the same time Lu Ye drew out the Boulder Mountain Saber, the egg of the World Devouring Beast shattered with a boom, and a figure quickly jumped out, lunging straight at Lu Ye.

Evidently, the newly hatched small World Devouring Beast had sensed something, and instinctively struck first!

However, it had just hatched, and its aura at most only equaled that of a cultivator in the True Lake Realm. Despite its sudden ferocity, the massive difference in strength made it difficult to pose any threat to Lu Ye.

Standing in place without moving, with merely a slash of his long blade, the small World Devouring Beast was split in two.

Lu Ye re-sheathed his blade and reached out to grab, extracting a Crystal Core from the small World Devouring Beast's corpse. After a brief moment of consideration, his eyebrows raised slightly.

Just as the rumors said, the Crystal Core of a World Devouring Beast is completely different from those of ordinary star beasts. The energy contained within this Crystal Core is almost indistinguishable from the essence of a domain, after all, fundamentally speaking, the hatching of a World Devouring Beast occurs from consuming the essence of a domain.

In other words, if this Crystal Core is shattered and the energy inside is released, the essence of the domain can be elevated!

Lu Ye thought for a moment and then squeezed, crushing the Crystal Core.

Although he could take this Crystal Core back to the Nine Provinces for Number Nine to consume, benefiting the Nine Provinces, this thing was essentially the concentrated essence of Qingfeng World's domain, so it wasn't right to take it away, lest it hinder this domain's development for hundreds or thousands of years.

Almost the moment Lu Ye crushed the Crystal Core, he suddenly sensed an extremely faint energy fluctuation coming from above his head.

Even while being at the core of the earth, he could sense this energy fluctuation, which was obviously extraordinary.

He immediately understood, probably the parents of the small World Devouring Beast had arrived!

Pushing his spirit force, he urgently dashed out! Secretly annoyed, he regretted not leaving a weapon control outside before entering. Otherwise, he could have constructed a Void to return, saving much trouble.

When he emerged from the Abyss, he saw Zhu Yue waiting there, looking up with a face full of shock.

Not only Zhu Yue but almost everyone in Qingfeng World was watching this unbelievable scene.

In the sky, there was a huge creature like a ray furiously flickering, and on either side of this ray, two figures were fiercely entangled with it.

Nobody knew what was happening; this ray-like creature and the two figures had suddenly crashed into Qingfeng World, causing sky-shattering, earth-rendering, lightning, and thunder. But soon, the cultivators of Qingfeng World realized that those contending against the ray must be strong cultivators from the upper world. Aside from strong cultivators from the upper world, no one else would appear at this juncture.

But what made them feel despair was that, even though the two upper realm strong cultivators were exhibiting mysteriously unpredictable abilities, they still couldn't match the ray-like creature. A man and a woman, the two upper realm strong cultivators, were undoubtedly doing their utmost yet were each bleeding profusely.

Sun Ye and Tang Xiaoyue felt despair as well. Following Senior Brother Zhou Dingtian's instructions, they were both tangling with this World Devouring Beast, intending to buy time until Senior Brother Zhou returned to assist them. However, for some reason, this World Devouring Beast suddenly went mad, charging straight towards Qingfeng World.

The two did not know that the reason the World Devouring Beast suddenly became agitated was because it sensed its offspring being killed.

There wasn't much trouble as long as they only entangled it, but attempting to stop the berserk World Devouring Beast was beyond their ability. After a few forced clashes, they both had turbulent auras and surging blood Qi.

"Senior Brother Sun, we can't hold it!" Tang Xiaoyue activated one of her spirit treasures, a handkerchief-like spirit treasure that stuck to the World Devouring Beast. Initially, it had a mountain-like suppressive force, but under the resistance of the berserk World Devouring Beast, the light on the handkerchief spirit treasure began to dim, threatening to break in just a few breaths.

Sun Ye broke into a sweat on his forehead. He noticed something unusual about this World Devouring Beast. If he retreated with Tang Xiaoyue now, they might be unharmed, but allowing such a star beast to charge into Qingfeng World could lead to unthinkable casualties. So, unless absolutely forced, he didn't wish to give up easily.

A giant hammer spirit treasure was summoned by him, lifted high with both hands, and thrust down onto the World Devouring Beast with the force of a mountain peak pressing down. His entire body's spirit force crazily poured into the spirit treasure.

The cultivators in Qingfeng World saw a scene they would never forget in their lifetimes: the hammer suddenly enlarged, as huge as a mountain, its entirety shimmering with dazzling light, and then plummeted fiercely.

Just as the hammer seemed poised to succeed, Tang Xiaoyue coughed up a mouthful of blood. The handkerchief spirit treasure attached to the World Devouring Beast completely dimmed, turning to powder and disappearing.

The unbound World Devouring Beast merely flicked its tail, heavily striking the shadow of the giant hammer.

As the giant hammer shattered, Sun Ye was also sent flying backward, unsure of how many of his bones had broken!

The World Devouring Beast had clearly lost all sense of reason, its flattened body rushed straight toward the retreating Sun Ye, its enormous mouth on its abdomen opening and closing grotesquely. Countless cultivators from Qingfeng World watched this scene with their hearts in their throats, almost unable to bear looking directly at it.

Tang Xiaoyue cried out in alarm, "Senior Brother Sun!"

Sun Ye felt a chill all over his body, seeing calamity about to befall him and wanting to dodge, but the previous attack left him paralyzed, his entire body of spirit force utterly dissipated, making it impossible for him to move!

Just as he thought he was about to face certain death, out of the corner of his eye, he noticed a streak of light rapidly darting toward him from below, moving faster than he could have imagined.

He couldn't see clearly what it was, only that the streak of light passed by the rampaging World Devouring Beast attacking him, and they brushed past each other.

A faint glimmer of saber light flickered in and out!

The next moment, Sun Ye's eyes widened, as did the eyes of all the cultivators from Qingfeng World watching in this direction.

The previously ferocious and unstoppable World Devouring Beast was suddenly split into two halves, the cuts clean and tidy as blood scattered into the sky, its life snuffed out instantly.

An entire domain was plunged into silence at that moment.

Beside the Abyss, Zhu Yue's heart nearly leaped out of her chest, her gaze tightly following the streak of light that had just shot out from beside her until it came to a halt.

Everyone was clueless about what that streak of light was, but she knew it was a strong cultivator of unknown origin passing through this domain!

