

Humanity 741

Chapter 741 It Begins

Sixty-four Sky-mending Platforms were claimed by various sects great and small from across the world, and messages were sent in all directions, causing many to leave.

However, all array cultivators were retained by Lu Ye.

He had already imparted the construction and setup methods for the Sky-mending Platforms, but even so, with the cultivational accomplishments of the Soaring Dragon's array cultivators, comprehending the subtleties therein was not easy. If left to their own devices, success was not guaranteed.

He kept them behind mainly to address their doubts during their learning process—Lu Ye had to ensure that there would be no issues with these sixty-four Sky-mending Platforms.

Three days later, all the array cultivators left Medicine Valley, dispersing to various places around the world.

Lu Ye then set off for Sky Ravine, along with Yiyi and Amber.

Of the sixty-four Sky-mending Platforms, one was the main, the rest auxiliary.

The most central and primary Sky-mending Platform needed to be constructed right beneath Sky Ravine and was personally overseen by Lu Ye. In the past few days, the Three Great Overlord Sects had already sent over the materials needed for constructing the Sky-mending Platforms. Many workers were placed there in advance, only waiting for Lu Ye to take charge of the matter.

The entire Soaring Dragon World was bustling with activity.

Within the usually desolate high mountains and steep ridges, many more cultivators made their appearances, and numerous gigantic magic platforms appeared out of the ground.

For these sixty-four Sky-mending Platforms, one could say that the Soaring Dragon World fully utilized its foundation. Sects of all sizes opened their treasure vaults wide, allowing free access to all kinds of precious materials.

Only in this way could the construction progress of the Sky-mending Platforms be guaranteed.

This was the first time Lu Ye oversaw an event of such grand scale. Even with the status of the Soaring Dragon Messiah, he felt tremendous pressure. Beneath the Sky Ravine, he worked almost without rest, investing all his energy into the Sky-mending Platform, causing Yiyi to watch with heartache.

Fortunately, having received the Heaven-Earth Origin from Ye Liuli, Lu Ye was brimming with energy. Despite such rigorous labour, he showed not the slightest hint of fatigue.

He displayed his mastery in the Array Path to his heart's content.

When initially managing the array setup in Medicine Valley, he did it both to repay Little Miracle Healer's medical fee and to validate his own learning. And wasn't this time the same? Overseeing an array of such magnificent scale was incredibly beneficial for advancing his knowledge in the Array Path.

In his mind, there was still a vast amount of information to digest, the gift from the Hundred Arrays Pagoda.

Days passed day by day, the Sky-mending Platform rose visibly higher.

Good news came from all over the land. Under the premise of setting aside prejudices and sincerely cooperating, one Sky-mending Platform after another was successfully constructed. In less than half a month, only the central Sky-mending Platform that Lu Ye was responsible for remained.

In the meantime, the Blood World and the Blood Race had not made any moves.

Leaving aside the Blood World for now, with the astonishing strike Lu Ye had delivered, the dependence of the Blood World on the Soaring Dragon had weakened, consequently making it exceedingly difficult for the Blood Race to descend upon the Soaring Dragon.

The last time there was the Sky Ravine Sect's Blood River Great Array to bridge them, but this time, there was no one capable of leading them here.

Even if they were left to their own devices, it would not be easy for the Blood Race to descend upon the Soaring Dragon in a short period. Therefore, there was no need to worry about the threat from the Blood Race for the time being.

On this day, the sun shone brightly, and the sky was clear and blue.

Below the Sky Ravine, seated atop a hundred-foot-tall Sky-mending Platform, was Lu Ye.

This central Sky-mending Platform was finally completed the day before. Everything was ready, awaiting the activation of the array's power.

All across the lands, figures were seated on every Sky-mending Platform, at least two or three people, and up to four or five. Each one was at Cloud River Level 9, their expressions solemn and devout, their eyes closed in mediation, ensuring they were in the best possible state.

In a moment, Lu Ye suddenly opened his eyes as his audio transmission stone vibrated in his hand.

He listened to the audio transmission stone by his ear, then put it away and stood up.

The time had come!

He looked up at the enormous Sky Ravine overhead and muttered softly, "Lend me your strength once more!"

As the words fell, he stepped out, flashing to the central position of the Sky-mending Platform. Spirit force surged around him, pouring wildly into the Sky-mending Platform.

It was as if a pebble had been thrown into a placid lake, with him at the heart, ripples spread outwards.

With the expansion of the ripples, lines one by one lit up; they were Dao Runes inscribed with the array's patterns on the Sky-mending Platform. The luminance started beneath his feet, like a blaze in the prairie, quickly spreading to the surroundings, and then downward.

In the distance, numerous cultivators looked on, witnessing the complicated lines on the entire Sky-mending Platform surface become visible and brightly lit, and they couldn't help but cheer.

They were unsure whether the subsequent developments would go smoothly, but just from what was in front of them, today's event had a very promising start.

As the glow of the entire Sky-mending Platform lit up, a large quantity of Spirit Stones placed inside were rapidly consumed.

So while the scene was magnificent, the consumption was not severe for Lu Ye; the power he was activating was at most a primer, with the real energy consumption coming from those Spirit Stones pre-placed inside the Sky-mending Platform.

"Thump!"

A muffled sound suddenly emanated from the Sky-mending Platform, akin to a giant heart beating once. When the sounds rang out, the many watching cultivators couldn't help changing their expressions slightly, instinctively covering their chests with their hands.

With that sound's emergence, an invisible force field spread rapidly from the Sky-mending Platform's center in all directions, in an instant covering thousands of miles...

On the Sky-mending Platform in Ganzhou, led by Monk Guangjing, several monks at Cloud River Level 9 sat with closed eyes, rosaries flowing through their fingers, chanting sutras.

When that invisible force resonated through platform after platform and spread here, Monk Guangjing suddenly opened his eyes and shouted, "It has begun!"

The well-prepared monks immediately exerted their power, pouring it into the Sky-mending Platform beneath them.

This Sky-mending Platform in Ganzhou quickly underwent the same changes as the one where Lu Ye was located.

"It has begun!"

On the Sky-mending Platform in Lizhou, Yuen Changcun shouted lowly, and the experts from Haoran Academy simultaneously activated their power.

"Begin!"

"Begin!"

...

The cultivators scattered across the Soaring Dragon World, each manning a Sky-mending Platform, soon perceived the signal and collectively incited the might of the Formations within their platforms.

Suddenly, one-by-one, invisible force fields, emanating from the platforms, began to relentlessly expand in all directions.

Initially, the spreading frequencies varied, as not every cultivator activated the Sky-mending Platform at the same time.

But as time elapsed, those invisible force fields seemed to resonate with each other in a mysterious manner. In merely the time it took for one incense stick to burn, all the force fields had expanded in a perfectly synchronized harmony.

And at the intersecting crossroads of these invisible fields, there emerged an intricate major array that enshrouded the entire Soaring Dragon World.

These changes went largely unnoticed by others, but Lu Ye, who presided over the core Sky-mending Platform, saw it all as clear as day.

He took a deep breath. Success or failure hinged upon this very moment.

Even after doing all he could, anxiety was inevitable as the critical juncture approached.

"Array, rise!"

Atop the Sky-mending Platform, Lu Ye bellowed the command.

With one word, heaven and earth resonated with a hum!

Lu Ye's spirit ascended to an unimaginable height once again, yet this feeling differed from when he donned the Dragon Throne. Donning the Dragon Throne, he suddenly gained an extremely powerful external assistance that transcended his own limits, allowing him to view everything around him with a state of mind far beyond his own foundation.

This time, the enhancement was even more terrifying.

For a fleeting moment, Lu Ye's spirit seemed to blanket the entire Soaring Dragon World, sensing the location of each and every Sky-mending Platform with clarity.

All was silent, time flowing soundlessly through his consciousness; the whole world appeared at a standstill.

But he knew time had not stopped; it was his thinking that had transcended the constraints of heaven and earth.

While his power certainly had not reached such an inconceivable extent, he owed this capacity to Ye Liuli's final gift.

She had bestowed upon Lu Ye the Origin of this realm.

That wondrous power not only filled the void within Lu Ye himself, reviving him from near-death, but also enabled him to mobilize the forces of this world, to the extent of his reach!

If the power of the heavens and the earth were likened to a sword, then the Origin that Ye Liuli granted Lu Ye was the hilt that grasped the blade!

Holding the hilt of this heavenly and earthly sword, he wielded the power of this world.

Before the construction of the Sky-mending Platforms, many cultivators in the Soaring Dragon World shared a question: with such an astounding array covering the entire world, even divided into sixty-four platforms, who could possibly activate it?

Not even a reborn Divine Sea Realm cultivator could manage such a feat.

Indeed, the Divine Sea Realm cultivators lacked such capability.

Lu Ye had it!

Strictly speaking, only Lu Ye, who was within this realm, possessed such ability.

When the sword of the Soaring Dragon World, the heaven and earth, was wielded, the entire domain hummed in response.

Lu Ye returned to his senses, looking up at the Sky Ravine above, his sharp gaze seeming to pierce the barrier between two worlds, seeing the Blood World's location.

"Begone!" A roar, filled with the rage of heaven and earth, traversed the domain.

As the voice fell, the entire Soaring Dragon World violently shook.

The invisible fields of the intricate major array, in this instance, mobilized the tendency of heaven and earth, transforming into a formless shockwave that thundered into the Sky Ravine.

Boom...

The muffled sound erupted deep within the hearts of all beings.

In that instant, the Soaring Dragon World seemed to come alive, fiercely shaking itself off.

For a time, throughout the realm, the land quaked and mountains trembled.

The common people, oblivious to the truth, prostrated in droves, praying for divine protection.

Although the cultivators understood what was happening, they hadn't anticipated such a grand disturbance.

Before they could recover their wits, another humming arrived.

The heavens and earth quivered.

The third time...

The fourth time...

As if doomsday had come, the Soaring Dragon World underwent strange transformations, silent volcanoes erupted, great rivers and seas churned with waves, and over the vast ocean, a tsunami spanned the sky.

Atop the core Sky-mending Platform, Lu Ye's gaze was fixated on the sprawling Sky Ravine, relentlessly powering the major array, manipulating the tendency of heaven and earth.

His mood was more tense and solemn than ever before.

Because by wielding the forces of heaven and earth to counter the Blood World's influence, the pressure he bore was momentarily set aside. If he could not achieve a swift victory, the entire Soaring Dragon would face massive catastrophe. Whether the Blood World could be fended off was uncertain, but the Soaring Dragon would surely be destroyed first.

Chapter 742 Mending the Sky

The sixty-four Sky-mending Platforms simultaneously unleashed their potent abilities, creating an invisible force field that crisscrossed and filled the domain entirely.

The great momentum of heaven and earth was mobilized, and the entire domain seemed to have its own life, vigorously shaking its body.

Each shake caused the entire Soaring Dragon World to tremble and sway, with unusual phenomena occurring frequently in the heavens and earth.

The first few attempts had no obvious effects.

But starting from the fifth time, Lu Ye could clearly feel that the strange aura coming from within Sky Ravine had become weaker.

It was effective!

That strange aura was the aura of the Blood World, which clung to the Soaring Dragon World, devouring and sucking its origin and heritage, the unique aura of the Blood World then transmitted from within Sky Ravine.

Now that the aura of the Blood World had weakened, it undoubtedly indicated that the previous efforts had been effective.

Lu Ye dared not delay, held his breath, and focused his mind to continue driving the great momentum of heaven and earth.

The sixth time...

The seventh time...

After a full nine times, when the entire Soaring Dragon World was almost about to fall apart at its ultimate limit, Lu Ye's eyes shone like lightning as he looked deep into Sky Ravine.

He seemed to see a gigantic entity being flung out, rapidly moving away from the Soaring Dragon domain.

The aura of the Blood World, in that instant, weakened to an extreme point, almost imperceptible, with even that faint aura quickly dissipating.

It was a success!

If the Blood World were likened to a leech attached to a person, then this moment marked when the evil parasite was finally shrugged off by the Soaring Dragon World.

But it was only a half success!

Although the Blood World was shed, the wound that was Sky Ravine still existed. To rely on the power of the Soaring Dragon World itself for healing would take untold years; if this wound wasn't quickly mended, the Blood World could still attach itself again through the aura of the Soaring Dragon World, rendering all efforts futile.

Fortunately, Lu Ye was prepared.

Above the Sky-mending Platform, the wind howled wildly; Lu Ye's clothes snapped and fluttered, and his hair flew about him.

He looked toward the Sky Ravine above his head, slowly raising his hands; although he held nothing, it seemed as though he bore an immense pressure, making the act of lifting his hands extraordinarily difficult, and loud cracking sounds came from his flesh and blood.

