

King Hall 1161

Chapter 1161: Refining the Five-Beast Spirit Fan! The Heaven Palace Master Arrives!

Wu Family City.

The Heavenly Palace Master waited here for Mu Jinyu for most of the day, but he never showed up.

Finally, through spies scattered across the Heavenly Palace, a clue was obtained that Mu Jinyu seemed to have gone to the Chen Family in the Southwestern Region.

"This guy is quite cunning..."

The Heavenly Palace Master murmured, then immediately set off for the Chen Family.

The alliance of various forces, upon seeing the man in black robes leave, finally breathed a sigh of relief, and then wore sorrowful expressions, feeling that if Mu Jinyu actually showed up now, they would be doomed, caught in one fell swoop.

After all, the five powerful beings at the Unity Realm Stage they managed to gather were all dead, and more than a dozen top-grade spiritual treasures were destroyed; what could they use now to resist Mu Jinyu?

Instantly, their spirit of resistance completely vanished.

...

Chen Family.

Mu Jinyu spent most of the day changing the Mountain Protection Array of the Chen Family.

The Chen Family's Mountain Protection Array now could harness the power of heaven-reaching spiritual treasures for increased destructive capabilities.

Currently, they have five heaven-reaching spiritual treasures on hand; if the Heavenly Palace attacks, unless they come in full force, there's a high likelihood they can withstand it.

Though Mu Jinyu believed the chance of the Heavenly Palace coming with everyone was low, he had to be on guard.

Thus, Mu Jinyu took out the Five Beasts Spirit Fan, a heaven-reaching spiritual treasure he acquired after vanquishing Lei Yongshou.

The Five Beasts Spirit Fan was originally a perfect heaven-reaching spiritual treasure, but due to a battle with the Dragon-Phoenix Resentful Fiend, it lost a Phoenix Feather, causing it to fall short of a heaven-reaching spiritual treasure.

Mu Jinyu now intended to repair this heaven-reaching spiritual treasure to enhance his assurance in battles.

However, he didn't have a Phoenix Feather at hand, only the Phoenix Nest once built by a little phoenix, which was of no use.

"If only the little phoenix were here, I could just pluck a feather." Mu Jinyu sighed.

Then, he pulled out a crimson feather, unknown which spirit beast left it behind, which he had snagged from the Treasure Pavilion of the Boundless Sect.

Perhaps the Boundless Sect was preparing materials for a replica of the Five Beasts Spirit Fan, a top-grade spiritual treasure?

The materials were barely suitable, and if Mu Jinyu had a better choice, he certainly wouldn't decide to use it to repair the Five Beasts Spirit Fan.

Just as he was about to proceed with using the feather to refine the Five Beasts Spirit Fan, Mu Jinyu suddenly had a thought, considering he was at the Chen Family, maybe they had more suitable feathers.

Thus, Mu Jinyu went to find the Chen Family Ancestor.

"Phoenix Feather?"

The Chen Family Ancestor was startled upon learning of Mu Jinyu's intention, then said, "Yes, in our Treasure Pavilion, there's a Phoenix Feather imbued with substantial Phoenix strength."

"Great, take me there," Mu Jinyu said happily upon hearing this and immediately urged the Chen Family Ancestor to take him.

Quickly, Mu Jinyu followed the ancestor to the Chen Family's Treasure Pavilion.

During the ascent in the Pavilion, Mu Jinyu saw many treasures that made him envious.

If this were the Boundless Sect or Divine Formation Sect, he'd just take them.

But for the Chen Family, considering the ancestor had submitted to him and Wen Rou was closely connected with them, he refrained from taking anything impulsively.

Thus, Mu Jinyu did not act recklessly, only found and gladly took one of the last three spiritual medicines he needed on the fifth level of the Pavilion; the rest he left untouched.

'Only two spiritual medicines left now...'

Mu Jinyu thought to himself.

Had there been no pressure from the Heavenly Palace, he would certainly have visited the Treasure Pavillion of various major powers to see if he could find the remaining two spiritual medicines needed for Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan to change back.

But now it seemed impossible, he could only hope that the battle with the Heavenly Palace would end soon.

Soon, Mu Jinyu arrived at the highest floor of the Chen Family's Treasure Pavilion with the ancestor and obtained the Phoenix Feather that glowed red like flames.

Upon seeing this Phoenix Feather, Mu Jinyu felt satisfied.

Though it was far inferior in power to the original feather that forged the Five Beasts Spirit Fan, it was still quite good, much better than the feather from the unknown spirit beast he had.

"Now I can repair the Five Beasts Spirit Fan through refinement."

Mu Jinyu wasted no time, took the Phoenix Feather, and left the Treasure Pavilion, returning to his residence at the Chen Family to begin refining the Five Beasts Spirit Fan.

After all, the Heavenly Palace could arrive at any moment, and he had to hurry.

"Boom!"

He placed the Dragon Phoenix Cauldron on the ground, and with a slight activation, the cauldron emitted a phoenix cry, awakening a magnificent Fire Phoenix which soared at the mouth of the cauldron.

"Boom!!"

As the Artifact Spirit of the Fire Phoenix awakened, the Dragon Phoenix Cauldron spouted blazing flames.

This was no ordinary fire, but the Phoenix True Fire.

Though this True Fire wasn't pure, it was considerably stronger than the Innate True Fire of a little phoenix with only a fractional Phoenix Bloodline.

Then, Mu Jinyu placed the Five Beasts Spirit Fan on it, threw in the Phoenix Feather, and began refining the magic treasure.

Time slowly passed.

The Phoenix Feather gradually merged with the Five Beasts Spirit Fan, and the red light began to mix with the other four colors, evolving into a five-color cycle, the Five Elements interdependence...

While Mu Jinyu was earnestly refining the Five Beasts Spirit Fan.

The Heavenly Palace Master also arrived at the Chen Family.

Standing outside the mountain gate, observing the concealed Mountain Protection Array, the face under his black robe lightly chuckled and murmured, "With just this array level, if the Heavenly Palace truly attacks, can you defend?"

Saying this, he stepped straight into the mountain gate.

Amazingly, the process didn't alarm any members of the Chen Family, nor did it disturb Mu Jinyu who was refining the Five Beasts Spirit Fan.

Then, the Heavenly Palace Master spread his Divine Sense within the Chen Family, shortly locking onto the courtyard where Mu Jinyu lived.

"Huh..."

He took a step in a flash, teleporting right into Mu Jinyu's room.

There, he saw Mu Jinyu using the Dragon Phoenix Cauldron to refine the Five Beasts Spirit Fan, standing behind to observe with interest.

A while later.

"Huh..."

The Phoenix True Fire within the cauldron finally extinguished, the Five Beasts Spirit Fan emitted the Five Elements Divine Light, fully restoring the power of a heaven-reaching spiritual treasure.

"Finally accomplished," Mu Jinyu said with satisfaction, holding the Five Beasts Spirit Fan in hand, pleased with his artifact refining skills.

"With such mediocre skills, what are you proud of?"

Mu Jinyu was reveling in his success when a cold, hoarse voice suddenly murmured behind him.

"Hmm?!"

Upon hearing the unexpected voice in the room, Mu Jinyu felt a shudder of alarm, quickly turning and looking warily at the man in a black robe behind him with shock in his eyes, asking, "Who are you?!"

Though he asked this way, based on the black robe of the person and their ability to enter his room unnoticed, Mu Jinyu knew the individual must be from the upper echelon of the Heavenly Palace!

The man in black robe calmly said, "Heavenly Palace Master."

Chapter 1162: Fighting Desperately for the Kill! Powerless! The Heaven Palace Master's Identity!

"Heavenly Palace Master?!"

Mu Jinyu felt a sudden sinking in his heart upon hearing this answer.

He immediately understood why the Heavenly Palace dared to send only one person to trouble him after he killed that man in black robe.

It turned out that the person was the Heavenly Palace Master.

No wonder he could cross into the Mountain-Protecting Array I had set up, as well as the courtyard restrictions, and enter my room without me noticing.

Only because the other party is the Heavenly Palace Master, rumored to be the strongest entity in the Kunlun Ruins beyond the Hedao Realm.

Mu Jinyu really didn't expect to alarm the other party into dealing with him personally, but at this point, he could only fight with all his might!

"Hah!"