But...how could his power be this formidable?

Even strong cultivators from Qingli Dao World working in tandem had been nearly killed by this stingray-like creature, while this strong cultivator who had saved her had effortlessly slain it with just one strike!

She hadn't even seen how he did it.

Glancing at Sun Ye, who was panting heavily and still looking fearful, Lu Ye thought to himself that he hadn't arrived too late. He had hurriedly employed the Brazen Plundering Technique upon seeing Sun Ye's dire situation, enabling him to provide timely assistance, else it truly might have been too late.

At this moment, both Sun Ye and the nearby Tang Xiaoyue were looking at Lu Ye, their eyes filled with suspicion, astonishment, and immense gratitude.

The suspicion lay in the fact that, apart from them, there turned out to be another Constellation in Qingfeng World. Where did he come from? He looked unfamiliar, not like a cultivator from Qingli Dao World.

The astonishment lay in the terrifying power of this person, despite being a fellow Constellation.

The gratitude arose not for any other reason, but for the life-saving kindness, and judging by appearances, Lu Ye harbored no ill intentions.

With these thoughts, Sun Ye hurriedly clasped his hands and said, "Thank you, Fellow Daoist, for saving my life."

Lu Ye nodded, "It was nothing!" He could see clearly that these two could have completely ignored the World Devouring Beast, yet they desperately blocked it, evidently not wanting the beast to charge into the domain, causing death and injuries to the creatures of this world. Ultimately, the beast's rage was his fault.

He asked again, "Is there only one?"

According to the records in Xiyuan Pavilion, if the World Devouring Beast came to receive its offspring, it would appear in pairs, and it made no sense for only one to appear here.

Sun Ye quickly replied, "Senior Brother Zhou led another one away. Senior Brother Zhou might not be able to handle it. Please, Fellow Daoist, lend your aid!"

Realization dawned on Lu Ye, and he immediately dashed toward the outer sky.

After he left, Tang Xiaoyue slowly flew over to join Sun Ye, the two exchanging glances and each seeing the shock in the other's eyes.

"Such power, it must undoubtedly be a native of Jade Conch. The Jade Conch's foundation is truly beyond our Qingli Dao World's comparison," Sun Ye sighed, seemingly somewhat dejected.

"Yet, we don't know what he's doing here," Tang Xiaoyue said worriedly. In principle, this place, as a subordinate world of Qingli Dao World, is of low level, offering no attraction to Constellation cultivators. The presence of Jade Conch's Constellation here inevitably invites speculation.

If Jade Conch had intentions toward this world, Qingli Dao World wouldn't have the confidence to contest with them.

Elsewhere, Lu Ye rushed into the near-space territory of Qingfeng World, immediately spotting someone engaged in battle with an even larger World Devouring Beast. However, it seemed the person was at a disadvantage. Although this World Devouring Beast was not quite at Moon Jade's level, it was undoubtedly larger and stronger than the one he had just killed.

The man was a middle-aged person at the Constellation Late Stage, likely the so-called Senior Brother Zhou.

Chapter 1567: Tang Jun's Descendants

At that moment, Zhou Dingtian was secretly lamenting. He initially planned to lead the World Devouring Beast away and then return to regroup with the two Constellations of this domain to kill the enemy. However, he could not shake off the beast, and for some unknown reason, it suddenly flew into a rage

and charged straight towards the Qingfeng World. Zhou Dingtian was already somewhat powerless to stop it.

They fought while retreating, and the Qingfeng World was almost within reach.

Suddenly, there was a fluctuation of spirit force swiftly approaching from the direction of the Qingfeng World. Zhou Dingtian was astonished to find that the aura was extremely unfamiliar.

Stealing a glance in that direction amidst the chaos, he saw a stranger, a young man bathed in brilliant light, approaching with a sword in hand.

Zhou Dingtian was momentarily bewildered. Who was this person? Why was he in the Qingfeng World? Then he was immediately overjoyed, because regardless of the man's background, he was ultimately a human race cultivator, someone he could communicate with. He immediately shouted, "Fellow Daoist, please come and assist!"

"Alright!" Lu Ye responded, leaping with agility to the front of the World Devouring Beast, effortlessly dodging its attack while his long blade, turning like a moon's cycle, met its mark.

In that instant, Zhou Dingtian felt a shiver down his spine, as he was alarmed to realize that if that blade came down on him, he wouldn't be able to resist.

Then his body froze, his eyelids twitching as he looked at the previously raging World Devouring Beast. He clearly saw the terror in the beast's eyes. Its massive body inexplicably stiffened, and then a line of blood appeared at its center, splitting the flat form in half...

Zhou Dingtian was utterly dumbfounded, almost unwilling to believe it. It took a while before he could accept that the World Devouring Beast, which he could not hold back, was actually slain with a single stroke!

He looked at Lu Ye, carefully sensing the spirit force fluctuations on Lu Ye, confirming they were only at the Constellation Late Stage. It felt as though he was in a dream.

Lu Ye, by then, had already reached the World Devouring Beast's corpse, and after some searching, he extracted a fist-sized Crystal Core from the massive body.

The Crystal Core of the smaller World Devouring Beast beneath the magma had been crushed by him, restoring some of the lost foundation of the Qingfeng World. However, the Crystal Core of this large World Devouring Beast would be kept. Its value was considerable, and it could be taken back to the Nine Provinces for Number Nine.

He had also just retrieved the Crystal Core from the World Devouring Beast slain within the Qingfeng World.

"Fellow Daoist, are you unharmed?" Lu Ye looked over at the still-stunned Zhou Dingtian.

Only then did Zhou Dingtian regain his senses, quickly responding, "I'm fine, thank you, Fellow Daoist, for your assistance." He suddenly remembered, "That's right, there's still one more beast in the domain..."

"No need to worry, Fellow Daoist, that one is also dead," Lu Ye reassured him.

Zhou Dingtian finally relaxed, realizing that someone who could slay the World Devouring Beast outside must have also dealt with the one within the domain.

"However, Fellow Daoist, your two junior disciples seem to have sustained serious injuries. It would be best to check on them!"

Zhou Dingtian's heart tightened upon hearing this, and he quickly rushed into the domain. After flying some distance, he turned back and said, "Fellow Daoist, if you have no urgent matters, please don't leave. Once we have dealt with matters of this domain, we'll come to thank you with our junior disciples."

Lu Ye nodded slightly, "No rush."