Blood flowed from his 7th orifice, his spirit force and blood Qi boiled.

Little by little, inch by inch, he pushed his hands in the direction of the Sky Ravine, driving not his own strength, but the very foundation of the entire Soaring Dragon World.

"Mend... the sky!"

Those two mere words were roared out by Lu Ye using all his strength.

Beneath his feet, the Sky-mending Platform vibrated, and many intricate patterns flashed and transformed, forming a brilliant column of light that shot straight into the sky and toward the Sky Ravine.

At the same time, from the Sky-mending Platforms scattered throughout the Soaring Dragon, numerous luminous columns surged upwards, all sweeping toward the direction of the Sky Ravine.

In that instant, every being of the Soaring Dragon World, whether cultivators or ordinary people or beasts and birds, witnessed a scene they would never forget.

From various locations, sixty-four luminous columns soared up, converging toward the Sky Ravine and weaving through each other, in an instant around the Sky Ravine, an immense intricate array diagram suddenly emerged.

The array diagram resembled the pattern of the birthmark that Ye Liuli had shown Lu Ye for the last time on Wangyang Peak, back to back with him.

This was the Sky-mending Array derived by the Will of Heaven and Earth itself, manifested through Lu Ye's hands, a spectacular sight formed by the concerted efforts of the entire Soaring Dragon cultivation world.

Lu Ye knelt on the Sky-mending Platform, nearly exhausted, yet his gaze did not stray for a moment from the intersecting patterns of light that made up the array diagram next to the Sky Ravine.

Close to the end of the ordeal, now at the very final step, if successful, the sky-mending effort would be perfectly completed; if not, the Blood World might still return, and the fate of the Soaring Dragon World being destroyed could not be avoided!

However, Lu Ye did not witness the scene he had hoped for.

As those intersecting columns of light appeared next to the Sky Ravine, everything seemed to freeze.

There was a profound stillness between heaven and earth, as if even time had stopped flowing.

He turned his head to look around; the nearby Soaring Dragon World cultivators were still fixed in their expressions of tension, anxiety, and excitement, looking up at the sky, but as if an immobilization curse had been cast, they stood utterly still.

Lu Ye let out a sigh, feeling somewhat regretful.

After all, they had exerted so much effort and strained all of their strength, but not seeing a result, felt somewhat unsatisfactory.

But he had Insight in his heart, so he was not surprised.

He sat cross-legged on the Sky-mending Platform, stuffed a few elixir pills into his mouth to replenish his exhausted spirit, and then spoke softly, "Come out!"

"You indeed noticed,"

With the familiar voice, ripples danced through the Void, and a familiar figure stepped forth from the ripples, standing before Lu Ye.

Such an inconceivable method, even though Lu Ye had his suspicions about her identity, seeing it with his own eyes was still unbelievable.

Little Miracle Healer!

This woman, who had struck Lu Ye as slightly off from the first time he saw her, appeared before him just as everything in the world had been stilled.

About her identity, Lu Ye had already made some guesses.

Because after Ye Liuli had passed the origin of this world to him, he had gained Insight into the true nature of this world, and could clearly see every being in it.

Among these beings, Little Miracle Healer was the most unique. To describe it, she seemed completely out of place in the entire Soaring Dragon World, as if... she was not a being of the Soaring Dragon World!

In fact, she truly wasn't a creature of the Soaring Dragon World.

Her identity was confirmed at this moment, and even though Lu Ye had suspected it earlier, he was still overwhelmingly shocked.

"It's truly spectacular," Little Miracle Healer raised her head to look at the intertwining light columns beside Sky Ravine's array diagram, "I didn't think you would actually manage to achieve this."

"I didn't fulfill my duties," Lu Ye responded lightly, "After all, I couldn't see it to the end."

Little Miracle Healer pursed her lips in a smile, "Does being able to see the end truly matter? This is merely one possibility."

"So are you saying that this matter ultimately can't be accomplished?" asked Lu Ye.

Not being able to see the outcome was also an outcome, because even if the Sky-mending were successful at this moment, erasing Sky Ravine and preventing the foundation and aura of the Soaring Dragon World from leaking out, the Blood World would still not stop its pursuit.

Eight hundred years ago, when the Soaring Dragon World was flourishing, it was still dependent on the Blood World. Now, with its foundation greatly weakened, how could it withstand?

Even if it could escape temporarily, it couldn't escape forever.

This was something Lu Ye had thought about before, but he still gave his all for the Sky-mending matter.

Because only by doing everything humanly possible, could he then observe Heaven's Decree.

"Having this possibility is enough."

Lu Ye fell silent.

He obviously didn't quite agree with this statement.

He had tried so hard for so long, sacrificed so much, and in the end, not to see any outcome, naturally left him dissatisfied.

But at this moment, whether he was content or not was meaningless, because time could not be reversed, and no one could prevent what had already happened.

"What really happened during this period in the Soaring Dragon World?" Lu Ye asked.

"Want to take a look?"

"Can I see?" Lu Ye was surprised; he had only asked out of dissatisfaction, yet he did not expect to receive such a response.

"Others naturally can't see, but you are different. If you want to see, you can see it yourself!" Little Miracle Healer spoke mystically.

But Lu Ye just pondered briefly and then realized, "Heaven-Earth Origin!"

Ye Liuli had transferred her Heaven-Earth Origin to him, which is why he could be resurrected, and why he could now perceive many things he previously couldn't.

Like the uniqueness of Little Miracle Healer.

Like... this world had actually been destroyed long ago!

In the Ten Thousand Beasts Domain secret realm, Xia Qianqian had once told Lu Ye, large-scale secret realms set in the backdrop of an entire domain often recounted events that had happened in that world, only redisplayed by Heaven's Augury through some incomprehensible method.

Just like a slice of a time-space!

Cultivators from the Nine Provinces participated actively, involved in major events of this time period; by maneuvering according to the logic of nature, they could stir up some unexpected changes, leading to occurrences that had never happened in this time period.

Xia Qianqian was right.

The Soaring Dragon World had long been destroyed, and everything Lu Ye encountered this time, every person and event, was but a shard of the time-space of the Soaring Dragon World. It was only that with his ability, he couldn't see through the illusion, so everything he experienced felt real.

However, in this shard of time-space, because of Lu Ye's presence and efforts, the whole world had taken a different course, as if there were an alternate ending.

Because of this visitor from the Nine Provinces stirring up the situation, the Blood Race were completely driven out and exterminated; the Blood World was severed, and even the Sky-mending strategy reached its final moments.

This was the possibility Little Miracle Healer had mentioned...

But this couldn't change the fate already destined for the Soaring Dragon World.

Many things were illusory, only one thing was real.

The Heaven-Earth Origin Ye Liuli transferred to him.

Branded with the entire universe's information within the Heaven-Earth Origin, carrying all of universe's essence, which is why Little Miracle Healer said, if Lu Ye wanted to see, he could see it himself.

"What must I do?" Lu Ye spoke to ask.

Little Miracle Healer raised a hand and pointed toward his forehead.

Lu Ye hadn't even reacted before she had poked his forehead.

His entire being suddenly shook tremendously, his psyche seemed to have been shaken out of his body, and the surroundings rapidly transformed. Colors and lights darted and surged throughout his field of view.

It felt like a thousand years, yet also like it had only been a moment.

When Lu Ye regained his senses, he found his vision strangely altered.

High above, overlooking all living beings.

As if he had become the entirety of heaven and earth!

This was the information branded within the Heaven-Earth Origin, unseen by ordinary people, but since Lu Ye had obtained the Heaven-Earth Origin, he could naturally perceive its mysteries.

With a single thought, everything about Soaring Dragon World during this time period was imprinted into his heart.

Beneath Sky Ravine, heads tumbled, and Blood River surged while the Sky Ravine Sect incited a terrifying slaughter.

Old men frantically fled towards Medicine Valley, pursued by a large number of Sky Ravine Sect powerhouses.

Within Medicine Valley, there was a youth carrying a long knife, bringing his sister to seek medical help.

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The elder being chased was Huang Liang, the Sect Master of the Imperial Heaven Sect, who looked no different from the Huang Liang that Lu Ye had seen before. After all, during this time period, Huang Liang was supposed to look exactly like this, so there wouldn't be any change.

However, inside Medicine Valley, the Little Miracle Healer wasn't in the form of Hua Ci; she was a middle-aged woman with a gentle demeanor, neither particularly beautiful nor ugly.

The Young Master Ye Liu of Tyrannical Saber Villa, who had brought his seventh sister here seeking medical help, naturally didn't look like Lu Ye either; he was a young man with a resolute expression and the light of hatred burning in his eyes.

The illness suffered by Ye Liuli wasn't as Lu Ye had understood it to be; she had been innately deficient, thus plagued by illness since her early years.

She did not have a centipede-like birthmark on her back that bore a striking resemblance to the shape of Sky Ravine.

This was the true reality of the Soaring Dragon World.

And this point in time was precisely when the disaster of the Soaring Dragon World was about to begin.

Fa Hua and Liu Tianyi died in battle beneath Sky Ravine, still lending their fate to Heaven and Earth. They fought to the death, and before dying, they managed to send Huang Liang out of danger, allowing him to survive.

In Lu Ye's experience, he had just managed to set up a tremendous array within Medicine Valley. When Huang Liang fled there, he was saved by Lu Ye, ensuring his survival.

However, the many elders of the Sky Ravine Sect remained gathered outside of Medicine Valley, and Zhuang Bufan, wielding the might of the Dragon Throne, unleashed the last brilliance of his life, after which Lu Ye obtained the Dragon Throne.

This was what he had experienced within those snatches of time and space.

In the real Soaring Dragon World, the events unfolding at this point in time were not much different from what he had experienced.

The only difference was that the real Ye Liu didn't understand formations, so naturally, there was no such powerful array within Medicine Valley.

When Huang Liang fled there, it was Zhuang Bufan who stepped forward, killing the invading enemies. Soon after, Ye Liu, blessed with great destiny, had the Dragon Throne acknowledge him as its master.

What happened in the Soaring Dragon World after that started to diverge from Lu Ye's experience.

The Blood Race used the Blood River Great Array laid by the Sky Ravine Sect to descend into the Soaring Dragon World.

The Soaring Dragon cultivators fought desperately, but they were no match at all.

At the critical moment, Ye Liu donned the Dragon Throne, summoned the Dragon Spine Saber sealed beneath the tower of Vajra Temple, and slaughtered the enemies beneath Sky Ravine. Many strong members of the Blood Race were killed on the spot, managing to turn the tide of battle.

However, after that battle, Ye Liu also passed away due to a drain on his Origin, leaving him incurable.

What followed was years of bloody battles between cultivators from both realms!

Normally, the Soaring Dragon cultivators were no match for the visitors from the Blood World, but the shadow of the Dragon Throne appeared in every major battle.

One after another, the masters of the Dragon Throne stepped forward, burning their lives, postponing the doomed fate of the Soaring Dragon cultivation world.

However, the Soaring Dragon World was up against an existence like the Blood World, and the secret techniques of the Blood Race's cultivators had a very strong erosive effect on the spirituality of Spiritual Artifacts.

In those battles, the spirituality of the Dragon Throne was also eroded, its might gradually diminished.

Until the last battle, when a powerful member of the Blood Race brought an artifact from the Blood World, perishing together with the master of the Dragon Throne, it also severely damaged the Dragon Throne.

After this battle, the Soaring Dragon cultivation world no longer had the strength to resist; the Blood Race invaded on a large scale, leaving the entire Soaring Dragon in dire straits.

Time passed, and who knows how many years later, the vitality of the Soaring Dragon World was dim, its foundation almost completely drained, all living humans were captured by the Blood Race, turned into their nurtured Blood Food, and the Blood World left far behind, leaving a land full of devastation.

In the history of the Soaring Dragon World, everything that happened during this period was grand and tumultuous.

Facing that world-ending disaster, there was no Savior; all that awaited the Soaring Dragon was the hardship of resistance and the painful slow march towards extinction.

What Lu Ye had experienced was, after all, just another possibility within that slice of time and space, and not the actual reality.

At this moment, what entered his sight was a world utterly devoid of life, desolate to the extreme, where the entire world was silent, without life, without nature's spiritual energy, as if the whole world had already died.

This was the current state of the Soaring Dragon World.

Lu Ye snapped back to reality, the place where he stood was no longer the Sky-mending Platform that soared hundreds of feet high, but rather a bald mountain, devoid of any vegetation, littered only with broken stones and sand whipped up by the wind.

Witnessing the destruction of a world firsthand, the impact on Lu Ye's mind and spirit was unimaginable.

In the end, he was just a Cloud River Realm cultivator; he never imagined that one day he would have such an astonishing experience.