With a furious shout, Mu Jinyu immediately activated the Dragon Phoenix Cauldron, allowing it to float above his head, releasing Dragon Phoenix Qi to protect his entire body.

Then, with a wave of his hand, the Dragon Spear instantly appeared in his grasp, its sharp edge aimed directly at the Heavenly Palace Master standing before him!

"Haha..."

Seeing Mu Jinyu attacking him without a word, the Heavenly Palace Master revealed an appreciative look in the eyes hidden beneath the black robe.

Even faced with the menacing spear thrust, he remained calmly standing, hands behind his back, seemingly with no intention to dodge.

"Bang!!"

However, just as the spear tip was about to pierce the Heavenly Palace Master, it suddenly halted three feet from him.

It seemed as if an invisible protective shield had formed three feet in front of him, blocking Mu Jinyu's spear.

"Kill!!!"

With an angry shout, Mu Jinyu activated the newly refined Five Beasts Spirit Fan, instantly unleashing five-colored divine light.

"Boom!!!"

In an instant, the courtyard where Mu Jinyu was staying collapsed, and the rumbling sound echoed throughout the Chen Family.

"What's happening?!"

"Someone's making a move in the Chen Family?!"

"The direction seems to be... Young Master Mu..."

"Let's go, check it out!"

Some Chen Family People living not far from the courtyard, heard the commotion and were initially puzzled, but then decided to go over and see what was happening!

"Boom!!!"

"Boom!!"

"Bang!!"

The Chen Family Ancestor, as well as the sect leaders of Wuji Sect and Baiyang Palace, all heard the commotion and sensed that a powerful expert was making a move, and their expressions changed, so they went to check it out.

Because of the soul shackles Mu Jinyu placed on them, if anything happened to Mu Jinyu, even if they did not die, their souls would suffer a heavy blow, leaving them as idiots.

The three soon arrived at the battleground and saw the Heavenly Palace Master fighting Mu Jinyu.

"The same black robe, is someone from the Heavenly Palace?"

"How did he break into our Chen Family? Why didn't he make a sound?"

"Such terrifying power, the previous man in black robe was at the Peak Hedao Realm, but couldn't handle the master's attack with such ease, his demeanor looks like an adult playing with a child."

The three Chen Family Ancestors discussed in amazement as they watched the battle between Mu Jinyu and the man in black robe.

In their view, Mu Jinyu was using three heaven-reaching spiritual treasures, going all out to kill the man in black robe before him.

That desperate stance was even more terrifying than when he killed the man in black robe half a day before.

But his opponent had never made a move throughout, no matter how Mu Jinyu attacked, he couldn't harm him in the slightest.

Not only that, the terrifying energy blasts caused by their fight didn't even lift the black robe of the man, making it impossible to see his appearance.

"Such composure, and such power, could the opponent be the Heavenly Palace Master?!"

The Chen Family Ancestor guessed with a grim expression.

As soon as he spoke, he, the Wuji Sect Master, and the Baiyang Palace Master all felt a suffocating despair.

The Heavenly Palace Master!

What a lofty existence that is!

Although they are sect leaders of powerful forces, they have never seen the Heavenly Palace Master while having been in the Heavenly Palace for many years.

But they dared not show any dissatisfaction, because the other party is an existence beyond the Hedao Realm.

Ignoring them, who are considered the strongest in the world's eyes, was rightfully expected.

Now, this long-hidden master has emerged, and is targeting Mu Jinyu, whose fate is deeply tied to theirs. Although they wished to join the fight, they couldn't muster any energy to help Mu Jinyu.

"Hah!"

Mu Jinyu didn't expect much from the three of them either. Seeing them hesitate, he shouted and threw the Dragon Phoenix Cauldron to suppress the Heavenly Palace Master, while yelling: "Go activate the Mountain Protection Array! Place your heaven-reaching spiritual treasures in it!"

Because the Heavenly Palace Master had not attacked, Mu Jinyu dared to risk not being protected by the Dragon Phoenix Cauldron and used it to strike his opponent.

"Rumble!"

The Dragon Phoenix Cauldron, once no longer used for protection, collapsed the void upon being thrown, releasing terrifying chaotic void currents that destroyed all the surrounding buildings.

The surrounding Chen Family People were startled and frightened!

It was the first time they had seen such a terrifying battle!

After all, a battle between powerful experts was not common in the Kunlun Ruins.

It was only recently, with so many forces hunting Mu Jinyu, that many people had witnessed the might of the Merging Paths.

But the three Chen Family Ancestors, upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, suddenly came to their senses, realizing they still couldn't muster the determination for a life-and-death struggle with the Heavenly Palace Master, they grit their teeth and followed Mu Jinyu's command to activate the Mountain Protection Array.

Moments later!

"Rumble!!"

The Mountain Protection Array activated, causing the mountains where the Chen Family resided to shake violently.

"Whoosh, whoosh, whoosh!"

Three divine lights suddenly poured down from the sky, flowing towards Mu Jinyu.

The three divine lights were purple, blue, and golden.

These were the Bronze Halberd, Purple Gold Divine Thunder Hammer, and Divine Formation Disc integrated into the Mountain Protection Array, drawn by Mu Jinyu's divine light, their power multiplied by the Earth Vein Qi.

"Hah!!"

Mu Jinyu roared furiously, drawing these three divine lights, imbuing them into the Dragon Phoenix Cauldron, Dragon Spear, and Five Beasts Spirit Fan, and then fiercely attacked the Heavenly Palace Master.

This strike had already surpassed the power of the Peak Hedao Realm expert.

In terms of power, it could be considered beyond half-step Merging Path.

It's akin to half-step Merging Path within the Fanxu Realm, false Unity Realm such power.

Although far inferior to a true expert beyond the Hedao Realm, it was not a strike that even a Peak Hedao Realm expert could compare with.

Faced with such a strike, the Heavenly Palace Master in black robe finally couldn't avoid taking action; he actively extended a finger.

"Boom!!"

The booming sound was earth-shattering, like a star exploding, as an incomparably brilliant blinding white light erupted from their battleground.

"Ah!"

Countless people in the Chen Family felt their eyes stinging, shedding bloody tears, unwilling to watch any longer.

It was unclear how much time had passed.

The white light finally vanished.

Mu Jinyu also bore the discomfort in his eyes, glaring forward.

The Heavenly Palace Master before him still stood with hands clasped behind his back, so composed, not even a corner of his robe was damaged.

Mu Jinyu felt a surge of despair and helplessness!

Too powerful!

He simply didn't have the ability to contend with him.

Unless he could truly step into the Peak Hedao Realm's cultivation, he might have a chance to fight him evenly.

Otherwise, engaging with him would always result in being toyed with this way.

"You... not bad at all..."

Just as another wave of killing intent surged in Mu Jinyu's despair, the Heavenly Palace Master spoke again, then tore off the black robe covering his face.

"You..."

Mu Jinyu, upon seeing the Heavenly Palace Master's face, was struck as if by lightning, standing there dumbfounded.

Chapter 1163: Mu Shao'ai Appears! Uncovering the Truth of the Past!

How could Mu Jinyu not recognize the face concealed beneath the black robe of the Heaven Palace Master?

That face was so familiar, after more than a decade of relying on each other, how could he possibly forget...

This Heaven Palace Master turned out to be his master, Mu Shao'ai.

Since Mu Jinyu had achieved success a few years ago, Mu Shao'ai had gracefully left Yinlong Mountain, and since then could not be found, even when chaos erupted, he did not appear.

Mu Jinyu had even suspected at the time whether his master had passed away, but unexpectedly, today they once again met as master and disciple, and the master had transformed into the Palace Master of the largest organization in the Kunlun Ruins.

This truly was beyond Mu Jinyu's expectations.

"What, can't recognize your master?"

The face beneath the black robe was youthful and handsome, completely incompatible with the coarse and aged voice of the former Mu Shao'ai, and at this time Mu Shao'ai's voice was also youthful, magnetic, and full of charm.

It was evident that his previous speech tone was entirely feigned.

"Master, you... how could you be..."

Mu Jinyu looked at Mu Shao'ai dumbfounded, tongue-tied, still somewhat unable to accept that his master had suddenly transformed into the Heaven Palace Master.

Then what did his battles with the Heaven Palace mean?

"It's a long story, let's talk about it in detail later," Mu Shao'ai said with a cheerful smile.