He had intended to wait for the people from the Qingli Dao World. Now that they had indeed arrived, he naturally wouldn't leave at this moment.

Both Zhou Dingtian and Lu Ye returned to the Qingfeng World. The former went to find his injured junior disciples, while Lu Ye directly returned to Qingfeng City.

Inside Qingfeng City, there was an uproar. The shocking battle in the sky had been clearly witnessed by many cultivators, but the highest cultivation level of the cultivators in this domain was only up to True Lake Realm. Thus, no one truly understood the situation, only that someone from the upper world seemed injured, and someone showcased immense power, killing a never-before-seen ferocious beast.

Everyone was discussing fervently but couldn't make sense of it all.

Lu Ye found Lih Shang and Yaya, both wandering around, looking quite fascinated. When Lu Ye found them, Lih Shang was taking Yaya to a teahouse to enjoy the world's unique delicacies. Yaya's mouth was smeared with oil, and Lih Shang was wiping her mouth from the side.

"Quite a spectacle you stirred up," Lih Shang glanced at him, teasing.

"Since I encountered it, it's not right to sit idly by." Lu Ye was playing with two World Devouring Beast Crystal Cores in his hand, sensing the peculiar energy contained within. He vaguely felt he had forgotten something, but upon careful thought, he couldn't remember. Yaya offered Lu Ye a bowl, using a spoon to feed him something resembling a mochi ball, "Daddy, it's delicious."

Lu Ye took a bite, finding it quite tasty. He ordered another bowl from the shopkeeper and savored it slowly. The teahouse was lively with storytelling and performances.

It wasn't until dusk that three people entered the small teahouse, walking straight to Lu Ye's location. Leading the way, Zhou Dingtian offered a fist salute, "Shenwu Temple of Qingli Dao World, Zhou Dingtian greets the Fellow Daoist!"

The man and woman behind him also greeted and introduced themselves.

Sun Ye hailed from Baimang Mountain, while Tang Xiaoyue came from Qinghua Pool.

Qinghua Pool, Baimang Mountain, and Shenwu Temple are the three top sects of the Qingli Dao World, each hosting a Moon Jade. However, since a shocking event years ago, only Wu Zhuo remains at Shenwu Temple; Qin Yuandai of Baimang Mountain is missing, and Tang Jun of Qinghua Pool is nowhere to be found. When the news broke that year, the entire Qingli Dao World was in turmoil.

Many speculated that it was the Jade Conch World that committed the vile act, for the only large domain they knew was Jade Conch, which possessed such strength.

Unfortunately, no one dared to inquire.

Now, Zhou Dingtian and his companions encountered Lu Ye here, initially assuming he was a Jade Conch cultivator, and despite the previous life-saving grace, they couldn't help but remain cautious.

Nevertheless, gratitude remains gratitude, and they had to come to thank him in person, and inquire about Lu Ye's purpose here.

Upon hearing the three introduce themselves, Lu Ye couldn't help but glance more at Tang Xiaoyue. This woman, surnamed Tang, came from Qinghua Pool; if he wasn't mistaken, she should be a descendant of Tang Jun. The old fellow had lived thousands of years, his own cultivation wasn't remarkable, but his lineage was likely extensive.

He rose and returned a salute: "Lu Yiye of Nine Heavens!"

"Nine Heavens?" Zhou Dingtian was taken aback. After finding Sun Ye and Tang Xiaoyue earlier, he heard them speculate that Lu Ye was a Jade Conch cultivator and thus assumed the same. To his surprise, Lu Ye hailed from a place called Nine Heavens World instead.

The three exchanged bewildered glances, having never heard of this Nine Heavens World.

"Fellow Daoist comes from another Star System?" Zhou Dingtian asked.

Lu Ye shook his head: "Nine Heavens is in Jade Conch; it's not surprising the three of you haven't heard of it because Nine Heavens upgraded to a large domain less than ten years ago!"

"Ah, I see!" Zhou Dingtian suddenly understood; if it was a newly promoted large domain, it made sense. Although they were of the Constellation, they dared not say they were thoroughly knowledgeable about the entire Jade Conch Galaxy, with many unexplored places.

Tang Xiaoyue, however, showed a puzzled expression: "Fellow Daoist says Nine Heavens upgraded to a large domain less than ten years ago, yet I see Fellow Daoist's cultivation is at the Constellation Late Stage..."

Logically speaking, with a newly upgraded domain, nurturing a Constellation within less than ten years, even with growth in strength, it shouldn't be this rapid. Lu Ye's cultivation clearly contradicted his statement.

"I haven't been cultivating in Nine Heavens; I've been elsewhere these years, hence the swift progress." Lu Ye casually explained.

Zhou Dingtian and others were pondering about this unknown place that could accelerate one's cultivation so quickly when Lu Ye spoke: "Is the young lady a descendant of Fellow Daoist Tang Jun?"

Tang Xiaoyue was startled, looking at Lu Ye with suspicion: "Fellow Daoist recognizes the great ancestor?"

Lu Ye nodded: "Thanks to Fellow Daoist Tang not minding, we became close friends despite our age difference; I have been together with Fellow Daoist Tang these years!"

Tang Xiaoyue's eyes suddenly brightened, she eagerly asked, "Fellow Daoist, where is my great ancestor? Is he well?"

Qinghua Pool always knew Tang Jun was alive because the soul lamp hadn't extinguished, just unsure of his whereabouts. Even if they speculated that Tang Jun was imprisoned by Jade Conch World, they hadn't the courage to verify.

Now, hearing Lu Ye's words, Tang Xiaoyue suddenly realized all the past sect's speculations were wrong, the great ancestor wasn't in Jade Conch World but in a place unknown to them.

"Fellow Daoist Tang is well, even his life span has extended, he lives a carefree and prosperous life, you needn't worry."

Tang Xiaoyue exhaled a long breath: "That's wonderful!"

Tang Jun is the steady anchor of Qinghua Pool; his disappearance over the years caused Qinghua Pool to be restless. Now, knowing Tang Jun is not only alive but his life span has even increased, years of anxiety disappeared, and Tang Xiaoyue was anxious to return to the Qingli Dao World to share the good news with the Qinghua Pool people.

After calming her excited heart, Tang Xiaoyue asked: "Fellow Daoist, could you tell me where the great ancestor is? How can I find him?"