Last time in the secret realm of the Ten Thousand Beasts Domain, he had not experienced anything like this; back then, he just worked with other cultivators of the Haotian Alliance to resolve the source of the beast calamity in the Ten Thousand Beasts Domain.

Thinking about it now, the real Ten Thousand Beasts Domain is likely also in such a state.

An endless melancholy welled up in his heart, but it also imbued him with many new insights.

Compared to the world, how insignificant a cultivator is; a world can perish, let alone the cultivators within it.

He took out the Dragon Throne from his storage space and immediately saw that the previously intact Dragon Throne was now pitted and scarred on the surface, its spirituality greatly diminished, obviously no longer of much use.

The true reality of the Soaring Dragon World is that it had already been destroyed.

The true reality of the Dragon Throne was the same.

Although he had obtained the Dragon Throne in that temporal snapshot and even activated its mighty power, it was only recreated by Heaven's Augury through means beyond his comprehension.

The real Dragon Throne had already been severely damaged in the struggle of the Soaring Dragon cultivators against the Blood Race.

Even the blood-red Dragon Spine Saber had its divine light concealed, its surface dull, and numerous notches on its blade.

Stowing the Dragon Throne back carefully, although this divine object was already damaged and in a state that couldn't be wielded again, it was still a divine object. Should he encounter a highly skilled cover armorer in the future, perhaps an attempt could be made to repair it.

The strong cultivator of the Divine Sea Realm from the Thousand Contraptions Pavilion would probably be very interested in this item.

The Little Miracle Healer who looked like Hua Ci was still standing beside him, her expression calm.

"What's the situation with Liuli?" Lu Ye asked.

He had basically figured out everything about the Soaring Dragon World, he even had speculations regarding the identity of the woman beside him.

But he didn't dare to say or ask.

Some things are better left unclear even if you know the truth; poking too deep may not yield anything good.

The only person he was unsure about was Ye Liuli.

There indeed had been a person called Ye Liuli in the Soaring Dragon World during this period.

However, after Ye Liu's death, Ye Liuli also passed away silently, with her death unnoticed by the world, and in the end, it was the Little Miracle Healer who let her attendant arrange for her to be buried in Medicine Valley.

It could be said that in the history of the Soaring Dragon World, Ye Liuli hadn't played a role in changing the situation. At least Ye Liu had carried the fate of the world, donned the Dragon Throne, and helped the Soaring Dragon cultivators win the first battle against the Blood Race.

"The essence of the Liuli you encountered..." the Little Miracle Healer thought for a moment, "could be considered the last remaining Origin of this world, and also a persistence of will."

"Even the world can have a persistence of will?" Lu Ye was surprised.

"Once will is born, naturally, persistence arises."

Lu Ye understood, "So her persistence is that if there had been a savior-like figure in the Soaring Dragon World initially, perhaps there could have been a different future, without facing a destiny of destruction?"

"Exactly!" the Little Miracle Healer nodded.

"I see!"

Lu Ye had previously pondered over something, the damaged teleportation array leading to the secret realm of the Soaring Dragon World was a test, a challenge in the Array Path.

Only those who repaired the teleportation array were qualified to step foot into the secret realm of the Soaring Dragon World, because only such a person could have an extremely profound mastery of the Array Path, required to carry out the final Sky-mending scheme.

Now it seemed that this was indeed the case.

That was also the reason why the location of the teleportation array was near the Hundred Arrays Pagoda; those who came and went from the pagoda were array cultivators, and only those with a deep mastery of the Array Path could undertake such a major task.

Lu Ye repaired the teleportation array, entered the secret realm, and his subsequent performances had been recognized by the last remaining Origin of this world. That's why on Wangyang Peak, Ye Liuli transferred the Heaven-Earth Origin to him.

Lu Ye didn't disappoint her expectations, the sixty-four Sky-mending Platforms were activated, pushing the world's momentum to break free from its dependence on the Blood World. The Sky-mending Array diagram had emerged, it was just that the final result hadn't revealed itself.

Because the persistence of this world found its answer in him, the final outcome was no longer important.

But a silhouette is just a silhouette after all...

In the real history of the Soaring Dragon World, there was no person named Lu Ye, so it naturally couldn't avoid the destiny of destruction.

But the persistence of the world's will had been relieved.

"This world now belongs to you!" the Little Miracle Healer suddenly uttered something startling.

"Mine?" Lu Ye was astonished. Although when he received that final Origin, Lu Ye felt the connection between this world and himself become extremely close, the ownership of a world was still something shockingly unimaginable to him.

And moreover...

What use was a broken world devoid of any life to him?

"The last Origin of the world is in you, so naturally it is yours," the Little Miracle Healer said with a gentle smile.

A thought struck Lu Ye, "Can this world be restored?"

"That I do not know. Perhaps it can, it depends on how hard you're willing to work."

Lu Ye suddenly understood.

He needed to advance his cultivation.

He was only in the Cloud River Realm, even if there truly was a way to restore this world, it wasn't something the Cloud River Realm could touch.

"Then, may we meet again if fate allows," the Little Miracle Healer said before her figure suddenly dissipated into twinkling lights.

Her departure was abrupt.

Lu Ye quickly raised his hand, "How do I leave this place?"

But who was there to respond?

This understandably irritated Lu Ye.

The figures of Yiyi and Amber suddenly appeared beside him, both the spirit and the tiger looking extremely flustered.

"Lu Ye!" Yiyi rushed over, grabbing Lu Ye's arm with the demeanor of someone afraid to lose him again.

Just before, the spirit and the tiger were clearly observing the movements of the Great Sky-mending Array, but in the blink of an eye, the surroundings drastically changed and they found themselves on this lifeless barren hill, with no sign of Lu Ye in sight.

What panicked them even more was that no matter what they tried, they couldn't leave the small hill.

Just as they were at a loss, they looked up and saw Lu Ye's figure.

Amber leaped onto Lu Ye's chest, its claws frantically scrabbling to open his clothes and burrow inside, only its eyes peering out, watching the outside with vigilance.

Having never experienced such bizarre occurrences, it was truly frightened out of its wits!

Chapter 744 Seeing the Origin

On the desolate mountain, Lu Ye comforted Yiyi with a few words, finally calming her emotions.

After receiving explanations from Lu Ye, she gradually understood the current situation.

"So you're saying that the Soaring Dragon World had already perished a long time ago, and everything we've experienced was just an illusion?"

"To say it was an illusion... isn't exactly wrong, but it's more like a repetition of history."

"Is Liuli really the manifestation of the last Heaven and Earth's Will of the Soaring Dragon?"

"In the history of Soaring Dragon, there was a person named Ye Liuli, but the Liuli we met is different from the real her. The Liuli we encountered carried the last remnants of Origin of this world, as well as the persistent yearning of the Heaven and Earth's Will of this place."

Yiyi asked many more questions, and Lu Ye tried his best to answer them.

At last, a complex emotion emerged on Yiyi's face, "That's also quite good. At least, everything that you've done has been seen by this world. Liuli... she must have been very happy in the end, which is why she gave her power to you."

She gradually let go and showed a smile.

Ever since Ye Liuli dissipated into this world, Yiyi's mood hadn't been very high, not until this moment did she finally resolve her inner conflict.

Lu Ye couldn't help but recall the words Ye Liuli said on Wangyang Peak.

She said she had been waiting for a long time, and that she was almost unable to hold on...

It seemed that during the years since the destruction of the Soaring Dragon, the will of this world's Heaven and Earth had also been struggling, just to witness the possibility that might not have been known when it would appear.

Fortunately, in the end, she saw it.

Putting aside the many thoughts in his heart, Lu Ye looked around.

The journey to the Soaring Dragon World was at an end, but... how to leave this place?

The Little Miracle Healer surely knew how to leave; to her, taking him out of this broken world was probably just a matter of lifting a finger.

But she didn't do so, instead, she intentionally left him behind.

Looking at it this way, the key to departure... must be hidden within this world.

Or rather, it lay within the last of the Origin Power that Ye Liuli had imparted to him.

It seemed he would have to rely on himself.

Atop the mountain, the wind and sand swept through, and the environment was harsh.

Lu Ye led Yiyi and Amber down the desolate mountain and found a suitable spot at the foot of the mountain to create a cave as shelter from the dust and wind.

Sitting cross-legged inside, Lu Ye silently felt his own being.

Ever since Ye Liuli had imparted the last remaining Heaven-Earth Origin to him, he had been constantly busy with the grand scheme of repairing the heavens, occasionally pondering the profundity of it, but never deeply.

Now that he no longer needed to worry about the affairs of the Soaring Dragon, he could calm down and contemplate the mysteries contained within this wondrous power.

Time passed, and Lu Ye remained motionless.

Even though he had received the Origin Power some time ago, what exactly this kind of power was, Lu Ye couldn't clearly say.

It hadn't elevated his cultivation, nor had it increased his psyche's power, and it hadn't even given him any more means to kill enemies or protect himself.

But Lu Ye could still feel that this force existed within him, omnipresent yet impalpable, unseen and untouchable.

Further, with this Origin, his connection to the broken Soaring Dragon World was also incredibly close.

The Little Miracle Healer said this world was his now, which sounded frightening, but wasn't incorrect.

With the Origin coming into his possession, the world now had an owner.

As he delved deeper into understanding the Origin Power, Lu Ye even developed a sense that wherever his mind went, he could do anything in this world.

Of course, that was provided that the remaining power of this world could support his ideas.

Even though he felt it, he didn't rashly try anything because the Soaring Dragon World was already in ruins. If he impulsively drained its power, he feared it might completely disintegrate.

The broken world was a world nonetheless; perhaps in the future, there could be a way to restore it. If it were to completely fall apart, that would be a betrayal of Ye Liuli's final trust.

He continued to ponder.

Suddenly, he saw a faint light within his heart that was almost on the verge of extinguishing.

The last remaining Origin of the Soaring Dragon World!

The moment he caught sight of this light, Lu Ye understood its essence; this was indeed the Origin that Ye Liuli had imparted to him.

Even with the current state of Soaring Dragon right in front of him, it was clear to Lu Ye that the situation of its Origin could not be too good, but still, when the Origin flared into view, Lu Ye was shocked.

The light was as dim as a firefly's glow, flickering and nearly imperceptible.

Perhaps the state of the remaining Origin of the Soaring Dragon wasn't so bad in the beginning, but after countless years of waiting and the constant decay of the Soaring Dragon World, it naturally deteriorated.

The strength of the Origin was directly related to the prosperity or desolation of the world itself: the more prosperous the world, the more powerful the Origin.

Given Soaring Dragon's current state, the fact that a trace of Origin had been preserved was already a stroke of incredible luck, so one couldn't afford to ask for too much.

Furthermore, this piece of Origin must have been preserved thanks to the Heaven's Augury of the Nine Provinces; otherwise, it would have dissipated long ago.

Observing the ball of Origin, Lu Ye had a moment of clarity; it wasn't until this moment that he truly became the master of the Soaring Dragon World.

If the Soaring Dragon World were likened to a house, then this ball of Origin was the key to unlocking the door of the house.

Lu Ye had possessed the key for some time but had always been unable to use it.

Now he could take out the key, naturally, he could freely enter and leave this domain.

This also meant that Lu Ye could leave this domain at any time.

"It wasn't as hard as I thought it would be..." Lu Ye's eyebrows slightly rose, no wonder Little Miracle Healer didn't bother with him when she left. It seemed she was certain that he would be able to grasp the intricacies within.

Suddenly, Lu Ye felt a movement in his heart.

If he could freely enter and exit the Soaring Dragon domain, wouldn't it mean that he would have a place to avoid calamities and hide from danger whenever he encountered irresistible threats in the future?

If that were truly the case, then he wouldn't need to fear any pursuit!

In times of danger, he could just hide in the Soaring Dragon World, and come out when the danger had passed. What good methods could the Ten Thousand Demons Ridge have against him then?

However, he also had to guard against others who might be waiting constantly at the original spot, and how to know the danger outside had passed was also a big problem. Perhaps when he left the Soaring Dragon World, he would run right into a strong enemy waiting in ambush...

If such a thing happened, it would be troublesome.

As he thought this, however, Lu Ye felt that his idea might not be realized.

Because what he envisioned was an ideal state, and there must be many things he was not currently aware of.

Although he had found a way to leave this world, Lu Ye did not leave immediately.

Because he had not fully recovered.

When entering one place from another, it's best to keep oneself in perfect condition—this had always been Lu Ye's good habit.

He had entered the Soaring Dragon secret realm from the forbidden land outside the Hundred Arrays Pagoda. If his guess was correct, after leaving the Soaring Dragon World, he would return to that place.