And while they were speaking.

The Chen Family People, whose eyes had almost been blinded by light, finally felt the pain lessening and then heard their master-disciple conversation, all were shocked.

They never imagined that Mu Jinyu's master would be the Heaven Palace Master.

Although they couldn't understand why, since it was a master-disciple relationship, the Heaven Palace Master had previously allowed his subordinates to pursue and kill his disciple—was it to test the disciple?

They couldn't understand these matters, but it did not prevent them from knowing that, henceforth, Mu Jinyu would truly soar without restraint.

After all, the only force in Kunlun Ruins that could currently threaten Mu Jinyu had become his backyard; they would not fight anymore.

There were initially some Chen Family People who disliked Mu Jinyu and were hoping the Heaven Palace could eliminate Mu Jinyu, allowing the Chen Family to be resolved completely.

Now they completely abandoned that hope.

"Master... this..."

The Chen Family Ancestor, Sect Leader of the Wuji Sect, and Baiyang Palace Master, their complexions slightly changed. While they were relieved internally, they also felt quite bitter.

Unexpectedly, they originally worried that if Mu Jinyu were to die in the hands of the Heaven Palace Master, their Souls would trigger Restrictions causing them harm, that situation did not occur, yet they unexpectedly learned that Mu Jinyu's background was so great.

No wonder, Mu Jinyu had such Aptitude; he reached the Unity Realm Stage before the age of twenty, for his master was the Heaven Palace Master after all.

Indeed, people cannot be compared to one another!

Mu Jinyu finally awoke from shock, becoming much more excited, saying, "Let's go, Master, we should talk aside."

As he spoke, he put away the Dragon Phoenix Cauldron, Dragon Spear, and Five Beasts Spirit Fan, his figure flickered, and he left the place.

Mu Shao'ai detected from the void fluctuations where Mu Jinyu went, his figure flickered, following swiftly.

Soon, the master and disciple arrived at a secluded mountaintop.

"Master, how did you become the Heaven Palace Master?"

Mu Jinyu stood on the mountaintop, looking at Master Mu Shao'ai with a complex gaze, eyes filled with excitement, joy, suspicion, and anger.

Mu Shao'ai smiled and said, "Why, surprised? Who do you think your master is? Do you think I'm just a nameless nobody?"

"Then back then... Ah-Xiang's family..."

Hearing Mu Shao'ai's lighthearted and natural words, Mu Jinyu subconsciously clenched his fists, his eyes fixated on his master, asking, "Was it you?"

Learning that his master had not died but had become the Master of the Heavenly Palace, Mu Jinyu thought about Jian Ruyan once revealing the Heaven Palace but then kept silent, and thought of the childhood disaster in Xiang Mantang's family...

He suddenly felt his world view crumbling.

If the true culprit who killed Xiang Mantang's parents and caused the siblings' separation were truly the Heaven Palace, and the one who gave the order was their master, Mu Shao'ai...

Then what should he do?

Hide the truth for his master?

Or help Ah-Xiang take revenge? Annihilate the master?!

Regardless of the choice, he couldn't make it!

Xiang Mantang was like a brother to him and had saved his life multiple times, how could he bear to deceive him?

And without his master, he would likely not be where he is today, and in more than a decade on Yinlong Mountain, Mu Shao'ai had long stood as a fatherly figure in his heart.

Mu Jinyu momentarily felt a chaotic heart, utterly lost and at a loss for solutions.

If at this moment, his master appeared, but with a different identity, he would not be so lost and agitated, but very excited instead.

But alas, the master was indeed the Master of the Heavenly Palace!

This truly was hard for him to accept.

Mu Jinyu now had only one hope in his heart, that those who killed Xiang Mantang's parents were not commanded by Mu Shao'ai, and that he had no knowledge of it...

If that were the case, he could still accept it.

"What wild thoughts are you having! Your master is not someone who resorts to killing innocents to achieve goals," Mu Shao'ai said, half exasperated and half amused, upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, understanding why Mu Jinyu, upon learning his identity, felt more confusion and anger than excitement and joy.

"Then... why... what is the truth..."

Upon hearing his master's words, Mu Jinyu secretly breathed a sigh of relief and then asked.

Mu Shao'ai whispered, "Actually, I wasn't originally the Master of the Heavenly Palace; a few years ago, after entering the Kunlun Ruins, I killed the previous Heavenly Palace Master, impersonated him, and became the new Palace Master. This is a truth and secret no one in the Heaven Palace knows; this is something the master only tells you, so don't spread it."

"Really?" Upon hearing Mu Shao'ai's words, Mu Jinyu's eyes immediately burst with delight, feeling that the world, which had become dark, had once again revived with vivid colors.

Mu Shao'ai said, "Of course, Ah-Xiang remains my disciple, although only a registered disciple, he is still my disciple; I couldn't ignore his hatred, so after teaching you almost everything I could, I left you a life-saving jade pendant and went to find clues. Following the trail, I came to Kunlun Ruins, and being traced to the Heavenly Palace, eventually knowing the true culprit was the Palace Master of Heavenly Palace, I killed him to avenge Ah-Xiang..."

"Initially, I intended to leave the Master of Heavenly Palace for Ah-Xiang to kill personally and vent his hatred, but with his aptitude, I feared he could never personally take revenge, so I did it on his behalf."

Listening, Mu Jinyu's brows suddenly furrowed, and he asked perplexedly, "Why would the Master of Heavenly Palace attack the Xiang Family, who were merely ordinary people back then? What was their purpose?"

Chapter 1164: The Truth of the Past and the Heavenly Palace's Purpose

Mu Jinyu listened to the master's words, feeling a surge of doubt again, eventually beginning to somewhat disbelieve Mu Shao'ai.

After all, killing the Master of Heavenly Palace to replace him, all are merely the master's words.

He said the original Master of Heavenly Palace was the real culprit but has been killed by him; he has avenged Ah-Xiang...

But what is the truth, who really knows if it's like this?

Mu Jinyu is reluctant to delve deeply into the truth, but he knows that when Ruoxiang Man Hall returns from the Ghost World and learns of all this, with his temperament, even if the person standing before the fog of truth is the master, he will certainly investigate thoroughly.

And he might face life and death with the master before figuring it all out!

Rather than letting his rare confusion lead the situation to an irreparable state, it would be better to investigate clearly himself, and slowly consider where he should stand in the upcoming time.

The more Mu Jinyu thought, the more complicated things seemed, feeling a severe headache.

Mu Shao'ai heard Mu Jinyu's words, knowing he was starting to suspect again, smiled bitterly and said:

"Forget it, rather than talking nonsense, let me show you the scene at that time. Fortunately, I was also curious about the truth and asked the Master of Heavenly Palace..."

As he spoke, he waved his hand, and suddenly like playing a movie, a scene unfolded before Mu Jinyu.

In the dim room.

A man in a black robe stood with his arms folded, facing a Starry Sky Map, pondering something unknown.

Behind him stood a young-looking man, none other than Mu Shao'ai.

'Is that man in black robe the original Master of Heavenly Palace?'

Mu Jinyu looked at the scene, curiously thought.

"You've said so much, all to disguise your view of humanity as insignificant. Is there really no other way to leave Earth, this sealed place? I don't believe it!"

At this time, the Mu Shao'ai in the scene spoke, his tone cold and filled with great hostility.

'What had they said before this?'

Mu Jinyu's expression changed slightly, curious about what the master said before finding the Master of Heavenly Palace.

At this moment, the scene continued to unfold, the black-robed man finally turned around, no longer watching that Starry Sky Map, and spoke:

"Even if you don't believe it, there's nothing you can do. I've already said it, to leave Earth this sealed place and find a truly suitable place for our cultivation, only the Starry Sky Teleportation Array can be used."

"And to activate the Starry Sky Teleportation Array, originally in ancient times, there were many methods, but in today's world, other activation methods are impossible, the only way is to use Four Symbols' Blood!"

"I advise you not to be so obstinate, she's just a registered disciple after all, sacrificed if needed, as long as we can leave here, it's all worth it. Once away from Earth, we'll have a greater expanse."

The black-robed man's voice was hoarse and unpleasant, exactly the same tone Mu Shao'ai used before recognizing Mu Jinyu as master.

Mu Jinyu saw this and felt even more puzzled.

What is the Starry Sky Teleportation Array?