"Where Fellow Daoist Tang is now is extremely distant; even if I told you, you couldn't reach him." Lu Ye spoke, hearing Tang Xiaoyue's expression dim, he changed his tone: "However, the reason I came this time is to bring some cultivators from your domain along, but before that, I need to pay respects to Fellow Daoist Wu Zhuo from your domain, and I'll need the three of you to lead me."

Zhou Dingtian pondered slightly and said: "Fellow Daoist wishes to meet with the Hall Master which is certainly permissible, but it will take some time to reach the Qingli Dao World..."

"It's no problem, I can wait."

Having traveled this long, since he's back in the home galaxy, it shouldn't take long to reach the Qingli Dao World.

Then Zhou Dingtian warmly invited Lu Ye to stay at Qingli Palace, and Lu Ye went along as a guest.

Qingli Palace was specially crafted by Qingfeng World for upper world strong cultivators to rest, opening only once every ten years; normally, no one is allowed to approach. When open, the maids chosen

within are the most beautiful and outstanding disciples from each major sect, so this palace almost gathers the highest quality female cultivators in the Qingfeng World over the past ten years.

Chapter 1568 - Qingli Dao World

The Qingli Palace occupies a vast area, comprising a stretch of palatial complexes, situated not far from Qingfeng City. Compared to the tranquil Qingli Palace, Qingfeng City seems much more lively.

Upper realm masters seldom stay long during each visit, generally departing within ten days, but news just came that they will leave Qingfeng World tomorrow, evidently eager to return to the upper realm.

No one knows why this is happening, as such an event has never occurred before.

Zhou Dingtian and others didn't want to rush back either, for they had traveled a long way and needed some rest. However, the information Lu Ye revealed earlier was extraordinary and with Tang Xiaoyue already eager to return to the Qingli Dao World, how could they linger?

Tang Xiaoyue and Sun Ye were still healing from their injuries, and Zhou Dingtian, plagued with doubts, proactively visited Lu Ye to extract more information.

Yet Lu Ye spoke little, as it wouldn't help even if he detailed it to Zhou Dingtian. Once they reach the Qingli Dao World and meet Wu Zhuo, presenting Tang Jun's jade slip to him will clarify everything.

In Qingli Dao World, it's Wu Zhuo who must take charge; Zhou Dingtian is merely a Constellation.

A female cultivator dressed like a maid was ordered to offer spirit fruit and fine wine. Lu Ye paid no mind to her until he noticed Zhu Yue's presence, causing his eyebrow to twitch.

He suddenly remembered what he had forgotten during the day.

He had left Zhu Yue by the Abyss, forgetting to bring her back. Somewhat sorry, he realized it's not much of a journey for him, but for a True Lake, flying back requires effort.

And if he wasn't mistaken, when he took Zhu Yue, she was about to attend the competition...

Zhu Yue was about to retreat after presenting the spirit fruit when Lu Ye asked, "How did the competition go?"

Zhu Yue paused, realizing Lu Ye was speaking to her, nervously lowered her head and replied, "Reporting to Senior Cultivator, I missed the timing, so it was considered a waiver."

Previously unaware of Lu Ye's terrifying cultivation, she was not too tense in his presence. However, having witnessed Lu Ye's impressive might, she dared not act inappropriately. Being ordered here to serve a Senior Cultivator was a great honor for her sect, and any misstep leading to his anger could implicate her entire sect.

"Pity!" Lu Ye said softly.

Zhu Yue respectfully withdrew.

Zhou Dingtian remarked with interest, "Fellow Daoist, do you know this girl?"

Lu Ye casually explained the earlier incident of seizing her for labor, enlightening Zhou Dingtian to the fact that Zhu Yue missed the competition's timing due to Lu Ye.

Unable to gather much definite news from Lu Ye, Zhou Dingtian had to take leave, for regardless of Lu Ye's intentions, following him to Qingli Dao World, seeing the Hall Master would surely unveil everything.

The next day, outside Qingli Palace, Sect Masters and Sect Leaders from various major sects of Qingfeng World gathered, gazing reverently at the spirit ark hovering before the palace.

Beneath the spirit ark, thirty excited individuals awaited, all victors of the recent competition, set to enter Qingli Dao World for cultivation.

The thirty stood in three rows; the ten True Lakes appeared calm, with higher cultivation fostering steadiness. The Spirit Streams and Cloud Rivers seemed more lively, standing there proudly. The daringly ones even raised their heads to admire the spirit ark's wonder, only to receive secret audio transmission reproaching them to behave, discreetly from their elders.

After a long wait, Qingli Palace's doors swung open, and a group of people emerged, causing all sect leaders and masters to straighten their expressions, bow respectfully, and shout in unison: "Welcome, Senior Cultivator."

Zhou Dingtian and Lu Ye walked side by side at the front, followed by Tang Xiaoyue and Sun Ye. Next to Tang Xiaoyue was Lih Shang holding Yaya.

"Brother Lu, please!" Zhou Dingtian gestured towards the starboat as they reached its front.

Lu Ye didn't decline, stepping up towards the boat, followed closely by Zhou Dingtian and others. Sun Ye didn't board the boat, glanced at the thirty individuals, and under their fervent gaze, instructed, "Everyone's here, go aboard!"

The True Lakes eagerly activated their spirit force, enveloping nearby Spirit Stream cultivators, boarding the starboat, while Cloud Rivers relied on themselves, as the starboat isn't high, flying up wasn't difficult, promptly the thirty boarded.

Below, sect leaders and masters displayed gratified expressions, with those who failed to secure top ten positions looking on in envy.

Zhou Dingtian walked to the front of the deck, glancing downward before suddenly calling out, "Where is Zhu Yue of Zhengyang Sect?"

Zhu Shang, the Sect Master of Zhengyang Sect, startled, promptly looked to the side at Zhu Yue, wondering if she had committed some mistake, otherwise why would the upper realm master suddenly mention her?

Zhu Yue was equally puzzled but still responded, stepping forward gracefully and said, "Zhu Yue present!"

Zhou Dingtian looked at her, smiled and said, "Zhu Yue from Zhengyang Sect, recently aided in animal control, securing domain peace, but missed the competition's timing. Considering your cultivation aptitude is decent, you are specially allowed to accompany us to Qingli Dao World for cultivation; do you wish to come?"

Zhu Yue stood there, stunned.

She indeed missed the competition's timing, but never aided in animal control or secured domain peace; she merely provided Lu Ye with some information during their travels. Thinking she missed the competition meant waiting another decade, and yet an unexpected turn of events occurred!