Before that, a large group of cultivators from Ten Thousand Demons Ridge were hunting him.

After such a long time had passed, he didn't know what the situation was like in the forbidden land outside the Hundred Arrays Pagoda, but he still needed to take precautions.

While mending the heavens, he had faced tremendous pressure, and there were already some hidden injuries in his body, with serious consumption as well.

He had not yet completely recovered.

If the Dragon Throne had not been damaged, he wouldn't have feared, draped in the Dragon Throne, no matter how many from the Ten Thousand Demons Ridge came, they wouldn't be able to do anything to him.

But the Dragon Throne had long been in ruins in true history. Before restoration, there was no way to use it against enemies.

While recuperating, he observed the Origin of the Soaring Dragon World.

Such Origin Power, even if extremely weak, couldn't possibly only have the effect of letting him enter and exit the Soaring Dragon World freely—he desired to explore more mysteries from it.

His psyche slowly submerged into it.

Lu Ye sensed his own insignificance.

Even a feeble Origin was the remnant foundation of a world. It might not look much from the outside, but relative to a Cloud River Realm cultivator like Lu Ye, the inside was unimaginably vast.

At this moment, Lu Ye felt like a fledgling, fearless calf not afraid of tigers, an eagle plunging head-on into the vast stellar space.

And he, was that ignorant eagle...

Before his eyes, Myriad Stars twinkled, countless, beyond billions?

Some of the stars were dim, some were bright, each flickering uncertainly, dazzling to the beholder.

And all of this light, when gathered together, formed that cluster only like the light of a firefly that was the Origin.

Inside the Origin was such a magnificent world!

And...

"What are these?" Lu Ye looked at the incalculable starlight and fell into deep thought.

Although he had peered into this part of the Origin through the convenience of being the master of the Soaring Dragon World, he couldn't figure out what these starlights were.

Focusing, he felt nothing particularly profound from those starlights.

Lu Ye controlled his psyche, moving closer to a nearby point of starlight.

The reason he chose this one was naturally that this starlight was the brightest one nearby.

Without any obstruction, his psyche surged into that point of starlight. Then, the world spun around him, his vision blurred, and the loud cries of babies reached his ears.

A woman's weak moans were heard, and others cheered as they ran outside.

"Born, born, the master, madam has given birth!"

"Boy or girl?"

"Congratulations, master, it's a chubby boy."

"Hahaha, heaven has not forsaken our Qin family; our Qin family finally has an heir!"

...

Chaotic voices entered his ears, leaving Lu Ye utterly bewildered.

Where was this? What had happened?

He was just peering into a point of starlight within the Soaring Dragon Origin. How did everything suddenly become so chaotic?

The infant's cries continued, and it was only then that Lu Ye abruptly realized.

He had become an infant!

That wasn't quite right either. It was as if he had possessed an infant— he could feel the frailness and tenderness of this newborn body, but he was unable to control it.

At this moment, his state was like that of a bystander, standing behind this baby, feeling all that it could feel, seeing all that it could see, but unable to control it.

What... what was going on?

Chapter 745 Huge Treasure

Almost at the moment when Lu Ye's psyche merged with the bright starlight, Yiyi, who was on guard nearby, suddenly looked up and turned her gaze towards Lu Ye.

It happened again!

Lu Ye's psyche had vanished once more!

All that remained before her was an empty shell with only a semblance of vitality.

This phenomenon had occurred before; at that time, it had given both her and Amber quite a scare, and only now did she realize that Lu Ye's psyche had left his body to enter the secret realm of Xianyuan City.

What about this time?

There was no sign of Lu Ye activating the power of the Breath Fruit Core, so where did his psyche go?

"Awoo..." Amber softly growled at her side, obviously sensing something as well.

"Don't worry, Lu Ye will return soon." Rather than reassuring Amber, Yiyi's words were more like a self-consolation.

Fortunately, having experienced this before, she found it less shocking. While still nervous, she was not as worried as the last time.

...

In that bizarre scene, the sound of a newborn's crying still echoed in Lu Ye's ears, leaving him utterly confused and unsure of his current situation.

He had never experienced such a state before; it felt as if he were present with this infant, sharing his experiences, yet unable to control him or make him aware of his presence.

The voice of the old master rang out once again, "Stars scattered across the sky, the bright sun and moon, let's name him Zhao then!"

The family head's surname was Qin, and the newborn was thus named Qin Zhao.

As soon as this thought occurred to Lu Ye, his field of vision shifted once again.

A teenager, with ruddy lips and white teeth, knelt before his parents and respectfully kowtowed, "Father, Mother, I am setting off now, and I won't be able to serve at your side. Please take care of yourselves in the days to come."

The teenager, none other than a matured Qin Zhao.

In front of him, a woman of elegant appearance wept heavily, unable to conceal her reluctance as she held onto Qin Zhao's hands, unwilling to let go.

An older man with his eyes closed solemnly advised, "Don't worry about home affairs. Our Qin family has been in commerce for generations, and though wealthy, we are ultimately mere mortals. Now that you possess the aptitude for cultivation, you are bound to embark on a different path from our ancestors. When outside, remember to adhere to your true nature and avoid causing trouble."

Qin Zhao sniffled in response, "I'll remember what Father has taught. Once my cultivation succeeds, I will return to serve you."

"Go on!" The head of the Qin family waved his hand gently.

Qin Zhao kowtowed three times before standing and walking away. Outside the Qin Residence, servants had already prepared a fine horse. The youngster mounted the horse and from that point on, the vast sea was his to explore, and the sky was his to soar.

The scene shifted again...

Qin Zhao traveled far and wide, eventually arriving at the Refining Magic Pavilion, participating in the grand ceremony for apprentice induction, overcoming the tests, and successfully becoming a disciple.

Following that, Qin Zhao displayed an aptitude and advantage among his peers that was difficult to match. He rose rapidly and soon caught the eye of the sect's higher-ups, who nurtured him vigorously, opening up many secret tomes and techniques to him.

However, the good times did not last long before the Refining Magic Pavilion was destroyed by a rival sect, leading to its annihilation. Qin Zhao narrowly escaped death and struggled to survive.

Fortunately, he was lucky, stumbling upon an opportunity in the vast mountains. He shut himself away in bitter cultivation, with his cultivation growing day by day.

After reaching the Divine Sea Realm and emerging from seclusion, he avenged his sect's elders.

When he returned to the Qin Residence, it was already empty, and the elder couple had long passed away, with the family wealth divided among distant relatives.

Heartbroken, Qin Zhao honored his parents' memory for three years in front of their graves, then rebuilt the Refining Magic Pavilion. With his formidable cultivation and renowned reputation, he quickly established the Refining Magic Pavilion as one of the top sects in the Soaring Dragon domain, and he himself became one of its top cultivators.

Until his lifespan was exhausted, and he passed away in meditation.

Scene by scene flickered and changed, the intervals of time jumping unpredictably, but each switch was an important milestone in Qin Zhao's life.

The tumultuous yet uncertain life of Qin Zhao was vividly presented before Lu Ye, and due to his unique state, it was as if he had accompanied Qin Zhao throughout his life.

Lu Ye vicariously experienced many of Qin Zhao's realizations in cultivation as if he himself were cultivating.

Gradually, Lu Ye began to understand what he was experiencing.

Heaven-Earth Origin has borne witness to countless creatures throughout history.

The river of history flows on, and even sects with long histories may not be able to record extremely ancient events.

Disasters, whether natural or man-made, and interruptions in tradition often lead to the loss of many important records.

People may forget, but the Heaven-Earth Origin remembers.

Every creature that has existed in this domain has left their mark or imprint.

The stronger the creature, the clearer the imprint left behind.

All these imprints exist within the Heaven-Earth Origin.

In other words, the myriad stars Lu Ye saw, each point of light corresponding to a trace of existence of a creature that lived in the Soaring Dragon domain at some point in time.

The bright starlight that Lu Ye chose was the trace of a strong cultivator named Qin Zhao, who left his mark in this domain during a specific period in the Soaring Dragon World.

With the identity of the Lord of Soaring Dragon, he glimpsed Qin Zhao's entire life and accompanied him throughout the entire journey of his existence.

Of course, the time spent was certainly not equivalent to Qin Zhao's lifespan. Qin Zhao was a strong cultivator of the Divine Sea Realm, and he had passed away naturally, living for at least eight hundred years.

What Lu Ye experienced with him were the most important events of Qin Zhao's life, because only these significant incidents that influenced Qin Zhao's fate left traces that endured such a long stretch of time, allowing Lu Ye to witness them.

Ordinary trivialities would not leave any trace.

He witnessed firsthand a powerhouse from birth, to the peak of power, and then to death.

This greatly moved Lu Ye, yet if it were just that, there would have been no benefit to him.

The key point was that while he was inhabiting Qin Zhao's body in that special state, he could feel everything that Qin Zhao felt.

In other words, if Qin Zhao gained any special insights in cultivation, Lu Ye could understand them clearly, and if Qin Zhao practiced any secret techniques, Lu Ye could grasp them effortlessly.

The value of this was enormous!

As a result, Lu Ye could follow along and learn everything that Qin Zhao knew about cultivation without any effort, such as various secrets of the Refining Magic Pavilion that were never passed on.

And this was just one Qin Zhao.

How many heroes and mighty figures had the Soaring Dragon World given rise to throughout its endless years?

Inside the grand Origin, there were countless bright stars twinkling, with some being just as bright as, or even brighter than, Qin Zhao's star, with quite a few such individuals.

This was clearly a treasure trove ready to be excavated, a cache that contained the essence of every era of the Soaring Dragon World.

Realizing this, Lu Ye felt a surge of excitement within him.

The gift from Ye Liuli appeared to be far more precious than he had imagined, and what he had obtained was definitely not just a dim piece of the Heaven-Earth Origin.

The only disappointment for Lu Ye was that, according to the classification of the cultivation sects in the Nine Provinces, Qin Zhao was considered a magic cultivator, so even if Lu Ye gained something this time, it wasn't of much help to him.

After all, he was a combat cultivator who used a saber. Magic cultivation was just a secondary pursuit that he had not yet devoted much effort to. So far, the only magic and spells he could use were the Fire Phoenix and Fire Dragon, along with a few spirit runes from the Talent Tree that could form magic and spells.

But in the many years of the Soaring Dragon World's history, there would certainly be no lack of powerful combat cultivators who used sabers. If he could find traces left by them and comprehend their subtleties, that would be much more useful than understanding any saber skills or cultivation insights.

Those saber masters were in essence living compilations of saber skills and cultivation insights. Wasn't their hands-on guidance more effective than observing the preserved texts?

Moreover, since this was his first time experiencing such an event, he remained a mere observer in the rapidly changing scenes without any interference.

However, he could feel that to some extent he could interfere with the flow of those scenes, and he could even make the scenes move forward or backward to a specific time frame.

For example, during the time when Qin Zhao was practicing a certain secret technique, if he moved to that moment, then Lu Ye could train alongside Qin Zhao, reaching the same level of mastery as him.

As numerous thoughts flitted through his mind, Lu Ye suddenly felt a tremendous wave of exhaustion sweep over him.

This was due to an immense consumption of mental power.

He suddenly realized that engaging in such an activity still exacted a toll on him.

But it was also understandable, even though he was the Lord of Soaring Dragon and even though the Origin was hidden within his body, if he wanted to gain something, it was natural that he had to pay a price.

It was time to leave.

With a thought, Lu Ye's psyche swiftly detached from Qin Zhao and traveled through the vast stellar space.

Many lights, bright or dim, flickered uncertainly in his field of vision.

In the next instant, Lu Ye became aware of his physical body.

"Lu Ye!" Yiyi's voice called out from beside his ear.

Lu Ye opened his eyes, a faintly weary look in his pupils, and upon a quick assessment, he was relieved to find that although his mental power was severely drained, it had not yet reached depletion.

"How long has it been?" Lu Ye asked.

During the time he inhabited Qin Zhao, while he had accompanied the other through his entire lifespan, Lu Ye felt that real time had not passed by much.

"Almost two days," Yiyi replied.

The last time Lu Ye entered Xianyuan City, he had fallen silent for seven to eight days, so waking up after just two this time meant Yiyi wasn't too panicked.

"What happened?"

Lu Ye slowly shook his head, "It's a bit complicated, I'll tell you later."

The situation was somewhat awkward. He originally intended to fully recover and leave the desolate Soaring Dragon World, but unexpectedly ended up weary again, needing further recuperation.

However, for Lu Ye, restoring his mental power was much simpler than regaining spirit force.

Because he had soul water.

Long-term consumption of soul water had greatly benefited the growth of his psyche, which was why Lu Ye's psyche was much stronger than that of cultivators at the same level. Therefore, even though soul water was extremely valuable and rare, he never skimped on it when it mattered. The best items, when used at the right time, reveal their true value, while hoarding them indiscriminately brings no benefits.