What is Four Symbols' Blood?

Why sacrifice Xiang Mantang?

Despite the confusion, Mu Jinyu knew the master wouldn't show him a meaningless scene, he hoped to get an explanation later.

In the scene, Mu Shao'ai was furious after hearing the black-robed man's words, cursing: "That's easy for you to say, she's my disciple, not yours. You think sacrificing her is insignificant, but do you think I don't see your real intention for bringing her back to Huaxia?"

"Don't you intend to use two different attributes of Phoenix Blood to create purer True Phoenix Blood? But don't you think your approach is too malicious!"

"Killing her parents wasn't enough, you still want them to commit such a vile act, you are completely inhuman!"

Seeing this, hearing Mu Shao'ai's curse, Mu Jinyu finally realized why Jian Ruyan was taken from Huaxia, went to Kunlun Ruins, and still managed to return to Huaxia.

Feeling ice-cold hands and feet, a burst of horror and dread.

It turned out that after taking Jian Ruyan, the Heavenly Palace discovered her Ice Phoenix Bloodline wasn't sufficient to be used as the Phoenix Bloodline among Four Symbols, and her parents' bloodline was equally insufficiently pure, thus they intended to exchange their Phoenix Blood to create purer Phoenix's Blood!

Afterward, they allowed Jian Ruyan to return to Xiang Mantang but couldn't reveal her true identity's bizarre behavior.

No wonder.

Jian Ruyan had gone to Kunlun Ruins for over ten years, returning with just Early Energy Transformation Stage cultivation.

This reason had baffled Mu Jinyu until now and finally made it clear.

It also explains why he asked Jian Ruyan multiple times if the Heavenly Palace killed their parents, what the truth was, and why she wouldn't say anything...

The truth turned out to be so cruel and horrifying.

In the following scene, Mu Shao'ai didn't say much more and directly fought the Master of Heavenly Palace, finally expending every effort in the incredibly challenging task of killing him.

Subsequently, after recuperating for a month, Mu Shao'ai decided to don the black robe of the Heavenly Palace Master, impersonating the Palace Master's identity, and ordered to cancel all observations and actions against Jian Ruyan and Xiang Mantang.

Seeing this, Mu Jinyu thoroughly believed Mu Shao'ai was indeed not the original Master of Heavenly Palace, and the murder of Xiang Mantang's parents was unrelated to him.

This allowed him to feel relieved even amid the coldness.

"Snap!!"

Mu Shao'ai snapped his fingers, and the scene before Mu Jinyu disappeared.

Mu Shao'ai continued: "Now, you wretched disciple, should believe the master's words, right?"

"I believe, master! I'm sorry... I shouldn't have doubted you..." Mu Jinyu smiled bitterly and apologized.

Mu Shao'ai said indifferently: "Do you now understand why that girl didn't make any moves after leaving Kunlun Ruins for over a year, yet was never captured by the Heavenly Palace?"

"Do you now understand why after she and you returned to Kunlun Ruins, the Heavenly Palace took no action? Is it because the Heavenly Palace couldn't detect her appearance?"

Shaking his head helplessly, Mu Shao'ai sighed: "That's because the Master of Heavenly Palace was replaced by me long ago. All actions against them were canceled by me... Otherwise, when you brought her into Kunlun Ruins, where would you have the chance to slowly develop in the Heavenly Sword Faction? You'd be done for immediately."

Mu Jinyu frowned and said: "But I still don't quite understand, why did the Heavenly Palace go through such trouble instead of just taking Ah-Xiang back for experimentation?"

"Because Four Symbols' Blood is unique and must follow its course naturally, coercive actions won't achieve the purpose." Mu Shao'ai casually explained.

"Then why didn't master return after avenging Ah-Xiang but continued pretending to be Heavenly Palace Master?" Mu Jinyu curiously asked.

Mu Shao'ai sighed: "Because I also want to leave Earth, this prison-like place, so I need to study whether there are other ways to activate the Starry Sky Teleportation Array."

Chapter 1165: Beyond Merging Paths! Deep Bonds of Master and Disciple!

"Hmm?!"

Hearing Mu Shao'ai's words, Mu Jinyu's body involuntarily tensed up again.

If Master studies until falling into demon and ultimately makes the same decision as the original Master of Heavenly Palace, what is he going to do?

Rebelliously kill his master?

But he can't beat Master now.

Mu Shao'ai glanced at Mu Jinyu and cursed, "Look at you! Getting pureblood Phoenix isn't only achieved in that way, what do you think your master is?"

"Master, why do you want to leave Earth? I feel the cultivation environment of Kunlun Ruins is okay!"
Mu Jinyu reluctantly smiled, then changed the topic.

Mu Shao'ai said, "Because your strength is still too weak, just at the Unity Realm Stage, the constraint of this world on you is not pronounced yet. Wait until you one day reach the realm of your master, then you'll understand how miserable it feels."

"Alright then, what realm are you in now, Master?"

Mu Jinyu curiously asked.

Back when he lived on Yinlong Mountain, he was always lazy and rarely cultivated. After over a decade, he was still lingering in the Energy Transformation Qi Refining Realm, not even stepping into the Divinity Transformation Realm.

Although he sensed Master's cultivation was unfathomable, he never truly knew what his cultivation was. At that time, he even thought Master was in the God Realm.

Thinking back now, it was somewhat laughable.

But back then he really didn't understand.

But now, having set out from Yinlong Mountain, in over a year, he rushed his cultivation from Energy Transformation all the way into the Unity Realm Stage, and still couldn't discern Master's realm.

He was very curious about what realm his Master really was in.

Was it above Unity?

Or even higher than that?

Mu Shao'ai said, "It's just the realm above Unity, I don't even know what it's called, I just referred to it as 'Void Breaking Realm'."

"Void Breaking Realm, huh?" Mu Jinyu pondered, nodding.

At this moment, Mu Shao'ai flicked his fingers, clearly without using a trace of True Qi, but the void a hundred feet before them, instantly collapsed into pitch darkness.

Only after more than ten minutes did heaven and earth slowly heal.

Mu Shao'ai sighed, "At my realm, the world becomes too fragile. A casual move might break the void, so I can't lightly make a move."

"You saw it just now, at that time when I had a life-and-death battle with the Master of Heavenly Palace, we ended up fighting in outer space. Otherwise, if I had fought him on Earth, I'm afraid Earth would have been shattered by us!"

"This is why we all want to leave Earth, the environment here is no longer suitable for us. We can't absorb Heaven and Earth Vital Energy and are suppressed by Heaven and Earth Laws, it's practically like a prison."

Mu Jinyu understood, nodding and said, "Oh, so the Starry Sky Teleportation Array can allow you to leave Earth and go to more suitable planets for cultivation?"

"More or less, the Master of Heavenly Palace studied it for several thousand years and still didn't understand where the Starry Sky Teleportation Array leads to. I researched for a few years and didn't make much progress, we're just going to give it a try." Mu Shao'ai answered.

Then, as the master-disciple duo chatted, Mu Shao'ai suddenly said with satisfaction, "You brat finally decided to cultivate seriously, quite terrifying indeed, to go from Qi Refining Realm to Unity Realm in just a few years, even your master wasn't this exaggerated back then!"

"Master, how many years did it take you to cultivate to the Unity Realm?" Mu Jinyu blinked his eyes and asked curiously.

Mu Shao'ai calculated carefully, sighed, "I started on the path of cultivation at seven, similar to you, and in my early twenties, I overcame the Hedao Tribulation and became a great power in the Unity Realm..."

His tone showed some loss, truly feeling the truth in the saying of new talents emerging every generation, each dominating for a few hundred years.

Back then, he was the true first genius, yet in the blink of an eye, he was surpassed by his own disciple.

Although their cultivation age and at what age they stepped into the Unity Realm seemed not too different, realistically, it's worlds apart.

Mu Jinyu started cultivating at five or six, remained in the Qi Refining Realm at fifteen or sixteen, made no progress.

But back when he was seven, cultivated and reached the Divinity Transformation Realm at eight, entered the Fanxu Realm at twelve, finally reached the Unity Realm at twenty.

And Mu Jinyu, having wasted the prime years for cultivation, seriously started at around seventeen, yet in just over a year, succeeded in Unity.

Moreover, at the Fourth Layer of Unity!

If he had worked a bit harder back then.