Suddenly, she recalled the Lu-named strong cultivator casually asking her about the results of the grand competition last night. At the time, he didn't say much, and she didn't think much of it either... Immediately she understood that the upper world strong cultivator would exceptionally take her to the upper world; it was the result of that Lu-named strong cultivator's casual question!

"Why are you still standing there in a daze?" Zhu Shang's anxious voice sounded beside her ear, seeing her dumbfounded, Zhu Shang hurriedly reminded her.

Zhu Yue snapped back to reality and quickly said, "Disciple is willing to go!" This was her pursuit; how could she miss it?

Zhou Dingtian smiled slightly and raised his hand, saying, "If that's the case, then board the ship!"

Zhu Yue glanced back at Zhu Shang, and under Zhu Shang's urging gaze, she jumped with all her strength onto the boat.

Following that, Zhou Dingtian exchanged a few encouraging words with the Sect Leaders and Sect Masters of this domain, mainly advising them to carefully cultivate their cultivators and send more outstanding talents to Qingli Dao World. The Sect Leaders of various sects all promised accordingly and bestowed plenty of cultivation resources, receiving gratitude from everyone.

After a short while, the starboat shook and slowly ascended into the sky.

On the deck, all thirty-one cultivators from Qingfeng World, including Zhu Yue, fell to their knees, solemnly kowtowing to the ground below!

Even though heading to the upper world to cultivate is the only path for cultivators from Qingfeng World, pursued by almost all cultivators, this departure might very well be a farewell forever.

To return to Qingfeng World again, one must at least cultivate to the level of a Constellation to have a chance. Over the years, Qingfeng World has sent considerable talents to Qingli Dao World, but how many managed to cultivate to the level of a Constellation and return gloriously?

On the path of cultivation, there are many obstacles and trials; failing any challenge could lead to a life vanished, Dao extinguished.

The starboat ascended into the air, and long after, the gathered Sect Leaders and sects slowly dispersed. Qingfeng World would have such an event again in ten years.

The thirty-one cultivators from Qingfeng World were arranged in different cabins, and the journey to Qingli Dao World would take about two months.

Of course, this is the time needed for Zhou Dingtian and others to steer the starboat. If Lu Ye himself were to steer the starboat, it would probably only take one month, as his starboat is better in various performances than Zhou Dingtian and the others'.

However, he showed no urgency, and usually, he only cultivated and contemplated in his cabin; it's merely one more month of travel. Since having returned to the Jade Conch Galaxy, there wasn't a need to rush.

Yaya, however, couldn't sit still, running around the ship all day, while Lih Shang, like a nagging elder, followed behind her, looking extremely exhausted.

Tang Xiaoyue tried several times to visit Lu Ye to inquire more about Tang Jun, but never found the opportunity, so she had to give up.

The journey was peaceful.

Almost two months later, Qingli Dao World arrived.

On the deck, having received the news, Lu Ye and Zhou Dingtian stood side by side, gazing at the domain ahead.

Like large domains that have advanced for thousands of years, Qingli Dao World's atmosphere is undoubtedly much grander than Qingfeng World; even without delving into the domain, just observing from stellar space, one could discern some clues.

Moon Jade numbers are scarce in Qingli Dao World, currently only Wu Zhuo stationed inside, but there are plenty of Constellations. Over a month ago, one could occasionally spot the active figures of some Constellation cultivators in stellar space. Sometimes, these cultivators searching for spirit jade in stellar space would come to the starboat to chat briefly with Zhou Dingtian and others before heading off again.

This occurrence becomes more frequent the closer they are to Qingli Dao World.

As they approached the domain, traces of cultivators entering and exiting the clouds could be seen.

Upon entering the domain, the starboat descended directly towards a Spirit Island over a vast and magnificent ocean. According to Zhou Dingtian, that Spirit Island is where the Shenwu Temple is located, and Lu Ye would naturally go to the Shenwu Temple first to pay respects to Wu Zhuo.

The starboat descended onto a huge plaza on Spirit Island, and as Lu Ye was surveying his surroundings, he suddenly sensed a powerful Mental Consciousness probing from a direction on Spirit Island.

Lu Ye quickly looked towards that direction, only to see a spirit mountaintop standing like a sword, with a tall tower at the peak. The source of the Mental Consciousness was within the high tower.

Wu Zhuo!

Lu Ye immediately identified the owner of the Mental Consciousness because there was only one Moon Jade in the entire Qingli Dao World, consistent with the information given by Tang Jun; Wu Zhuo is also at Moon Jade Mid-Stage.

That Mental Consciousness was clearly inspecting Lu Ye, as any domain would be cautious when a stranger arrived.

Lu Ye cupped his hands towards that direction and spoke loudly, "Lu Yiye of Nine Heavens comes specially to pay respects to Fellow Daoist!"

The Mental Consciousness was initially only slightly probing, but after hearing Lu Ye's words, suddenly grew much heavier. A powerful voice echoed from within the tower, "To call me a fellow Daoist and discuss Dao, we'll see if you have the qualification!"

As the voice fell, suddenly power fluctuations came from the direction of the tower, followed by a massive handprint appearing out of thin air, pressing directly towards the starboat!

Chapter 1569 - Wu Zhuo

In the stellar space, there are many conventions and rules that have naturally evolved over countless years, not established by humans.

For example, between cultivators, if there is no special relationship, they can completely refer to each other as Fellow Daoist on the Constellations. After all, the cultivator group is quite unique, not judging respect and inferiority by age but by cultivation level.

Of course, that's the theory, but if a Constellation insists on calling a Sun Blaze Fellow Daoist upon meeting, there's probably no good outcome, so the title should depend on the actual situation.

If Lu Ye were visiting on his own behalf, calling Wu Zhuo "Senior" would be fine. However, this time, he represents not only himself, and calling "Senior" wouldn't harm him directly, but might complicate future cooperation.

But addressing him as Fellow Daoist clearly displeased Wu Zhuo. He unleashed a palm strike, its power shaking the heavens, causing the cultivators from Qingfeng World on the starboat to turn pale, and even Zhou Dingtian and others looked grave.

Looking up, the palm print covered the sky, yet the lines within the palm were clearly visible, and as it approached, everyone felt cold to their core.

Strangely, the giant palm print shrank rapidly as it swept in, initially blocking everyone's view, but soon transforming into the size of a normal palm, slowly and deliberately reaching for Lu Ye's chest.