Chapter 746 Hua Ci Arrives

After swallowing a drop of soul water, it took less than the time of one incense stick for Lu Ye to fully recover.

He slowly got up, greeted Yiyi and Amber, and took one last look at the dilapidated Soaring Dragon World.

It was time to leave!

With a thought, ripples formed in the Void before him.

Faintly, a familiar aura emanated from those ripples—it was the aura of the Cloud River battlefield.

To Lu Ye's surprise, he could actually see through the layers of ripples and observe the situation outside.

It was just like a reflection on water!

In his line of sight, he indeed saw the forbidden land outside the Hundred Arrays Pagoda, the very place where he had entered the Soaring Dragon World through the teleportation array.

But near that teleportation array, there were figures seated, dense and numerous—there must have been hundreds of them at a glance.

He recognized several familiar faces among them.

Xia Liang, Tan Sheng, as well as Chu Yun and Zhou Pei from the Sacred Fire Order who had chased him out of Heaven's Augury City...

These people had surrounded the area near the altar so tightly that the moment he showed himself, he would be met with a tempest of attacks.

Thieves after his life were relentless!

The worst had happened.

The Soaring Dragon World was merely a secret realm after all, and Lu Ye knew that he would have to leave it sooner or later.

Whether the Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators would be waiting outside had always been a concern of his. And now, it seemed his worries were justified; he truly was trapped.

Lu Ye's expression turned slightly cold.

How long had it been?

He had stayed in this Soaring Dragon World for at least a month and a half. Such a long time had passed, and these people still had the patience to wait here?

It annoyed him but also amused him at the same time. He clearly understood it was because of the tempting bounty on him. The bounty was so huge that regardless of whether they held any grudge against him or not, everyone wanted a piece of the pie when the opportunity arose.

What comforted Lu Ye slightly was that he could see the situation outside, but those outside seemed unable to see him. Thus, the Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators showed no unusual reactions at this moment.

However, several suspected array cultivators were examining the damaged teleportation array on the altar, seemingly attempting to repair the formation. Unfortunately, given their level of expertise in the Array Path, it was naturally unlikely for them to succeed.

In this situation, rashly rushing out would definitely be disastrous.

But if he didn't go out, would he just keep hiding in the Soaring Dragon World?

Seeing the posture of the Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators, it didn't look like they were leaving anytime soon.

Not that it wasn't an option... Although the Soaring Dragon World was dilapidated, it didn't affect his ability to consume pills and cultivate.

As he was thinking this, he suddenly spotted a familiar figure in the crowd.

Hua Ci!

She had actually come to the Cloud River battlefield.

But that was also normal. Hua Ci had long had the credentials to advance to the Cloud River level. The only reason she hadn't advanced yet was that the environment of the Ten Thousand Poisons Forest was too suitable for her cultivation, which was why she had remained there to refine the power of the Ten Thousand Poisons Forest.

The last time he visited her, the scale of the Ten Thousand Poisons Forest had dramatically reduced. So much time having passed, the source of poison there had probably been completely refined by her.

Naturally, she would be advancing to the Cloud River.

Her appearance here was clearly no coincidence—it must have been that she had heard some news about him.

However, looking at her current state...

How come...

It seemed...

That she was captured?

But she hadn't encountered any harsh treatment; within the Nine Provinces, even though cultivators of the two great factions opposed each other, they always maintained a lenient attitude toward healing cultivators.

Even if an enemy's healing cultivator was captured, no harsh action would be taken. It was even possible for the healing cultivator's friends and family to redeem them by spending some wealth.

This was a privilege uniquely enjoyed by healing cultivators.

After all, everyone needed the aid of healing cultivators at some point, and across the entire Nine Provinces, there weren't many of them. If they were killed upon capture, it wouldn't take many years for the healing cultivators of both factions to be wiped out.

At the moment, Hua Ci was healing someone, her body emanating a green glow full of vitality.

Looking at those Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators and the nearby terrain, Lu Ye gradually realized that a battle had erupted here!

...

Outside the altar, many Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators were restless.

Xia Liang, sitting still, looked particularly gloomy.

One and a half months ago, when Lu Yiye emerged from the Hundred Arrays Pagoda, he, along with Tan Sheng, Chu Yun, Zhou Pei, and others, had collectively taken action. However, they failed to kill him and instead let him escape into the forbidden land, vanishing without a trace.

Afterwards, he had rallied the array cultivators of the Ten Thousand Demons Ridge to unite and decipher the formations of the forbidden land, vowing to dig three feet into the ground if necessary to find Lu Ye.

The formations within the forbidden land were numerous and tremendously powerful; normally, the array cultivators of the Ten Thousand Demons Ridge would not dare to trespass recklessly.

However, when the array cultivators of Ten Thousand Demons Ridge learned they were searching for Lu Ye, their interest was piqued.

With such coordinated efforts, progress was not slow; one after another, long-standing formations were broken until they found an altar with a damaged teleportation array.

The sudden appearance of an inexplicable altar in such a place was clearly hiding some opportunity.

After inspection by the array cultivators of Ten Thousand Demons Ridge, it was confirmed that the formation on the altar had been activated recently.

Looking over the Cloud River battlefield, who else but Lu Ye could repair a damaged teleportation array and activate it?

Thus, Xia Liang and the others immediately concluded that it must have been Lu Ye who activated the teleportation array, but as for where he went, no one knew.

Such an altar would undoubtedly lead to a secret realm!

Lu Yiye, burdened with a hefty reward, and a secret realm full of unknown opportunities, either was enough to motivate the cultivators of Ten Thousand Demons Ridge.

So these days, the array cultivators of Ten Thousand Demons Ridge had been attempting to repair the teleportation array, but alas, the progress was minimal.

The actions of Ten Thousand Demons Ridge naturally couldn't be concealed from the cultivators of the Haotian Alliance, and once the news spread, many from the Haotian Alliance came to investigate.

However, under the direction of Xia Liang and Tan Sheng, all who came with covetous intentions from the Haotian Alliance were repelled.

Regardless of Lu Ye, the opportunity hidden in this altar was something that Ten Thousand Demons Ridge was also unwilling to let the Haotian Alliance touch.

Over the past month, the two groups of cultivators had clashed several times, but fortunately, both sides had been somewhat restrained, and no major casualties had occurred.

This was also the reason why Hua Ci was captured and ended up healing the cultivators of Ten Thousand Demons Ridge.

She had entered the Cloud River battlefield a month ago and upon hearing that Lu Ye had run into trouble, she immediately rushed to this location.

"Brother Xia, people are becoming restless, and it's unlikely they'll hold out much longer," Tan Sheng walked up to Xia Liang and said softly.

Having seen no sign of Lu Yiye in a month and a half, and with no improvement in the repair of the formation, many cultivators from Ten Thousand Demons Ridge gathered here had already lost their patience.

With this idle time, they might as well wander around the Cloud River battlefield, perhaps stumbling upon a Heaven-bestowed spirit fortune stick, or some other opportunity.

The Cloud River battlefield was never short of various opportunities.

Lu Ye only saw a few hundred people gathered here, but before this, there had been thousands of Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators assembled.

Only so few remained because most had grown impatient and left.

If there's no progress soon, even the few hundred who remained might gradually disperse.

"Mediocre minds are not worth contemplating; don't bother about them," Xia Liang huffed. If they lacked even this bit of patience, what right did they have to vie for the immense bounty on Lu Yiye?

He had deliberately delayed his own advancement in True Lake for the sake of killing Lu Ye. For these past months, his cultivation had stagnated. Eliminating Lu Ye, then slaying Li Baxian, had almost become his obsession.

Because he could feel that his own opportunities were not plentiful.

When he first met Lu Yiye, in the hunting grounds, he had been driven into a corner by Xia Liang and had had no choice but to use the Golden Body Token to call upon the Heaven's Augury Pillar for a miraculous escape.

Latterly, at the Great Reversal Valley Spirit Ground, Lu Yiye had, leveraging the power of a formation, disgraced himself and his comrades, resulting in the loss of Wei Que.

Every time he saw him afterward, Lu Yiye's strength had significantly increased.

Until the last time, when he emerged from the Hundred Arrays Pagoda and survived a joint attack by four Cloud River Level 9 cultivators.

With such a terrifying rate of progression, if he didn't seize the chance to eliminate him now, he feared he would soon lose the opportunity altogether.

Therefore, even if it meant not advancing to True Lake, he had to kill Lu Ye first.

Only with Lu Ye dead could he confidently and boldly assault the Great Reversal Valley Spirit Ground to kill Li Baxian and avenge Yanh Xing.

"Chu Yun and Zhou Pei won't leave," seeing Tan Sheng still somewhat anxious, Xia Liang spoke again.

The people of the Sacred Fire Order were particularly persistent; since these two had set their sights on Lu Ye, they would certainly not give up easily, not to mention the deep grievances between the Sacred Fire Order and the Righteous Blood Sect.

Tan Sheng nodded.

As long as Chu Yun and Zhou Pei stayed, the four of them together didn't need to fear much. If others truly wanted to leave, they couldn't force them to stay.

...

Fifty li away from the damaged teleportation array altar, Li Baxian, Feng Yuechan, and Giant Armor were secretly hiding.

If Hua Ci could receive the news and rush here directly, so could they. However, with the enemy numerous and powerful, the three of them had no chance of success.

Moreover, Li Baxian dared not show himself rashly; if discovered by Xia Liang, it was very likely he would be targeted, and instead of rescuing anyone, he might end up sacrificing himself.

"What did sister Hua Ci say?" Feng Yuechan turned to Li Baxian and asked.

Thinking of sister Hua Ci, Feng Yuechan couldn't help but feel admiration.

Although Hua Ci was just a healing cultivator, she wasn't easily captured; of all the Haotian Alliance cultivators who charged into battle formations, none were captured by Ten Thousand Demons Ridge except for Hua Ci.

This wasn't due to her being foolish but rather intentional.

Even with the status of a healing cultivator as protection, such bold moves were somewhat audacious; looking at such a gentle person, one wouldn't expect such surprisingly resolute actions.</p>

Chapter 747

In the Soaring Dragon World, the moment Lu Ye glimpsed Hua Ci through what seemed like a reflective surface of water, his heart settled greatly!

The matters of today are secure!

He had originally hesitated whether to stay in the Soaring Dragon World for a longer period of cultivation, waiting until the Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators had mostly dispersed before leaving. Now, that was no longer necessary.

With a thought, the water-like ripples in front of him suddenly became more real.

At the altar that held the remnants of a broken teleportation array, several array cultivators from Ten Thousand Demons Ridge were deliberating how to repair the teleportation array before them when an unexpected change occurred.

Above the altar, the Void, which was like a calm lake surface, was disturbed as if a stone had been thrown in, creating mysterious ripples.

The array cultivators were all taken aback, one of them asked, "Brother Yuan, what did you do?"

The one called Brother Yuan was completely baffled, "I didn't do anything. I was just trying to see if the formation could be activated directly without repairing it."

Who knew it would actually work?

The array cultivators were overjoyed. Had they known this earlier, why would they have bothered repairing it?

Just as they were thinking this, a figure suddenly appeared within the ripples.

It stunned several array cultivators.

While there was an anomaly here, the nearby Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators had also noticed, so the moment that figure was revealed, someone was overjoyed and exclaimed, "Lu Yiye!"

Faintly, through the ripple-like reflection, they saw Lu Ye's figure and saw a world desolate and lifeless, seemingly headed towards destruction.

Someone quick-witted, recognizing Lu Ye the instant he appeared, already unleashed the power of weapon control and magic and spells aiming to strike first for an upper hand. However, all attacks passed through Lu Ye's figure without causing him any harm.

More cultivators from Ten Thousand Demons Ridge converged from all around, turning the scene into chaos.

In the crowd, Xia Liang, Tan Sheng, and others stared intently at Lu Ye's reflection, unable to discern his actual state with their keen eyes. They faintly felt that this reflection was not substantial, thus even striking out was pointless.

But having waited here for one and a half months, and finally seeing a turn of events, they were naturally thrilled.

This time, they were determined to kill Lu Yiye by any means and could not allow him to escape again!

"You..." On the other side of the crowd, a Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivator stared blankly at the gentle woman in front of him, not knowing why he suddenly found the smile of this healing cultivator from the Haotian Alliance somewhat bewitching.

"Sorry about this," said the woman, her voice as tender as water, baffling the Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivator who was receiving her treatment.

Then he witnessed an unbelievable scene.

A layer of emerald light, emanating from the gentle woman's delicate body, suddenly transformed into a thick green fog and violently swept in all directions.