Isn't that to say he could have reached the Unity Realm at seven or eight?

The more he thought, the more Mu Shao'ai felt a poignant heartache.

At this point, Mu Jinyu curiously asked, "Then it seems we're quite similar, both stepping into the Unity Realm at around twenty, Master, at what age did you attain the Void Breaking Realm? Tell me, so I can gauge when I might reach the Void Breaking Realm."

Hearing his obedient disciple's words, Mu Shao'ai's face turned a little ashen, corners twitching before he said, "You don't need to worry about that, when the time comes, you'll naturally break through, being too fixated on the timeline isn't good..."

"Oh." Mu Jinyu lightly nodded, still preparing to ask further.

Seeing his readiness to continue probing, Mu Shao'ai hurriedly changed the subject, "Seeing you, this brat, finally willing to cultivate seriously and having now stepped into the Unity Realm, as a teacher, I am truly relieved. I once feared your grinding would end prematurely when you were to be hunted by the Wu Family, but surprisingly, you exceeded my expectations, persisting until now."

As expected.

Those words ignited flames of anger within Mu Jinyu's heart immediately.

"Oh you wicked old man, heartless truly, seeing your disciple hunted by so many, you can still harden your heart to watch, what if I really met some mishap and died, who'd clean up your corpse after?!"

Mu Jinyu angrily said, his tone tinged with grievance.

Ever since being hunted by Wu Xiongfei and becoming an enemy with the world, the process was truly at the brink of life and death.

Were Mu Shao'ai not the Master of Heavenly Palace and were elsewhere than Kunlun Ruins, he could understand, as he wouldn't know about the incident.

Yet the old man was clearly at the Heavenly Palace, aware of the pursuit, still, he could bear watching it unfold.

What a black heart indeed.

At the time, he was at the Seventh Layer of the Fanxu Realm, while Wu Xiongfei and others were great powers of the sixth and seventh layers of the Unity Realm, one misstep, and he could truly have perished.

If he hadn't had good luck, if given the same experience again, he wouldn't be sure if he could survive and crush his foes.

Mu Shao'ai merrily said, "Wasn't the master tempering you? Without this, could you have rushed from Fanxu Realm to Unity Realm so swiftly?"

"The well-intentioned master worried that exposing identity meant you felt no pressure in Kunlun Ruins, and become lazy like on Yinlong Mountain, reluctant to cultivate earnestly, hence choosing to let you

taste hardship, now master sees that you haven't perceived the master's pains at all, truly disheartening."

At the end, Mu Shao'ai wore a heartbroken expression.

"Oh stop it already!" Mu Jinyu looked at him with disdain, saying, "When I was seeking the Hedao Fruit in the Secret Realm, did you follow along and could rescue me anytime?"

Mu Shao'ai was momentarily speechless.

Mu Jinyu continued scornfully, "When I slew a large crowd in the Extremely Cold Hell, did you enter with me? Then tell me what I encountered inside?"

Chapter 1166: Filling Gaps and Omissions! Green Emperor Wood Emperor Scripture!

"Uh, you encountered a group of lost souls in there..."

Mu Shao'ai stammered, looking quite embarrassed.

Obviously, although he had been secretly following and protecting Mu Jinyu from behind, in case Mu Jinyu couldn't withstand the siege by a group of Unity Realm masters and he needed to step in and save him in time, under certain special circumstances, he still couldn't guarantee Mu Jinyu's safety.

Things inevitably slipped out of his control.

For instance, he couldn't infiltrate the slumbering place of the Extremely Cold Hell Silkworm King.

Therefore, he didn't know what Mu Jinyu had experienced inside at that time.

"You're fine now, aren't you? Come on, let's not talk about these boring things. Here, this is my newly refined 'True Dragon Art' from recent years, take a look for reference."

Mu Shao'ai laughed heartily, changing the subject, then tapped Mu Jinyu on the forehead, transmitting several scriptures to him.

Mu Jinyu was about to speak, but the overwhelming information suddenly rushing into his mind made him dizzy, so he no longer spoke and began to digest these scriptures.

After a while, Mu Jinyu finally organized these scriptures. One of them was an improved version of the 'True Dragon Art', which was much stronger than the original.

In fact, it was even stronger and more complete than the 'Dragon Transformation Scripture' he had comprehended on the Transforming Dragon Platform at the Hidden Dragon Conference.

"Master, is this 'True Dragon Art' something you also comprehended from the Transforming Dragon Platform at the Hidden Dragon Conference?" Mu Jinyu curiously asked.

"Yes." Mu Shao'ai nodded and replied, "The initial version of the 'True Dragon Art' was something I comprehended during the Hidden Dragon Conference. The new version, however, was created after I became the Master of the Heavenly Palace, derived from the Sea of Consciousness of past Dragon Head Leaders through the original Palace Master, and compiled from the Heavenly Palace's Scripture Pavilion."

"I see..." Upon hearing this, Mu Jinyu suddenly realized, knowing his earlier speculation was correct.

No wonder he could draw Eight Bushels of Dragon Qi when he performed the 'True Dragon Art' at the Hidden Dragon Conference; it turned out they shared the same origin.

The Heavenly Palace has always recruited Dragon Head Leaders and outstanding participants from the Hidden Dragon Conference, letting them join the Heavenly Palace in exchange for their insights on the Transforming Dragon Platform with various secret manuals.

Mu Jinyu carefully studied the new version of the 'True Dragon Art' passed down by his master, supplementing it into his 'Dragon Transformation Scripture', which made his originally incomplete 'Dragon Transformation Scripture' even more perfect.

"Master, next time just take me directly to see the insights of those past leaders, I fear your comprehension might not be adequate, delaying me."

Even though Mu Jinyu made his 'Dragon Transformation Scripture' more perfect, he still felt there were shortcomings. Eventually, he thought about how both he and his master had only attended one Hidden Dragon Conference, yet his master's 'True Dragon Art' was only a small part of the secret techniques from the Transforming Dragon Platform, suggesting his master's comprehension seemed lacking. Therefore, he blatantly said this to Mu Shao'ai.

"You brat, how dare you speak like that? My comprehension is inadequate? Are you kidding me?"

Mu Shao'ai was immediately annoyed upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words and flicked his forehead, making Mu Jinyu's head buzz.

"Master, please stop being so heavy-handed, it really hurts. If I hadn't mastered body refinement, my head would've been cracked by you." Mu Jinyu complained while holding his forehead.

Then, he pointed to Mu Shao'ai and taught him his original 'Dragon Transformation Scripture', saying, "Master, this is the secret technique I comprehended on the Transforming Dragon Platform. See if it's stronger than your own comprehended True Dragon Art?"

Mu Shao'ai, with cultivation at the Void Breaking Realm, was practically invincible in his era. His soul was naturally much stronger than Mu Jinyu's in the Unity Realm. Mu Jinyu's transmission of the 'Dragon Transformation Scripture' was quickly absorbed by him.

He gained many insights from it, and he could also find missing pieces in his revised 'True Dragon Art'. For a moment, he felt embarrassed.

Wow, this disciple of his, who only had a little time of insight at the Hidden Dragon Conference, had actually comprehended a secret technique that was not inferior to his own gains at the Heavenly Palace.

Feeling ashamed and helpless inside, Mu Shao'ai still kept a stern face and said, "This is nothing. Without my guidance with the 'True Dragon Art', would you have comprehended so much on the Transforming Dragon Platform?"

"When I participated in the Hidden Dragon Conference back then, if I had the 'True Dragon Art' as a guide, my gains on the Transforming Dragon Platform wouldn't have been less than yours."

Mu Shao'ai said proudly.

Upon hearing his master's words, Mu Jinyu also agreed, feeling that he may have overstated things earlier, so he apologized to his master. Then he said, "However, Master, I still think comprehending on my own would be better. When you have time, let me study those insights at the Heavenly Palace myself."

"Alright." Mu Shao'ai agreed.

He naturally wouldn't refuse Mu Jinyu's request. His earlier speech was just to maintain his dignity as a master. Otherwise, if he, as a master, had a lack of comprehension compared to his disciple, it would be quite a loss of face.

Mu Jinyu was ecstatic to get his master's consent. The current 'Dragon Transformation Scripture' randomly boosts his combat strength by one to nine layers upon execution.

If completed, could it allow him to consistently maintain a nine-layer boost effect?