Other people's pressure dissipated completely, but for Lu Ye, the pressure only intensified.

Wu Zhuo didn't seem to have murderous intent; otherwise, the palm strike wouldn't be so slow. He likely intended to simply admonish Lu Ye, teaching him that not every word should be spoken.

Facing this palm, Lu Ye stood quietly at the prow of the ship, motionless, as if petrified.

Only when the palm was about to strike did he suddenly throw out a jade slip toward the front, from which a faint aura emanated.

"Hm?" Wu Zhuo's voice suddenly echoed from inside the tower, as he sensed something familiar from the jade slip.

The palm heading for Lu Ye's chest abruptly snatched the jade slip and quickly retracted into the tower.

The sky cleared, and silence enveloped the starboat. Nearly everyone was still immersed in the terrifying momentum of the Moon Jade powerhouse, with only the fierce wind whistling, Lu Ye's clothes flapping.

Moments later, the tower lightly quaked, followed by a blaze of light racing outward, forming a rainbow bridge connecting the tower and the starboat. Wu Zhuo's voice rang out again, lacking its former majesty: "Fellow Daoist, please come inside for a talk!"

Zhou Dingtian was dumbfounded.

He, being from Shenwu Temple and Wu Zhuo's Direct Disciple, knew his master's temper well. As one of the three Moon Jades of this domain, Wu Zhuo was a rising force and the strongest in Qingli Dao World, a pillar and hope for the future.

Master's aspirations were lofty; even Moon Jade from Jade Conch didn't particularly impress him, for he was confident in surpassing Jade Conch's Moon Jade in the future.

Lu Ye's Fellow Daoist clearly displeased Master, yet shortly after, Master personally acknowledged the term and spoke so politely...

Zhou Dingtian was curious to know what the jade slip contained that could cause such a drastic change in attitude from his prideful master.

"Pardon the intrusion!" Lu Ye said, turned slightly to advise Lih Shang to wait here, and then walked onto the rainbow bridge step by step toward the tower.

The rainbow bridge connected to the topmost level of the tower, where Lu Ye saw a majestic man with long hair draped over shoulders, clad in a black robe, standing with his hands behind his back.

Having heard Wu Zhuo's name a lot from Tang Jun, Lu Ye was meeting him for the first time and found he matched the impression; Wu Zhuo exuded an aura of extravagance and wildness, akin to an ancient ferocious beast possessed of spiritual intelligence.

Lu Ye had encountered many Moon Jade before, having even personally fought and killed them, yet none gave him the same feeling as the one before him.

He vaguely noticed that Wu Zhuo's strength at the Moon Jade Mid-Stage was likely top-notch, remembering that Tang Jun had mentioned Wu Zhuo participated in the Reincarnation Tree's Divine Sea struggle, emerging victorious, and benefitting from the spirit light gained from Taichu Realm.

In any era, those who succeed in the Divine Sea struggle of the Reincarnation Tree are never ordinary, as it involves elite confrontations among thousands of large and top-tier domains' Divine Sea cultivators, with only the top hundred emerging victorious—a testament to its high difficulty.

Wu Zhuo's victory already indicated his aptitude, making him far surpass others in any realm or competition.

Qingli Dao World possessing a doppelganger of the Reincarnation Tree puzzled Lu Ye, for as far as he knew, Tang Jun and Qin Yuandai were the initial batch of Constellations, yet neither had ventured far from the Jade Conch Star System, naturally not visiting the Reincarnation Tree for a doppelganger.

As for where this doppelganger came from, even Tang Jun couldn't say. It seemed that this doppelgänger tree had always existed in the Qingli Dao World, and only after he and Qin Yuandai ascended to Constellation did they gradually notice its anomaly, and after some research, understood its function.

Tang Jun could only speculate that this doppelganger had been in the Qingli Dao World for a long time, perhaps dating back to an ancient era when it was a large domain, but for some unknown reason, it declined and only re-ascended three thousand years ago.

It's not uncommon for domains to rise and fall when viewed from the stellar space, nothing out of the ordinary.

At the top level of the tower, Wu Zhuo silently watched Lu Ye, a deep look in his eyes, though he appeared calm, he was deeply shocked inside.

Because in that brief moment, he had gathered too much unbelievable intelligence from the jade slip.

The source of this intelligence was none other than Tang Jun, who had been missing for many years!

He could confirm that the information in the jade slip was indeed imprinted by Tang Jun, which couldn't be faked. After all, as fellow Moon Jade of the same domain, they were familiar with each other, and no one could deceive him on this matter.

The mysterious and unfathomable Insect Path, the all-encompassing All Phenomena Galaxy, the grand and magnificent All Phenomena Ocean, the thriving Unparalleled Island, and the Constellation Palace where a million constellations gathered...

Such information impacted Wu Zhuo's Divine Sea, and even though he was at the Moon Jade Mid-Stage, he couldn't remain indifferent.

Compared to the grand and bustling All Phenomena Ocean, the Jade Conch was simply a remote backwater. If he were a cautiously prudent person, it would be nothing, the grand and bustling outside wouldn't concern him, and he could enjoy his leisure within his small domain. But someone who excelled in the Taichu Realm couldn't lack ambition, so he was highly interested in the intelligence from the jade slip.

However, there was one point Wu Zhuo found baffling because Tang Jun also left a message in the jade slip, informing him that if ever someone claiming to be Unparalleled Li Taibai came to him with the jade slip one day, he must be treated with respect and not be slighted. This was because the Island Master of Unparalleled Island, where he currently resided, had an excellent relationship with Li Taibai, and it was through Li Taibai's connection that he entered Unparalleled Island. In the future, when people from Qingli Dao World do enter the All Phenomena Ocean, they'd have numerous things to rely on from others. Offending this person now would leave Qingli Dao World with no path in the future.

The person Tang Jun mentioned was called Unparalleled Li Taibai. And the spirit island was also named Unparalleled Island. Given that Li Taibai had a good relationship with the Island Master of Unparalleled Island, it inevitably led to some speculations.

But upon closer thought, Wu Zhuo remembered the visitor seemed to claim he was Lu Yiye of Nine Heavens...

Unable to make sense of it, he straightforwardly asked, "Who is this Unparalleled Li Taibai?"

Lu Ye pondered briefly and understood the situation. He had always referred to himself as Unparalleled Li Taibai in front of Tang Jun, so he calmly said, "That is also me! Unparalleled World is a subordinate world of my Nine Heavens. As for the name Li Taibai... Fellow Daoist should know, in the expanse of stellar space, one inevitably encounters danger, and sometimes there's a need to use an alias."