From the emergence to the spread of the green fog, it all occurred in a single breath's time. At that moment, almost everyone's attention was drawn to Lu Ye's reflection, completely unaware of this change.

The emerald fog instantly enveloped an area of hundreds of yards. At the same time, at the places where Hua Ci had once walked, huge, colorful, and vivid mushrooms suddenly sprang out of nowhere. They grew rapidly from small to large as if someone was inflating them. The bright mushrooms swiftly expanded and then burst open, releasing countless tiny spores that were invisible to the naked eye, mingling with the rollicking green fog, with the sound of 'puff puff puff' incessant to the ears.

"What is this?" Cries of alarm arose.

"It's poison!"

"Damn it, the Haotian Alliance has poisoned us!"

"Get out quickly!"

...

Screams erupted one after another. The scene, already chaotic due to Lu Ye's sudden appearance, became even more tumultuous.

Figures shot into the sky, quickly escaping the area covered by the poison fog. Even so, these cultivators felt an unbearable itching as if countless insects were wriggling in their flesh, and what frightened them even more was the sluggishness starting to affect the flow of their spirit force.

The Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators reacted swiftly to this anomaly; in just three breaths' time, almost everyone had fled.

Only Xia Liang and a few others like Tan Sheng remained in front of the altar.

It wasn't that they were immune to all poisons; this sudden poison fog was something they could not easily resist, coupled with the sinister spores from those bizarre mushrooms. The longer they stayed, the worse their predicament became.

But Xia Liang saw clearly that just as Lu Yiye's figure appeared, seemingly about to step out from somewhere, this strange change occurred.

This was clearly someone working with Lu Yiye from inside, looking to escape from this place.

Therefore, he was unwilling to just back down. Having failed to kill Lu Yiye several times, his patience was wearing thin.

Standing in the midst of the poison fog, he stared intensely at the layer of reflection-like light screen, looking toward Lu Ye who seemed to be in another space. He had thought that the other party couldn't see him, but unexpectedly, Lu Ye looked up, meeting his gaze, and revealed a provoking smile.

"Dammit!" Xia Liang was furious!

If he could see him, Lu Ye could also see him!

"Brother Xia, we need to leave!" Tan Sheng's face was greenish. Having stood in the dense green fog for less than 10 breaths, his strength felt suppressed by about thirty percent. Staying longer might make the situation worse, unsure whether they would be poisoned to death; but if Lu Yiye broke out, given his current state, he might not be able to withstand him.

Saying this, he didn't wait for Xia Liang's agreement but grabbed him and soared into the sky.

"Ahhh!" Xia Liang roared.

How he hated this!

Boundless Rage!

When the opportunity was right in front of him, when he could have finally killed Lu Yiye, why did such an upheaval occur?

Who was it that tampered from behind the scenes?

Almost at the same time Xia Liang and Tan Sheng left, Lu Ye also took a step forward.

With one step across, there was now a difference of a domain.

He felt a slight regret; it seemed that the plan to take refuge in the Soaring Dragon domain at the face of danger was no longer feasible.

He realized that if he truly walked out from the Soaring Dragon domain, there would be a slight delay, though this process only lasted for a short three to five breaths. Yet, for a powerful cultivator, those three to five breaths had too many variables.

And that was just the exit.

When taking refuge in the Soaring Dragon domain through Soaring Dragon Origin, what would that be like?

That, he would have to personally try in the future to find out.

A familiar aura hit him face-on, one that he hadn't paid much attention to while constantly active on the Cloud River battlefield. However, after experiencing the desolation of the Soaring Dragon domain, he was now able to appreciate the beauty of the Cloud River battlefield.

It was filled with vitality and a zest for life.

The reflection behind him, resembling the surface of water, soon disappeared.

Without hesitation, Lu Ye immediately activated his Move-Like-The-Wind and dashed towards the direction in his memory.

In that direction, amidst the thick fog, Hua Ci stood quietly, a Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivator by her feet, seemingly asleep, with a peaceful expression.

Suddenly, she lifted her gaze forward. Although she couldn't see anything, she could distinctly feel a vastly strong vitality rapidly approaching her.

"This powerful?" Hua Ci's face showed surprise.

As a healing cultivator—who was, for the time being, considered one—her perception of vitality was sharper than that of other cultivators.

The last time Lu Ye visited her in the Ten Thousand Poisons Forest, though his vitality was robust, it wasn't to such an exaggerated extent.

Such vitality... she had only seen it in Shui Yuan.

In other words, speaking of vitality alone, Lu Ye of the Cloud River Realm could now be almost comparable to Shui Yuan, who had achieved the Divine Sea Realm.

This was undoubtedly a very incredible thing.

Had Hua Ci not been certain that the vitality was Lu Ye's, she would have thought it was someone else rushing towards her.

Little did she know, just nearly a month ago, Lu Ye had been depleted of his origin, withered in appearance, and nearly dead in the Soaring Dragon domain.

The immense vitality he now had was all brought by the Soaring Dragon Origin.

Even though only a trace of the Soaring Dragon Origin remained, it was, after all, the origin of a world, which was still immensely vast compared to an individual like a cultivator.

It was as though a drying ocean had poured its last waters into Lu Ye, a small pond, bringing him benefits that were far more significant than mere resurrection.

Winds pounded against him, and immediately afterward, Hua Ci felt herself being wrapped around the waist by someone, and a familiar voice rang by her ear: "Hold on to me!"

The tone was decisive and unquestionable, subtly infused with an irresistible dominance.

Hua Ci involuntarily opened her arms and embraced the man before her.

With a swish...

Red spirit force flowed out, spreading behind Lu Ye, forming a pair of wings. Intricate patterns on the wings flashed with light, enhanced by the Move-Like-The-Wind.

Surrounded by enemies from all directions, in this perilous situation with the tender warmth of a beautiful woman in his arms, her familiar body fragrance lingering around his nose, Lu Ye's state of mind immediately stabilized.

Looking down, eye to eye with Hua Ci, Lu Ye smiled slightly, "Let's go!"

Hua Ci was stunned by his smile for a moment, still not recovering when her body suddenly swept forward at an incredibly fast speed.

The speed was something she had never experienced before, making her let out a low cry of surprise.

Boom...

Within the dense green fog, a figure brimming with energy ferociously burst forth, the red wings behind him flapping, blowing a hole through the thick fog.

"Lu Yiye!" a cultivator from the Ten Thousand Demons Ridge exclaimed upon seeing this scene.

In the direction forward of Lu Ye, there were suddenly more than ten people spread out, all on high alert.

Seeing Lu Ye charging towards them, they were overjoyed and rushed forward to meet him.

"Clang!"

The Boulder Mountain Saber was unsheathed.

Lu Ye, with one arm cradling Hua Ci's soft waist, held her tightly against him, with a force that almost made her feel like she was melting into his body, wielding the saber in his other hand looking like a fierce beast that had just broken out of its cage, wrapped in endless ferocity and violence.

"Those who obstruct me, die!"

The long saber cleaved through the Void, its light flashing; screams ensued, and those Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators confronting Lu Ye fell like raindrops.

Chapter 748 Really Made It

High above the sky, a fire-red streak, like a red thunderbolt, flashed and disappeared in an instant.

Behind it, a large swath of light pursued relentlessly, with killing intent surging.

Leading them were none other than Xia Liang and Tan Sheng.

Observing Lu Ye's figure from afar, Xia Liang's murderous thoughts surged, but he felt a tinge of relief, because he noticed that the fluctuations of spirit force on Lu Ye's body had barely changed compared to one and a half months ago. In other words, his cultivation hadn't increased much.

This allowed him to breathe a sigh of relief.

All along, Lu Ye's growth rate had been alarmingly fast for him. Others might not have made much progress in one and a half months, but that was uncertain when it came to Lu Ye.

Now seeing that Lu Ye was still only at the Cloud River Level 6, he naturally relaxed.

But he soon realized that something was not quite right.

That bastard Lu Yiye, his cultivation might not have made much progress, but his speed seemed to have increased quite a bit from before.

Because the speed shown by Lu Ye at this moment was almost the same as last time.

However, last time he was alone, and this time he was holding someone in his arms, which naturally made a world of difference.

Furthermore, all of them had been poisoned, with sluggish spirit force circulation in their bodies, and everyone's strength had declined.

This meant that even though the pursuers were giving their all, they couldn't close the distance with Lu Ye and were even being gradually left further behind.

Damn it!

How could a mere Cloud River Level 6 cultivator fly so quickly? Are those wings rune tattoos really so remarkable?

Without the advantage in speed, the only thing they could hope for now was to compete with Lu Ye in terms of the robustness of their spirit force, hoping that Lu Ye's excessive consumption would prevent him from maintaining such speed.

Messages were being sent out continuously, with the Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators rapidly communicating Lu Ye's current position and direction of travel.

Every now and then, someone would leap out from the front to block the way.

Forcing Lu Ye to constantly change his direction, detouring as he went forward, making it increasingly difficult to completely shake off the pursuers behind him.

Luckily, his goal wasn't to shake off these pursuers.

While he was striving to escape, Hua Ci and Yiyi in his arms were chatting leisurely.

Yiyi was not showing herself, but she could communicate with others through Amber's body regardless.

Having not seen Hua Ci for such a long time, their reunion now was naturally extra heartwarming.

Especially since in the Soaring Dragon Secret Realm, she even saw a Little Miracle Healer who looked exactly like Hua Ci, but if compared truthfully, the Little Miracle Healer was much more mature than the current Hua Ci.

Yiyi told her about the matter of the Soaring Dragon World. Hua Ci listened with great interest and only after Yiyi had finished speaking, did she ask, "So, who exactly is that Little Miracle Healer?"

Just like Lu Ye did not believe from the beginning that two people from different domains could look exactly alike, sound the same, and even cultivate the same sect.

Hua Ci also keenly sensed that there was a big problem with that Little Miracle Healer.

"I don't know, you have to ask Lu Ye about that. In the end, that Little Miracle Healer had a private conversation with Lu Ye," said Yiyi.

"Privately?" Hua Ci looked somberly at Lu Ye, but saw he was concentrating on flying through the air, and dared not disturb him casually.

The battlefield marking suddenly vibrated with activity. Hua Ci was stunned. "I forgot to send a message to the fourth senior brother and the others."

"Fourth senior brother?" Lu Ye furrowed his eyebrows, "What happened to the fourth senior brother and the others?"

While replying to the message, Hua Ci explained: "It's because they heard you were trapped here, so the fourth senior brother and the others rushed over, but they are few and weak, what can they accomplish? After several attempts to fight, they were repelled by the Ten Thousand Demons Ridge, and they have been waiting for news from you."

Lu Ye's heart warmed at these words. After all, it was his own people he could rely on. Hearing that he was trapped, the fourth senior brother and others had come over, and so had Hua Ci, who even risked herself amidst the enemy ranks.

If Hua Ci had not coordinated with him this time, acting as his support, he might have indeed had to hide in the Soaring Dragon World for a longer time.

"Tell the fourth senior brother to go back to the Great Reversal Valley, I am already fine here."

"Okay."

Meanwhile, Li Baxian, after checking the message sent by Hua Ci, finally relaxed his tightly furrowed brows and took a long breath, "Junior brother has escaped the encirclement!"

Feng Yuechan was startled, "Really?"

Not long ago, Hua Ci had transmitted a message saying that everything was under control, and in such a short time since then, she actually managed to extract Lu Ye.

What astounding method had Hua Ci used to achieve such an unbelievable feat?

Keep in mind that there were as many as hundreds of Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators gathered there, among them not lacking Cloud River Level 9 powerhouses.

"Junior brother told us to go back to the Great Reversal Valley first," declared Li Baxian as he stood up and called out, "Let's go."

Since Lu Ye has already escaped, there is no point for them to stay here any longer. Rather than wasting time here, it would be better to return and focus on cultivation. Only with a high enough cultivation level would they not feel so powerless the next time something like this happens.

A sword light streaked across the sky, and three figures quickly departed.

During the pursuit, more and more Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators were left far behind, until even Xia Liang and Tan Sheng were nearly at their limits.

It wasn't so much that their spirit force was greatly depleted, but rather they dreaded the poison which had seeped into their bodies.

Although the poison was not fatal, it made their spirit force sluggish, affecting their performance, and if not resolved in time, it could very well leave behind some complications.

Even after taking Detoxification Pills, there wasn't much effect. In this situation, they could only seek a healing cultivator for treatment.

Therefore, an hour after they had chased Lu Ye from the outer reaches of the Hundred Arrays Pagoda, almost all the Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators who followed were nowhere to be seen, with only a few who ambushed him along the way still hounding and blocking Lu Ye.