How could he not be excited?

Afterward, Mu Jinyu had time to check the other scriptures Mu Shao'ai transmitted to him, one was the 'Green Emperor Wood Emperor Scripture' and another was the 'Dragon Elephant Prison Suppression Scripture'!

"Oh, it's these two?" Mu Jinyu was immediately delighted.

During his first contact with the Heavenly Palace, the Vice Palace Master had offered him the complete 'Green Emperor Wood Emperor Scripture', which was far superior to the 'Green Emperor's Wood Emperor Art' he was practicing.

However, because he was trying to solve the problem of Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan seizing each other's soul, he ultimately passed on this complete cultivation technique.

He regretted it to this day but didn't have any regrets.

Unexpectedly, his master also knew about these and even transmitted this cultivation technique to him.

As for the 'Dragon Elephant Prison Suppression Scripture', Mu Jinyu originally thought he already had it and didn't need it, but upon closer inspection, he found it was even more complete than the version he obtained from the Blood Sword Sect.

Could this be the originally lost sect-defining method of the Dragon Elephant Sect that ended up in the hands of the Heavenly Palace?

Mu Jinyu wasn't sure but decided to learn it anyway.

Later, the master and disciple pair began to chat about their experiences during the years they were apart.

After most of the day had passed.

Mu Jinyu felt that since he had resolved the threats from the Heavenly Palace, he should go back and inform the people of the Heavenly Sword Faction. As for the reckoning with those forces that had joined hands to surround and kill him, Mu Jinyu decided to leave it to his master to handle.

Originally, without recognizing each other as master and disciple, Mu Shao'ai might have just sat by, watching the drama. But now that they were master and disciple, Mu Shao'ai would naturally settle these old scores.

"By the way, master, I still lack the last two ingredients of the spiritual medicine to solve the soul-seizing problem. Do you have them?"

Before leaving, Mu Jinyu remembered this matter and asked Mu Shao'ai.

He initially planned to search for the last few spiritual medicines while settling scores with his enemies. Now having the greater backing of the Heavenly Palace, he certainly wouldn't miss the chance.

"Oh, I have them, here you go..."

Mu Shao'ai also remembered this matter and generously handed over two spiritual medicines to Mu Jinyu.

Chapter 1167: Huitian Sword Sect! Verification Once Again!

Mu Shao'ai took out two pieces of Spiritual Medicine for Mu Jinyu and said, "You mentioned Soul Shatter Grass, Soul-Hiding Flower, Nether River Flower and the like, Master may not have them here, it'll take some time to find them, but these two Spiritual Medicines, Master just happens to have them, take them."

Mu Jinyu received them, feeling a burst of satisfaction and joy in his heart.

After going through countless hardships, he finally managed to gather these twelve types of Spiritual Medicine. Next, he can finally switch Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan back to their respective bodies.

"Thank you, Master."

After speaking, Mu Jinyu took the Sect Leader of the Wuji Sect and Baiyang Palace and set out on the journey back to the Heavenly Sword Faction.

As for the Chen Family Ancestor, because of Wen Rou, and also this place is their sect gate, Mu Jinyu had just utilized the sect gate to battle Master, he couldn't ask him to follow back, so he let him stay and rest at home.

And Mu Shao'ai did not go with his own disciple, of course, he must go to settle those forces that once hunted him down one by one.

His disciple is not to be bullied by others!

...

Half a day later.

Mu Jinyu returned to the Heavenly Sword Faction.

Upon re-entering the Heavenly Sword Faction, Xie Chenkun and others who arrived upon receiving the news curiously asked, "Why are you back so soon?"

They remembered that before Mu Jinyu left, he mentioned settling accounts with more than twenty forces, and since their regions were not close to each other, they guessed it would take at least ten days or half a month for Mu Jinyu to return.

But unexpectedly, he returned in just a few days.

Could it be that he gave up on settling accounts?

"The matters have been resolved. From now on, we don't have to hide anymore." Mu Jinyu said with a smile.

Then, he informed everyone about his Master being the Master of Heavenly Palace.

However, to prevent any unexpected changes, he did not mention that Mu Shao'ai killed the original Master of Heavenly Palace and took over the position. He only explained that after being accepted as a disciple by Mu Shao'ai as a child, he was unaware of the other's identity and only found out now, realizing the other was the Master of Heavenly Palace.

And previously, when he was being hunted, the Heavenly Palace didn't intervene because his Master wanted to temper him.

The crowd suddenly understood upon hearing Mu Jinyu's explanation.

No wonder.

No wonder Mu Jinyu's talent is so astonishing, and also why the Heavenly Palace remained inactive during the recent upheaval at the Kunlun Ruins, it was for this reason.

After realizing this, Yan Ran, Yun Ge, and others looked at Mu Jinyu with eyes full of envy, and congratulated him on finding a Master.

With such a strong backing and Mu Jinyu's power, he can indeed walk unhindered in Kunlun Ruins from now on.

No one will dare bully him as someone with no backing anymore.

Mu Jinyu wasn't very concerned about these things; the only joy he felt after encountering his Master was their reunion and discovering the true culprit who killed Xiang Mantang's parents wasn't his Master. Additionally, he obtained the last two pieces of Spiritual Medicine, finally allowing Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan to be free.

After briefly chatting with Xie Chenkun and others, Mu Jinyu immediately returned to Courtyard No.1 of Tianlan Peak to find Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan.

"Little Yanzi."

Upon returning to the courtyard, Mu Jinyu did not first look for Wen Rou or inform her of Chen Shuyi's relationship with the Chen Family, but he went to find Jian Ruyan first.

Because he needed to verify once again whether his Master's words were true or not.

"What's up?"

Jian Ruyan was still silently cultivating when she saw Mu Jinyu intruding into her room, she opened her eyes and looked at him in confusion and curiosity.

She was still thinking, how long had she been cultivating?

Why did Mu Jinyu return so quickly?

Mu Jinyu looked at Jian Ruyan and spoke, "I met the Heaven Palace Master."

"What?!" Jian Ruyan was shocked, her pupils constricted sharply, like needles, filled with fear, hatred, and despair.

Clearly, she feared the Heavenly Palace Master to the extreme.

Mu Jinyu saw this and knew that his Master was right about one thing: Jian Ruyan must have seen the former Heavenly Palace Master, otherwise she wouldn't show such an expression.

Mu Jinyu asked, "Have you seen him? Does he look like this?"

Saying that, Mu Jinyu approached Jian Ruyan, his finger pointing at her forehead, transmitting the images of his battle with Mu Shao'ai before the latter's identity was revealed, allowing Jian Ruyan to experience Mu Shao'ai's demeanor, aura, and other aspects.

Jian Ruyan's face turned pale, her body trembled, she closed her eyes tightly, and said in a trembling voice, "It's him...it's him...it's that devil..."

"Is it truly him? Can you verify carefully if there's any difference?" Mu Jinyu asked earnestly.

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, Jian Ruyan's fearful expression slightly calmed, then she began to disprove whether the Man in Black Robe was different from her memory of the Heavenly Palace Master.

Soon, Jian Ruyan spoke, her tone much relaxed, "It's not him, it's someone impersonating the Heaven Palace Master, how did you encounter him?"

Mu Jinyu said, "He is my and your brother's Master. He told me he killed the Heavenly Palace Master in revenge for your family, then occupied the position for certain reasons, impersonating as the Heaven Palace Master. But I'm still not sure if what he said is true..."

At first, Mu Jinyu had great faith in Mu Shao'ai's words, but after returning to the Heavenly Sword Faction, he suddenly remembered the time Xiang Mantang mistakenly thought Shen Cangsheng had sent an assassin who was actually his sister, Xiang Yinxui, almost causing her death.

So he became wary, fearing that this was a scheme by the Heavenly Palace Master, pretending to be his Master Mu Shao'ai, or that his Master had truly changed, wanting to seize his Dragon Blood.

Therefore, he specially sought out Jian Ruyan to verify the truth.

After all, very few people had seen the Heavenly Palace Master, and Jian Ruyan had seen him once because of her unique bloodline.

And no matter how well one can disguise themselves, it's impossible to completely become someone else.

"What?" Jian Ruyan's face changed drastically after hearing Mu Jinyu's explanation, "You mean the Heaven Palace Master died at your Master's hands?"

"Yes, he said this..."