He admitted this candidly, leaving Wu Zhuo momentarily surprised. He subtly nodded in understanding but couldn't help feeling a bit skeptical. Whether Tang Jun was reliable, after all, he didn't even know the person's actual identity, only an alias of Unparalleled Li Taibai, which seemed somewhat unconvincing.

"Let's sit down and talk." Wu Zhuo gestured as he took the lead in sitting.

There were no tables or chairs atop the tower, only two mats. Wu Zhuo sat on one, so Lu Ye could only take the other.

Facing each other, Wu Zhuo had many questions but didn't know where to start. After thinking for a moment, he asked, "According to Senior Brother Tang, you and he accidentally got trapped in a newly formed Insect Path and ended up drifting into the All Phenomena Galaxy?"

"Precisely!" Lu Ye nodded. As for the contents of the jade slip, he hadn't investigated—firstly, he didn't find it necessary, and secondly, jade slips used for conveying messages usually had special restrictions. If Lu Ye had probed it, the jade slip would have been destroyed, and he wouldn't have been able to bring it back to Wu Zhuo, to earn his trust and cooperation.

"Considering the timing, that was precisely when Senior Brother Tang disappeared. Have you seen another of our Dao World's Moon Jade?" Wu Zhuo asked again.

In recent years, among the three Moon Jades in Qingli Dao World, one had died, and another disappeared, leaving only him to hold the fort alone. He even had no time to enter stellar space to seek cultivation resources, which was exceedingly distressing.

Though it was confirmed Qin Yuandai had died, and a batch of Constellations from Baimang Mountain had also perished, none knew exactly how or where, because none of the people Qin Yuandai took out ever returned alive.

Wu Zhuo's question was merely a casual one, with no expectation of getting an answer from Lu Ye. Yet unexpectedly, Lu Ye nodded, "I have seen her!"

Wu Zhuo was startled, "Where did you see her? What was the situation? Was there an enemy chasing her?"

Lu Ye looked at him, "Are you trying to ask how that Moon Jade died?"

Wu Zhuo looked surprised, "You know how she died?"

"Of course, I know."

Chapter 1570 - Negotiation

"Who killed her? Was it a Jade Conch cultivator?" Wu Zhuo pursued the question. All these years, he had been investigating this matter. But looking at this star system, only the people from Jade Conch could have killed Qin Yuandai, leading to such speculations.

However, there's no way to directly ask about such matters. Jade Conch is the powerhouse in this star system, backed by formidable foundations, incomparable to Qingli Dao World. If they are offended, there's nothing good in store for Qingli Dao World.

Wu Zhuo has been holding back for years, waiting until he achieves Moon Jade Late Stage before asking directly.

Nevertheless, if he could gather more specific information now, it would be ideal. Seeing Lu Yiye in front of him, it was clear he knew the details.

"It's not Jade Conch cultivators; the Moon Jade of your domain died by my hand!" Lu Ye gazed calmly at Wu Zhuo.

Wu Zhuo was stunned for a moment before he lowered his gaze, a shadow cast by his long hair on his forehead. He softly said, "Do you know what you're saying?"

Having admitted it, Lu Ye naturally didn't intend to hide it. Tang Jun knew the truth of Qin Yuandai's death, and many cultivators in the Nine Provinces did as well. There are no secrets in this world, and rather than letting Wu Zhuo find out through other means later, it's better to reveal it here.

Moreover, he didn't think he had done anything wrong in killing Qin Yuandai. At that time, it was either the enemy dies or he perishes.

"Indeed, Fellow Daoist Qin Yuandai was killed by me!"

Despite Wu Zhuo's presence, imposing like a mountain or a prison, Lu Ye remained calm and composed.

"By you alone?" Wu Zhuo's voice turned cold. Although Qin Yuandai was old and frail, she was still Moon Jade Mid-Stage. How could Lu Ye, a Constellation, kill her? He instinctively felt there was more to it.

Lu Ye replied, "In terms of strength, I'm naturally not her match. But to kill someone, strength alone isn't necessary; one can also leverage... External Force!" As he spoke, he raised his hand, pinching the air, causing a spark of red light to shine at his fingertips.

Wu Zhuo instantly felt threatened, his entire body tensed as he stared at the red light at Lu Ye's fingertips, saying in a low voice, "Red talisman!"

Lu Ye nodded, "A red talisman from the Dwarf Race!"

Wu Zhuo's gaze shifted between Lu Ye and the red talisman, before speaking after a long pause, "If Fellow Daoist intends to threaten me with this red talisman, you might be mistaken. At such close range, even if you can unleash the talisman's power, I can still take your life!"

Lu Ye maintained a calm demeanor, and with a casual flick, the red light at his fingertips dissipated, "I came here merely to discuss some cooperation matters with Fellow Daoist, not to threaten. You asked, so I answered."

Wu Zhuo looked intently at Lu Ye, his eyes showing surprise. He didn't expect Lu Ye to dispel the talisman's power. Without the red talisman's constraint, it would be easy to take Lu Ye's life now.

Understanding this, he realized this young man, despite his seemingly young age, possessed exceptional courage and poise.

"Are you that sure I won't kill you?" Wu Zhuo leaned slightly forward, the aura of an ancient ferocious beast growing stronger.

Lu Ye answered calmly, "Although I have never met Fellow Daoist, I know much about you from my chats with Old Tang. Fellow Daoist is ambitious, and those with ambition do not cut off their own routes or act unwise!"

"Hum!" Wu Zhuo responded with a faint hum, dispersing the pressure that accompanied his forward lean, and after a moment of silence, asked, "Does Tang Jun know about this?"

"At that time, Old Tang went with Fellow Daoist Qin to Unparalleled and witnessed it. That's why Old Tang pursued me relentlessly. In the end, we both got trapped in a newly formed Insect Path but fortunately escaped, ending up in All Phenomena Galaxy."

Wu Zhuo frowned because Tang Jun hadn't clarified this in the jade slip. He only mentioned that he and Lu Ye fell into the newly formed Insect Path, without stating the cause. It seemed he intentionally concealed it.

"Why did the conflict arise?" Wu Zhuo asked, as some matters, though past, need to be clarified.