But under such hasty cooperation, how meticulous could the arrangements of the Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators be? Time after time, just as they were about to encircle him, Lu Ye would fight his way out and escape.

Another four hours later, a city was sighted in the distance.

The nearby Heaven's Augury City had arrived!

This was also Lu Ye's initial target.

If any place on the Cloud River battlefield could be considered absolutely safe, it was undoubtedly the Heaven's Augury Mercantile Union. Therefore, when pursued by an overwhelmingly strong enemy, the best strategy was to flee into the Heaven's Augury Mercantile Union. Just by hiding inside, no matter how strong the enemy, they couldn't do anything.

Moreover, inside the Heaven's Augury Mercantile Union, there was the Heaven's Augury Pillar, which could be used at any time to return to the Nine Provinces.

Since ancient times, countless Nine Provinces cultivators have preserved their lives using this method.

At this moment, ten miles outside Heaven's Augury City, figures shot through the sky, all of them evidently Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators who had received the news.

The number wasn't many, but not too few either, roughly thirty or forty people.

While there were no Cloud River Level 9 cultivators to be seen, there were several Level 8s.

A group of people waited here, tense and uneasy, continuously receiving messages from all quarters. Judging from the route of Lu Ye's escape, it was apparent he was heading straight for this particular Heaven's Augury City.

So their objective was simple, stop Lu Ye before he could rush into the Heaven's Augury City!

"He's coming!" A low cry rang out as all the waiting Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators simultaneously looked up to see at the end of their vision, a streak of light flying towards them at an extremely fast speed.

The color, like a flame burning, matched the information provided perfectly— who else could it be but Lu Yiye?

The group of Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators instantly became invigorated, all rubbing their hands in anticipation with various weapon controls floating in front of them and magic and spells quietly gathering force.

"So fast!" another exclaimed in shock, for upon closer inspection, the speed of the red streak of light was truly outrageous.

It was almost equivalent to the speed of a full-powered flight of a Cloud River Level 9 cultivator, and according to the intelligence, Lu Yiye was also carrying a woman with him.

To fly so fast while carrying someone, and even faster on his own, it was no wonder that so many famous and powerful individuals had failed.

Even a Level 9 sword cultivator could only sustain the chase for a short while before inevitably giving in to fatigue over a prolonged period.

Yet, Lu Yiye had escaped all the way from the Hundred Arrays Pagoda, having flown for several Shichens. Did that guy have such a terrifying reserve of spirit force?

Relying solely on Lu Ye's own reserves of spirit force, naturally, it would not be enough to support flying for so long; at this moment, the spirit force within his spirit energy-storing ring was almost completely drained as well.

Luckily, Heaven's Augury City was now close at hand, and he just needed to deal with the trouble in front of him.

Facing those Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators, Lu Ye did not dodge or swerve. Like a meteorite falling from the sky, he charged straight at the obstacles ahead.

"Audacious!" someone roared as they moved to attack. The stirring of spirit force took shape into magic and spells, hurtling toward Lu Ye.

As if a signal was given, in the moment that the spell was cast, more spells and controlled weapons turned into a barrage of colors, and an overwhelming tide of attacks met him head-on.

Such a dense assault was something not even a Level 9 cultivator could face head-on.

Hua Ci in his embrace noticeably paused in her breathing for a moment, gripping Lu Ye's arms more firmly. She lifted her gaze to the face so close to hers and saw no panic in his eyes, only calm determination within their tranquil depths.

Her heart settled with his assurance.

The long saber that had always been in hand was slowly raised by Lu Ye, positioned in front of him. His spirit force and blood Qi began to boil at that instant.

Hua Ci's pupils suddenly contracted. In that moment, she felt a tingling sensation on her skin, as if what she was holding was not a person but a saber.

A saber that had emerged with overwhelming ferocity!

Wild, domineering, filled with an aggressive aura that swelled and permeated the air. In the face of this aura, Hua Ci felt like a small grass being battered by harsh winds and heavy rain, her spirit flickering uncertainly.

In her urgency, she heard a low murmur from Lu Ye's mouth.

"Myriad Stars!"

As the spirit force surged, Lu Ye's arm wielding the saber also swelled momentarily, and he thrust the blade straightforwardly. Although it seemed like a single thrust, innumerable strikes were delivered at once.

All incoming controlled weapons and magic spells were blocked, causing continuous explosive noises. Yet it wasn't over—when the reddish sword light that had stopped all incoming attacks once again shone brightly, all the Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators in front felt a sudden illusion.

As if they suddenly found themselves standing amidst an endless stellar space, with myriad stars falling, imposing pressure of a collapsing heaven and earth swept over them, overwhelming their senses.

Chapter 749 A Slap

Before practicing the Tyrannical Saber Technique, Lu Ye's understanding of saber skills was greatly limited, as no one had ever guided him in this area, and everything he knew had been self-taught.

Limited by his experience and knowledge, his saber skills remained merely at the level of technique.

The saber techniques he displayed, whether his own Repeated Slashing or Single Flash, were merely some tricks against enemies.

They were far from reaching the level of mastery.

However, after receiving the secret transmission of the Tyrannical Saber Technique and witnessing the true Tyrannical Saber Technique in the mystical space of that transmission, he acutely realized his own deficiencies.

Myriad Stars was the only saber technique he could barely execute now; although not perfect and vastly different in prowess from what he saw in the mystical space of the secret transmission, it was sufficient against enemies at the same Cloud River Realm.

This saber strike already contained a hint of Saber Intent.

The essence of the Tyrannical Saber Technique was its overwhelming and unparalleled bravery, as if facing millions alone.

With one strike, a series of exclamations erupted.

Many Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators seemed to witness a terrifying scene, each of them turning pale with fright.

In that moment of clash, their spirits were seized, and all they could see was the saber light twinkling like myriad stars.

As blood splattered, Lu Ye had already broken through the formations of many Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators, with several corpses screaming as they fell behind him.

Those Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators who were fortunate to survive then came to their senses, each breaking out in cold sweat, still unable to comprehend what had just happened.

It was they who had set up the defensive line here, yet somehow Lu Ye had breached it, and more than several among dozens had died.

Looking back, they saw the fiery red brilliance of Liu Guang had already dashed into Heaven's Augury City, blinking into the most conspicuous building inside the city.

Heaven's Augury Mercantile Union!

They had failed!

Watching this scene, each Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivator had a complex expression, both lamenting the huge bounty brushing past them and feeling fortunate that they had narrowly survived that strike.

Nobody expected that a cultivator of Cloud River Level 6 could execute such a mystical saber strike.

'Saber Intent!' a surviving Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivator thought in horror, 'Lu Yiye's saber skills have reached the level of Saber Intent!'

Recalling the scene where their spirits were seized, they understood that this person was not wrong.

Each expression was one of shock.

In the Spirit Stream Realm and Cloud River Realm, a cultivator's practice was to enhance their own cultivation and strengthen their power.

However, mystical elements like 'Intent' and 'Technique' were not something they could ordinarily touch; even in longstanding 1st grade sects, only very few qualified to reach such levels.

Lu Yiye, with his Cloud River Level 6 cultivation, having his own 'Intent' in his saber technique, was simply alarming.

With such a figure, how could they, with a lineup not even reaching Level 9, possibly kill him?

Inside the Heaven's Augury Mercantile Union, Lu Ye, followed by Hua Ci, charged in fiercely, instantly drawing all eyes in the great hall, with numerous people showing expressions of doubt and surprise.

Lu Ye also felt several dark and sharp auras locking onto him.

He knew these were the powerhouses of the Heaven's Augury Mercantile Union.

No one could act recklessly inside the Heaven's Augury Mercantile Union, nor could anyone fight here.

Having witnessed the hidden strength of the Heaven's Augury Mercantile Union with his own eyes previously, Lu Ye naturally did not think that those stationed here were merely of the Cloud River Realm.

Maybe they would suddenly demonstrate the powerful capabilities of the True Lake Realm.

Lightly shaking off the blood from his long saber, Lu Ye sheathed his weapon, his vigorous blood Qi gradually subsiding.

The auras that had locked onto him then slowly dissipated.

"This respected guest..." a manager approached, looking somewhat helplessly at Lu Ye.

"Bring me a room!" Lu Ye commanded.

"Respected guest, please wait," the manager said, lifting a hand to touch his battlefield marking, clearly consulting someone.

A moment later, he gestured to Lu Ye, "Please come this way, respected guest."

Following the manager up to the third floor, Lu Ye entered a guest room, paid for ten days of lodging, and closed the door.

Amber leaped from Lu Ye's shoulder, shaking its body.

Yiyi emerged from Amber's body, about to catch up with Hua Ci, but Lu Ye suddenly turned around, glaring fiercely at Hua Ci: "You're too reckless!"

His tone harsher than ever before, his expression somewhat fierce.

Yiyi swallowed the words at her lips, astonished at Lu Ye, not understanding why he suddenly erupted.

Everything had been fine along the way.

Hua Ci looked blankly at Lu Ye, "What?"

"Who told you to risk your life alone? You, a healing cultivator, dared to venture among hundreds of Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators?" Lu Ye scolded sternly.

In the Soaring Dragon World, Lu Ye had seen Hua Ci and knew that with her presence, he could escape safely, but at that time, he was also petrified and secretly fearful.

While cultivators come in all forms and healing cultivators have advantages other schools barely reach, who knew if any Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivator harbored malicious intent toward Hua Ci?

If such a thing happened, who could save Hua Ci under those circumstances?

"Are you worried about me?" Hua Ci looked into Lu Ye's eyes, her long eyelashes fluttering twice.

"Nonsense!" Lu Ye admitted without hesitation, "Haven't you thought about what would happen to you if something went wrong?"

Hua Ci pursed her lips, smiling lightly, "Why would anything go wrong? I was confident."

During her days as a captive, she did not just heal the Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators; her methods were truly inscrutable, even Xia Liang and others were completely unaware.

What bad intentions could a healing cultivator, gentle and graceful as flowers, possibly have?

"You've only recently advanced to the Cloud River Realm as a healing cultivator. What makes you so confident? What assurance do you have? How can you be so sure those people won't hurt you?"

Hua Ci looked at Lu Ye with great interest. Having known him for so long, this was the first time she had seen him in such a rush, flustered and aggressive. Despite Lu Ye's fierce tone, she clicked her tongue and teased with a mocking face, "Yiyi, just look at how this person treats his life-saver..."

Yiyi dared not speak and simply huddled with Amber in the corner, a spirit and a tiger weakly watching the scene.

"What life-saver!" Lu Ye was furious, "Don't think I can't leave; I only chose to show up because I saw you there."

If it hadn't been for seeing Hua Ci, he would have indeed stayed in the Soaring Dragon World a bit longer, at the very least, waiting until the Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators had mostly dispersed before leaving.

Suddenly, Hua Ci appeared on the verge of tears, as if she had suffered a great injustice, "To save a life, and yet to not vow in return, you even scold me..."

"Speak properly!" Lu Ye continued sternly.

Hua Ci timidly looked at him, "Aren't I speaking properly?"

Lu Ye took a deep breath and suddenly grabbed her and threw her onto a nearby bed, raising his hand and delivering a slap.

With a "smack!",

the world suddenly went quiet!

Hua Ci sprawled on the bed, turned her head, and looked at Lu Ye incredulously. Her cheeks flushed, momentarily dazed.

Yiyi stood by, her little mouth agape, unable to close it for a long time.

The scene before her was too shocking to the senses.

Amber raised both paws, covering his eyes as if saying, "I can't watch, I dare not watch, I am merely a simple tiger."

"There must not be a next time!" Lu Ye stared into Hua Ci's eyes, his expression solemn as he admonished.

Hua Ci didn't respond, clearly stunned by the slap, and the fiery pain on her back indicated that Lu Ye had indeed used real force.

Seeing that Lu Ye was raising his hand again,

Hua Ci hurriedly replied, "I understand, there will be no next time!"

She quickly got up, covered her back with her hands, and moved to a corner of the room.

Only then did Lu Ye nod in satisfaction and turn to Yiyi and Amber, "You two should also take this as a warning!"

He sounded like a parent scolding mischievous children at home.

Yiyi and Amber nodded their heads like chicks pecking at rice.

"Let's rest for now, I'm going out for a bit."

After speaking, Lu Ye pushed the door open and left.

On the surface, he seemed as calm as water, but his heart was pounding erratically.

Earlier, he had been too agitated, his blood qi rising to his head, and he had not controlled himself, realizing only after the slap that it was inappropriate. But since the slap had already happened, he could only brazenly continue.

It didn't seem appropriate to stay in the room any longer, so he had to find an excuse to leave.

Fortunately, the result was reasonably good.

After this incident, Hua Ci likely wouldn't make such impulsive actions again.