Mu Jinyu then transmitted the scene his Master sent him to Jian Ruyan, letting her see if the Man in Black Robe fighting Mu Shao'ai was the Heavenly Palace Master.

After watching this scene, Jian Ruyan's expression became extremely complex, her eyes hazy with joy, excitement, relief, and a hint of faint regret.

Apparently, she regretted not being able to personally avenge her parents.

After coming to her senses, Jian Ruyan nodded, "Yes, that Man in Black Robe is indeed the Heavenly Palace Master..."

"Then the purpose for your return to Huaxia, staying by Ah-Xiang's side, was truly to refine purer Phoenix's Blood?" Mu Jinyu asked.

"Yes, it is..." Jian Ruyan's face showed some embarrassment; after all, no matter if she didn't put it into action, it was still hard to explain clearly to others. But since Mu Jinyu already knew, she thought there was no need to hide it.

Finally, she nodded and confessed.

"That's why I never dared to speak out, I had prepared to die with my brother in the end... Unexpectedly, that's why I didn't take action. After meeting my brother again, I didn't face any reprisals, it turns out that guy is dead!"

Jian Ruyan smiled with a sigh.

Chapter 1168: Everything Is Ready! Commencing Soul Transfer!

Upon receiving Jian Ruyan's affirmative response, Mu Jinyu finally felt completely at ease.

The Master is not the true mastermind behind the past tragedy of the Xiang Family. Even if Xiang Mantang returns later and learns all this, although it's regrettable he cannot personally avenge his enemies, after verifying the truth, it wouldn't lead to a scenario where the master and disciple clash to the end.

Thereafter, Mu Jinyu advised Jian Ruyan to relax and calm herself, setting a good mindset, to prepare for resolving the issue of mutual soul seizing between her and Wen Rou.

Jian Ruyan knew Mu Jinyu had already gathered the twelve kinds of spiritual medicine, feeling extremely excited.

Finally, she could return to her original body.

She wouldn't have to continually disrupt their cultivation because of swapping bodies with Wen Rou.

Her guilt towards Wen Rou slightly diminished as well.

Had it not been her unconscious soul seizing from Wen Rou, given Wen Rou's cultivation aptitude, how could she be stuck in the Fifth Layer of the Divinity Transformation Realm following Mu Jinyu to the Kunlun Ruins for the past year?

She would have reached the Fifth Layer of the Fanxu Realm!

So Jian Ruyan always felt quite sorry for Wen Rou in her heart.

Mu Jinyu left Jian Ruyan's room and then went to find Wen Rou.

"Little Mu, you're back, are things okay now?"

Wen Rou knew Mu Jinyu returned from the commotion in the courtyard, but she didn't mind him going to Jian Ruyan first. Seeing Mu Jinyu approach her, she immediately exclaimed joyfully.

"Yes," Mu Jinyu said with a smile and hugged Wen Rou, adding, "I've found the last three spiritual medicines, gathered all the secret formula materials, and we can make you and Little Yanzi swap back to your bodies shortly."

"Really? That's wonderful..." Wen Rou grinned happily upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words.

Mu Jinyu deliberately chose not to tell Wen Rou about Chen Shuyi's matters right now.

After all, speaking about that would ruin Wen Rou's mood, unsuitable for the impending body swap operation.

Had the truth about the Heavenly Palace's mastermind not been overly important, Mu Jinyu wouldn't have gone to confirm with Jian Ruyan first just now.

Meanwhile, Wen Rou's maiden family was evidently not that important and could wait for after they swapped back, then he would take Wen Rou to see Chen Shuyi at the Chen Family.

Having spent some time in gentle company with Wen Rou, Mu Jinyu pondered that Jian Ruyan's mood should be adjusted by now, thus said: "Let's go and find Little Yanzi."

"Yes," Wen Rou accompanied Mu Jinyu, feeling somewhat nervous yet excited, walking out of the room and into Jian Ruyan's room.

Jian Ruyan had already calmed her mood, and when Mu Jinyu and Wen Rou walked in, her expression was very calm, though somewhat pale, clearly better than the initial shock upon hearing about the Master of Heavenly Palace.

"Can we start?" Jian Ruyan asked, taking a deep breath, feeling a bit nervous.

"First, adjust your mood again, while I prepare the spiritual medicines."

Mu Jinyu smiled and said briefly, then waved his hand to summon a pile of spiritual medicines.

These included the Five Mace Spirit Medicine obtained from the Dragon Elephant Sect, Soul Shatter Grass from the Cursed Soul Forest, Cold Soul Six Spirit Ganoderma from the Extremely Cold Hell, Nether River Flower from the Kui Dragon Tribe, Soul-Hiding Flower from the Boundless Sect, a spiritual medicine from the Chen Family, and lastly two obtained from his Master.

A total of twelve spiritual medicines.

Among them, the five spiritual medicines obtained from the Dragon Elephant Sect, Mu Jinyu had already matured using Life Source Energy, making them regrow into two portions, and he also matured the Soul Shatter Grass from the Cursed Soul Forest into two portions.

As for the remaining six spiritual medicines, he hasn't activated them into two portions and currently holds only one portion of each.

Next, he would need to activate the remaining Cold Soul Six Spirit Ganoderma, Nether River Flower, Soul-Hiding Flower, and other spiritual medicines into two portions.

Only then can he allow Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan to simultaneously conduct another soul seizing.

"Unexpectedly, within just over a month, we gathered these twelve spiritual medicines. After we swap back, we can go home." Wen Rou knew what Mu Jinyu was doing and couldn't help but feel emotional.

In their initial thoughts, gathering these spiritual medicines, even if it didn't take ordinary cultivators a dozen years to find them, would at least take one or two years.

Who would have thought that in just over a month, Mu Jinyu managed to gather them through adventure, rummaging the treasure vaults of enemies.

If it were an ordinary cultivator, I reckon they wouldn't have found even one spiritual medicine by now.

And without Life Source Energy, Mu Jinyu would likely still have to continue searching.

After all, some of the spiritual medicines he obtained were not mature, some were singular; without Life Source Energy, they would still need to spend more time searching.

Under Mu Jinyu's activation, it didn't take long before these spiritual medicines split into two portions.

"Alright, finally it's done."

Mu Jinyu looked at the twenty-four spiritual medicines laid out on the ground, smiling in satisfaction.

Then he stood up, looking at the two excited girls, asking, "Are you ready?"

"Yes, already prepared," Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan both sat on the edge of the bed, nodding affirmatively.

Mu Jinyu said seriously, "This method of shaking the soul for a soul seizing carries certain risks, potentially leading to soul scatter, but I am prepared; even if this fails, you won't be harmed."

"Yes," the two girls attentively watched Mu Jinyu, without doubt nor fear.

Mu Jinyu smiled gently and said, "No need to be too tense, let's start."

Upon saying that, he took action by refining several spiritual medicines with Soul Shatter Grass, Cold Soul Six Spirit Ganoderma, and Nether River Flower together into medicinal liquid.

Then, under the eager yet somewhat tense gaze of the two girls, he deposited the medicinal liquid into their brows, penetrating into their Sea of Consciousness!

"Ah!!"

With the medicinal liquid penetrating the Sea of Consciousness, the two couldn't help but scream in agony and fainted.

Without other spiritual medicines to neutralize the potency, the Soul Shatter Grass's potency alone entering their Sea of Consciousness would immediately scatter their souls.

But since the potency was neutralized, this force would shake their souls and bodies' fusion, giving them another opportunity for soul egress and seizing.

If not for the potent analgesic effects of the Nether River Flower, dulling the soul-shaking and painful ordeal, the two might not withstand the near soul scattering torment, ultimately foiling the operation.

"Rise!!"

Mu Jinyu earnestly concentrated on refining the medicinal potency to shake their souls, ultimately shaking them loose.

"Buzz!!"

Two shimmering light groups emerged from the girls' brows.

'Excellent.' Mu Jinyu cheered inwardly, knowing the first step succeeded.

Then, he drew the girls' souls into his Sea of Consciousness.

This step was not part of the original solution.

But fearing accidents, Mu Jinyu decided to utilize the mystical little tree within his Sea of Consciousness to execute the next steps more perfectly.

With this, even if the soul seizing faced mishaps, they wouldn't lead to soul scatter.

Chapter 1169: Strange Movements from the Little Tree! Failed?!