Lu Ye recounted the past conflict to Wu Zhuo, whose face darkened upon hearing it. The Million Souls Banner, even in Qingli Dao World, was restricted, too inhumane.

He didn't expect the offspring of Qin Yuandai would secretly go to a living domain to refine the Million Souls Banner.

This is simply unforgivable. In this star system, any living domain is a resource, much like how Qingfeng World is valuable to Qingli Dao World.

If all Constellation cultivators act recklessly, disrupting domains, what future would await the cultivation world?

Qin Yuandai also bears unshirkable responsibility; knowing her family's actions, she didn't stop but rather covered it up, leading to her demise by a red talisman in the shadows.

Every vexing matter seemed to come to him, and Wu Zhuo felt indignant.

"The culprit has been punished, and the deceased Nine Heavens cultivators avenged. I won't pursue the matter further," Lu Ye said slowly.

Wu Zhuo couldn't help but glance at him, tempted to ask what right he had to pursue, but realized the trouble stemmed from Qingli Dao World, making him hesitant to question further.

After a moment of silence, he said, "Tang Jun and you have reconciled your differences?" Otherwise, Tang Jun would have had no reason to help Lu Ye conceal this matter.

Lu Ye: "The dead cannot come back to life. Tang Jun and I ended up in the All Phenomena Galaxy together, so we can only support each other. There's no point in dwelling on the past."

Wu Zhuo said nothing. Given Tang Jun and Qin Yuandai's over three thousand years of friendship, he wasn't concerned about this matter himself. Besides, the future of Qingli Dao World was undoubtedly more important, so everything else had to take a back seat.

Avoiding further entanglement in the issue, Wu Zhuo eagerly asked, "Fellow Daoist Lu, how long did it take you to return from the All Phenomena Galaxy?"

Lu Ye: "About three years."

Wu Zhuo perked up, "If Fellow Daoist were to return again, would it take the same amount of time?"

"Almost!"

"How many people can you take along?"

"How many people does Fellow Daoist want me to take?" Lu Ye asked back.

Wu Zhuo was initially inclined to say the more, the better; he even wanted to visit the All Phenomena Galaxy himself. However, upon thinking more carefully, it didn't seem realistic because Qingli's constellation count was limited, and it was impossible for all to leave. Moreover, he couldn't leave, so even if Lu Ye had the capability, Qingli Dao World lacked the foundation.

Lu Ye said, "I understand your thoughts, but this matter isn't solely between the Nine Heavens and Qingli Dao World. I've discussed with Old Tang, and it needs the participation of Jade Conch as well."

"Why is that?" Wu Zhuo frowned, evidently reluctant to have Jade Conch involved in this good fortune.

Lu Ye replied, "The forces in the All Phenomena Ocean are numerous, with many rules. To establish a foothold there, Moon Jade is indispensable. To be honest with you, the Nine Heavens is a newly ascended domain with no Moon Jade cultivators, and Old Tang is struggling alone there. You cannot leave your Dao World, so for Moon Jade's support, we must rely on Jade Conch's people."

Wu Zhuo brooded for a while, then reluctantly nodded, "That's advantageous for them!"

Lu Ye: "I'm not familiar with Jade Conch and have never been there, so I'd like to ask Fellow Daoist to visit Jade Conch and communicate on my behalf."

He still needed to rush back to Nine Provinces for preparatory work. By the time he settled matters in Nine Provinces, Wu Zhuo would likely have negotiated with Jade Conch. Then, cultivators from the three domains could unite and set out for the All Phenomena Ocean, which would save time.

As for whether Jade Conch would be interested... there's no need to consider it. What Indeterminate and Daluo Galaxy could see, Jade Conch couldn't possibly miss. If they indeed failed to notice, they deserved to remain trapped on their small patch of land forever, and Lu Ye wasn't intent on sharing the riches with them.

"Going to Jade Conch is no problem, I'm reasonably familiar with that place," Wu Zhuo nodded, "But Fellow Daoist, Nine Heavens is in decline, and Qingli Dao World isn't much better. If this good fortune comes to Jade Conch's attention, and they develop inappropriate ideas..."

Lu Ye understood what he meant. Wu Zhuo's concern mirrored Huah Sheng's previous worries. He responded, "Even if they have thoughts, it's useless. The star map is in my hands. Even if I gave them the star map, they couldn't smoothly enter All Phenomena Ocean. Furthermore, once there, they'd need Old Tang and me to establish themselves. Just explain these points, and they'd be wise enough not to harbor inappropriate ideas!"

Wu Zhuo nodded upon hearing this, "I understand!"

"There's one more thing Fellow Daoist needs to remember."

Wu Zhuo: "What is it?"

Lu Ye: "Back when discussing this with Old Tang, he mentioned a problem with your domain. Cultivators who attempt to elevate to Moon Jade from your domain's constellations find it almost impossible to succeed. So, he hoped for some yearly slots to be sent to Unparalleled for constellation elevation. I agreed at the time, but Unparalleled World isn't suitable for constellation elevation as it's just an ordinary domain, with the Corpse Race rampant."

Upon hearing this, Wu Zhuo became increasingly worried about Tang Jun's intelligence...

Lu Ye continued, "Fellow Daoist, when you visit Jade Conch, perhaps you could discuss this matter. If successful, it would also be me fulfilling a promise to Old Tang."

Wu Zhuo nodded, "We've considered sending people to Jade Conch for constellation elevation before, but as Fellow Daoist knows, the spirit light nurtured by large domains is their own foundation. It's understandable for the domain's cultivators to use it for elevation, but they will never easily allow outsiders to benefit. Hence, we abandoned the thought. However, if we use this for negotiation now, it might be possible."

At least there's hope for success; Lu Yiye has shown genuine intent.

Lu Ye stood up, "Then I'll leave Jade Conch's matter to Fellow Daoist. I must return to Nine Heavens. Farewell!"

Wu Zhuo, though wishing Lu Ye would stay a bit longer to inquire more about the All Phenomena Galaxy, seeing Lu Ye's clear intention to leave, didn't insist and rose to see him off.

"Oh, Fellow Daoist Lu, spoken words aren't reliable. Do you have any specialty items from the All Phenomena Ocean to leave behind? If I take some to Jade Conch, it might better convince them," Wu Zhuo suddenly said.

"Specialty items..." Lu Ye thought for a moment and brought out a few White Spirits, "These are spirit fish from the All Phenomena Ocean, considered unique star beasts, highly valuable whether for culinary use or medicine."