But he was well aware that Hua Ci's behavior was still because of himself. Though unexpressed, this gratitude was etched deep in his heart.

There had been news from the battlefield marking earlier, and if he wasn't mistaken, it must have been from Fourth Senior Brother.

A quick investigation confirmed it.

Lu Ye immediately responded, reporting his safety to Fourth Senior Brother, informing him that he had arrived at Heaven's Augury Mercantile Union, and asking him not to worry.

After ending the communication with Fourth Senior Brother, Lu Ye checked the information from his own battlefield marking.

Name: Lu Yiye.

Identity: Disciple of Righteous Blood Sect.

Cultivation: Cloud River Level 6,

Location: Cloud River battlefield.

Merit: 127,366 points.

Battle Merit: 283,672 points.

In terms of merit, there wasn't much change, probably just some added from killing some giants from Ten Thousand Demons Ridge.

However, his battle merits were substantial.

Although there was still a gap from the battle merits gained in Xianyuan City last time, the difference wasn't too vast.

The most important thing was that the battle merits earned in Xianyuan City had all been exchanged for soul water, whereas now he could manage these battle merits himself.

For instance... exchanging for a gold-hued spirit fortune stick.

For now, his primary task was still to swiftly enhance his cultivation. Last time in Xianyuan City, if not for the significant value of soul water, he wouldn't have exhausted his battle merits.

Having such a vast amount of battle merits was naturally because, in the adventures within the Soaring Dragon World, he played an indispensable and even decisive role in many crucial events.

Presiding over the big array in Medicine Valley, cooperating with Soaring Dragon cultivators to fight the enemy, just that battle alone nearly earned him thirty thousand points of battle merits.

Compared to the overall gains, thirty thousand points of battle merits naturally weren't significant.

Later, accompanying the Soaring Dragon cultivator army in the war against the Blood Race under Sky Ravine, donning the Dragon Throne, breaking the Bridging Altar, weakening the Blood World's dependency on Soaring Dragon World, he gained another massive amount of battle merits.

Afterward, constructing sixty-four Sky-mending Platforms and presiding over the Sky-mending plans earned him yet another considerable sum of battle merits.

These results combined led to his current accumulation.

Chapter 750 Hall of Battle Merits

Last time in the secret realm of the Ten Thousand Beasts Domain, Lu Ye had some realizations.

Compared to the battle merit gained from simply killing enemies, if one could participate in some major events within the secret realm and play an important role in them, then the acquired battle merit would be much more substantial.

Such was the case within the Ten Thousand Beasts Domain secret realm.

However, the battle merit he earned last time wasn't much, only about thirty thousand points. The reason for this was that there were quite a few Haotian Alliance cultivators participating in the encirclement and suppression of Niu Meng, so it seemed the battle merit was split among them.

In Xianyuan City, the reason he could earn such a massive amount of battle merit by killing enemies was that many of the Insect Race he killed were comparable to those in the True Lake Realm.

The base number of battle merit represented by the True Lake Realm and the Cloud River Realm was too different.

A cultivator at the Cloud River Level 9 only counts for sixty points of battle merit, but one at the True Lake Level 1 is worth one hundred points, and the True Lake Level 9 has a full nine hundred points.

If it were not for Lu Ye playing a crucial and even a leading role in the subsequent events in the Soaring Dragon World, it would have been impossible for him to gain such huge rewards.

More than two hundred and eighty thousand battle merits could be exchanged for as many as seventeen gold-hued spirit fortune sticks.

With his current cultivation at the Cloud River Level 6, seventeen gold-hued spirit fortune sticks could at least advance him to the Cloud River Level 8, and there was even hope to break through to Level 9!

Lu Ye was in a good mood.

After descending to the first floor, upon reaching the main hall, in an instant, pairs of eyes from all directions focused on him.

Lu Ye lifted his gaze and swept over the crowd, noting the Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators who had previously blocked him outside the Heaven's Augury Mercantile Union, as well as Xia Liang and Tan Sheng.

He had already shaken off Xia Liang and the others, but now, they encountered each other here again.

Xia Liang and his group weren't specifically resolute in killing him, but rather in need of finding a healing cultivator to help with poison treatment.

The Heaven's Augury Mercantile Union did all kinds of business, naturally including healing and expelling disasters. Inside the union, they always had highly skilled healing cultivators in residence, although their fees were quite expensive.

Under normal circumstances, cultivators of the two major factions were reluctant to come here for the union's healing cultivators' help.

Yet Xia Liang and the others had no choice, as this place was the nearest Heaven's Augury Mercantile Union to them, so they could only rush over.

On the way, they received news of Lu Ye hiding in this branch of the Heaven's Augury Mercantile Union.

Seeing one's enemy now, naturally, was quite irksome, each individual's eyes brimming with killing intent and coldness.

Lu Ye pretended not to see them.

Inside the Heaven's Augury Mercantile Union, unless they no longer wished to live, it was absolutely impossible for them to dare to make a move rashly.

Under the watchful eyes of a group of Ten Thousand Demons Ridge cultivators, he walked straight toward where the Heaven's Augury Pillar was located and joined the queue at the end.

"Brother Xia, don't be impulsive, detoxifying is the priority. Lu Yiye, unless he uses the Heaven's Augury Pillar to return to the Nine Provinces, it is absolutely impossible for him to escape," Tan Sheng said with a somewhat pallid face, his breathing unsteady, as he spoke to calm Xia Liang's emotions.

Xia Liang took a deep breath, feeling a stabbing pain in his chest and abdomen, and nodded slightly, "I'm clear on that!"

The two of them looked deeply at Lu Ye one more time before seeking out the mercantile union manager to request the help of the union's healing cultivator to detoxify them.

In front of the Heaven's Augury Pillar, the queue advanced quickly since the cultivators here had already decided what they wanted to purchase, so they generally didn't linger long.

In no more than the time it takes for an incense stick to burn, it was Lu Ye's turn.

He stepped forward, raised his hand to press on the Heaven's Augury Pillar, and with a slight thought, the vast Heaven's Augury treasure vault immediately appeared before his eyes.

As usual, he looked for uncanny fires or pill fire reserves that could feed the Talent Tree, but there weren't many to find, only managing to buy a mere dozen or so.

Then he purchased many demonic pills and took the opportunity to replenish his array banners, spending no more than ten thousand points of merit in total.

What followed was the main event and also the moment Lu Ye was most looking forward to.

He couldn't help but feel a little thrilled.

This was his first time holding such a vast amount of battle merit to exchange for gold-hued spirit fortune sticks.

With a thought, he summoned, "Gold-hued spirit fortune stick!"

The scenery of the Heaven's Augury treasure vault around him changed rapidly, but it seemed to be different from the norm. It did not settle down quickly, nor did any gold-hued spirit fortune sticks appear before him.

A piece of information suddenly appeared in his mind. After a brief sensation, Lu Ye understood the specifics of this information.

"Granted access to the Hall of Battle Merits."

Hall of Battle Merits?

What place was that?

Lu Ye was somewhat surprised. Recalling everything he had learned about the Cloud River battlefield, he realized there were no records of the Hall of Battle Merits.

He was not a fledgling freshly entered into the Cloud River battlefield anymore, and he was clear about the most basic things regarding it. Many events, even if he had never encountered them, he would have at least heard of.

Moreover, the name Hall of Battle Merits was highly indicative. One would know its purpose just by hearing it. If other cultivators had entered the Hall of Battle Merits before, it made no sense that there was no information about it at all.

However, from the information he gleaned, it seemed that the Hall of Battle Merits was not open to just anyone. The content of this information mentioned eligibility...

Lu Ye was unsure about the specific eligibility needed to enter the Hall of Battle Merits, whether it required carrying a substantial amount of battle merit or some other requirement.

This world was becoming more and more interesting.

Having obtained the eligibility to enter the Hall of Battle Merits, Lu Ye naturally wanted to take a look.

Lu Ye silently recited the words "Hall of Battle Merits" in his mind.

The next instant, the rapidly changing surroundings abruptly froze, and as Lu Ye looked up, he saw before him a thick, ancient door that was tightly shut. On the left and right of the door, two flood dragons with horns on their heads were swimming about, almost as if they were alive.

As Lu Ye looked at them, the two flood dragons suddenly stilled and both turned their gaze toward him. Their massive vertical pupils were emitting a cold light. Their tongues hissed as they flickered in and out of their mouths, sending shivers down one's spine.

A desolate and fierce aura rushed toward him head-on.

Lu Ye was secretly alarmed.

These two flood dragons... were actually alive!

Moreover, the aura on their bodies was unfathomable. With Lu Ye's current level of visual acuity and perception, he simply couldn't detect their depth.

Two flood dragons guarding the door?

Just what was this Hall of Battle Merits all about?

Above the door, there was a plaque that seemed to have rusted over time, engraved with the three big characters of "Hall of Battle Merits."

"Oh?"

All of a sudden, the flood dragon on the left spoke human language, with its long body winding out from above the door, circling around Lu Ye. Its enormous head came very close to Lu Ye's face, and the hot breath from its mouth made Lu Ye's skin prickle with pain.

"So many years have passed, and finally, someone comes again?" It seemed to be sniffing the scent of Lu Ye's body, "And such a young and tender boy at that!"

The flood dragon on the right, coiled atop the door and motionless until this point, also spoke, "Not bad bravery!"

Even though Lu Ye had an extraordinary temperament, his mind was tense at this moment. Fortunately, he understood that what had entered here was not his physical body, but a manifestation of his mind. Despite the heavy feeling in his heart, there was not a trace of panic in him. This gave the flood dragon on the right a good impression, thus the approving remark.

"It just remains to be seen whether he will live long!" The flood dragon on the left continued, with tones of mockery and scorn in its voice.

It withdrew back to its spot and once again coiled up in its own territory.

Then, both flood dragons began to wriggle simultaneously, curling themselves into concentric circles.

As the bodies of the two flood dragons formed two concentric circles, suddenly, from within the door, came a click, as if a lock was being opened.

"Go in! But boy, you must remember one thing. Everything inside the Hall of Battle Merits can only be used by yourself, and any information regarding the Hall of Battle Merits must not be revealed to anyone, not even a single word!"

Lu Ye clasped his fists in salute, "This junior has noted it down!"

He finally understood why he had never heard of the Hall of Battle Merits before.

It turned out that there were so many restrictions to entering the Hall of Battle Merits.

Putting aside that things obtained from within could only be used by oneself, one also couldn't reveal any information about the Hall of Battle Merits to others.

In this way, even if someone had entered the Hall of Battle Merits before, no one else would know about it.

Moreover, considering the information previously revealed by the flood dragon on the left, it seemed that qualifying to enter the Hall of Battle Merits wasn't something simple, and it wasn't just a matter of carrying enough immense battle merits.

According to the information it had revealed, it had been many years since someone had entered the Hall of Battle Merits.

Perhaps it had been ten years, or maybe twenty or thirty years—Lu Ye was the first person in these years.

As Lu Ye's thoughts churned, the doors to the Hall of Battle Merits slowly swung open.

He stepped inside.

A spacious room unfolded before him, the walls all around made of some material he couldn't identify, exuding an extremely solid and robust feel.

However, Lu Ye was certain that even if cultivators from the Divine Sea Realm came here in person and attacked with all their might, they wouldn't be able to damage even the slightest bit of this place.

It didn't resemble the Heaven's Augury treasure vault with its shelves everywhere.

Inside the entire Hall of Battle Merits, there wasn't a single shelf in sight. Instead, black stone pedestals stood erect here and there. At a glance, there were at least eight hundred of them, if not a thousand.

It seemed as though each of the stone pedestals held an item.

Lu Ye walked toward the pedestal closest to him, and saw that it was covered by a layer of light screen and within it, a gold-hued spirit fortune stick caught his eye.

Gold-hued spirit fortune sticks could be directly exchanged in the Heaven's Augury treasure vault, so their appearance here in the Hall of Battle Merits seemed a bit redundant?

However, Lu Ye's attention was not on the spirit fortune stick, but rather on that layer of light screen.

This was unmistakably a protective array.

And it was an extremely sturdy and exquisitely delicate protective array!

With his current proficiency in the Array Path, Lu Ye could easily set up a protective array, but he could never manage to set one up as small and exquisite as this.

When it comes to formations, it's not always the case that the smaller the coverage, the easier it is to set up.

Indeed, within a certain range, this holds true. But if one goes beyond this range, the difficulty of setting up the array rises sharply.

This protective array before him was beyond Lu Ye's capability, so upon seeing it, his interest was piqued.

Being a qualified array cultivator, naturally, he wanted to understand how such a small array could maintain stability.

If he could comprehend the profound mysteries behind it, it would surely bring great improvements to his own mastery of formations.