Under Mu Jinyu's careful manipulation, the soul spheres of the two women were soon brought into his Sea of Consciousness.

"Buzz!!"

As soon as the two pristine white soul spheres entered the Sea of Consciousness, the mystical little tree rooted inside Mu Jinyu's Sea of Consciousness suddenly trembled slightly, and its emerald-green leaves began to sway.

Mu Jinyu was startled, thinking that the mystical little tree was repelling the invasion of other soul bodies and instinctively wanted to obliterate the souls of the two women.

Just as Mu Jinyu was about to forcibly suppress the actions of the mystical little tree, he saw two faint cyan beams of light emanate from the tree's branches and leaves, descending onto Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan's soul spheres.

"This..."

Mu Jinyu watched this scene with doubt, unable to stop it in time.

He felt a bit regretful, having intended to cleanse the grime from the souls of the two women within his Sea of Consciousness. If any accidents occurred, the mystical little tree might help him stabilize the disintegrating soul spheres, preventing the women from having their souls scattered. But unexpectedly, before he could take action, the tree had already moved on its own as soon as their soul spheres entered the Sea of Consciousness.

Who knows what tricks the little tree played on them!

If anything were to happen to them, even at the risk of his own life, he would definitely remove this uncontrollable entity from the Sea of Consciousness!

As Mu Jinyu was filled with anger and annoyance, he saw the two pristine white soul spheres become brighter under the infiltration of the faint cyan beams of light.

"Puff, puff..."

Following a few rejection sounds, threads of ghostly black Qi began to seep out from the two pristine white luminous spheres, followed by red, ice-blue, and emerald-green Qi...

"Hmm?!"

Upon seeing this, Mu Jinyu frowned deeply, exclaiming in surprise, "Why does it seem like it's cleansing the grime on their souls?"

To completely restore Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan to their bodies without damaging their cultivation talents, there were three steps in total.

The first step naturally was to find a way to stir their souls, which had solidified within their new bodies after the soul seizing, and then let their souls exit the body once more.

The second step was to cleanse and remove the grime on their souls caused by the soul seizing, which had solidified and been eroded within the seizing bodies.

Otherwise, if Wen Rou's soul were forcibly extracted from Jian Ruyan's body and directly sent back to her own body without any action, the grime on Wen Rou's soul, which had inevitably been assimilated during its stay in Jian Ruyan's body, would cause her cultivation talent to remain absent even after returning to her own body.

The third step was to use the Soul-Hiding Flower to prevent their souls from being contaminated by Hong Chen Qi once the foreign grime on their souls was removed, and then send them back into their bodies.

With these three steps completed, they would completely restore their bodies, and even if their cultivation talents were still somewhat depleted, they would be much stronger than they are now.

The first two steps were quite dangerous, so after extracting the souls of the two women from their respective seizing bodies, Mu Jinyu planned to leverage the stability of the mystical little tree within his Sea of Consciousness to help them remove the grime from the soul assimilation. If any unexpected events happened during the process, the mystical little tree might step in to stabilize the crumbling soul spheres.

But unexpectedly, as soon as their soul spheres entered his Sea of Consciousness, the mystical little tree spontaneously acted up.

Initially, Mu Jinyu thought the little tree had already regarded his Sea of Consciousness as its own territory and wouldn't allow other soul bodies to invade, so it was harming the two women's soul spheres.

It infuriated him.

But as the peculiar Qi streams escaped from the women's soul spheres, Mu Jinyu began to feel like this mystical little tree was helping him, assisting in cleansing the grime from the two women's souls that didn't belong to them...

"Puff, puff..."

As Mu Jinyu watched with a mix of doubt and disbelief, the two soul spheres continued to expel a variety of colored Qi, and eventually, the two pristine white luminous spheres expanded from the size of a fist to that of a soccer ball, becoming even brighter and more resplendent.

"It really is like that... Their souls have not only been cleansed of grime but also nourished; now their souls have reached a level that only Fanxu Realm cultivators possess..."

Mu Jinyu glanced quizzically at the mystical little tree rooted at the center of the Sea of Consciousness, and asked, "What exactly are you? Could it be that you have consciousness? Why did you enter my Sea of Consciousness?"

The little tree didn't respond at all, quietly rooting itself in his Sea of Consciousness, absorbing the Heaven and Earth Vital Energy, occasionally reciprocating it back.

Mu Jinyu furrowed his brows, then shook his head, no longer delving into the origins of the little tree.

"In that case, these Spiritual Medicines are no longer needed."

Mu Jinyu looked at the few Spiritual Medicines floating in the Sea of Consciousness and smiled wryly.

These Spiritual Medicines were the last two kinds he obtained from his master, with the effect of cleansing the soul and strengthening it.

His original plan was to use these two Spiritual Medicines to cleanse the grime attached to the souls of the two women, then combined with the prior effect of the Nether River Flower, it would be as if they drank Meng Po Soup, preventing their souls from bearing each other's Soul Thought imprints.

But doing so carried significant risk. One was that their souls might not withstand the medicinal power and collapse, and another was that the effect of the two Spiritual Medicines might counteract with the Nether River Flower, erasing the women's memories.

But now, with the help of the mystical little tree, the second step's effect was better than he imagined.

Mu Jinyu decided to abandon the use of these two Spiritual Medicines to avoid any mishaps for the two women.

"Rise..."

Mu Jinyu softly called out, then guided the two beams of soul light to leave his Sea of Consciousness with him.

"Buzz!"

As the two beams of soul light exited the Sea of Consciousness, Mu Jinyu summoned the Soul-Hiding Flower to hold their souls within, protecting them from any contamination by Hong Chen Qi before sending them back into their true bodies.

The process was rather tense.

Mu Jinyu feared that, with one careless move, he might send Wen Rou's soul back into Jian Ruyan's body, which would spell disaster. He verified everything multiple times, ensuring accuracy before returning the souls to their respective bodies.

"Phew..."

As the souls of the two women entered their rightful bodies, the Soul-Hiding Flower wilted and withered on its own, turning to ash and scattering with the wind.

The Soul-Hiding Flower's role is to embed souls within it, ensuring their safety from void turbulence for seven days, preventing them from being scattered.

However, once a soul resides within, even if not reaching the seven-day limit, the Soul-Hiding Flower would wilt once the soul departs.

Fortunately, Mu Jinyu preserved the seeds of this Spiritual Medicine, so if needed in the future, he wouldn't spend excessive time searching for it.

"Now, we wait for them to wake up."

Mu Jinyu averted his gaze from the scattered ashes, looking nervously at the two women who had fainted, softly mumbling.

He waited for quite some time.

Jian Ruyan was the first to awaken. Upon waking, she opened her bewildered eyes, and then an expression of excitement and tension surged in her clear eyes as she looked down at her own palm.

Her delicate body trembled, and she abruptly looked up at Mu Jinyu, her eyes filled with disbelief and confusion, saying with grievance, "Little Mu... I..."

Chapter 1170: Just a Joke! The Two Women's Cultivation Changes!

Mu Jinyu was stunned when he heard Jian Ruyan's words.

The women around him usually called him Jinyu directly, like Lin Qiaoxia who called him Young Master Mu, but the only one who called him Little Mu was Wen Rou.

So, does this mean that Wen Rou is still residing in Jian Ruyan's body?

But didn't he successfully send Wen Rou's soul back to her own body? How could this happen?

Could it be that even after repeatedly confirming, he still sent them to the wrong bodies?

Mu Jinyu felt a chill in his heart. What should he do now?

Is it possible to shake their souls once again and send them back to their own bodies?

"Pfft!"

Seeing Mu Jinyu's dumbfounded expression, Jian Ruyan suddenly burst out laughing and said, "How was it? Did I act well?"

Mu Jinyu stared blankly at Jian Ruyan's smiling face, in her sly and lively eyes, there were no emotions like fear, confusion, or grievance.

He suddenly realized, responding with some gritted teeth, "Damn, Little Yanzi, you got me. Damn, you scared me. I thought I really messed up."

Although his tone carried some complaint, he actually breathed a sigh of relief in his heart. Luckily, he didn't make a mistake, otherwise, if he had to shake their souls again, it would probably put even more of a burden on their bodies.

"Just teasing you a bit to see if you could recognize me and Wen Rou," Jian Ruyan said with a smile.

"This isn't funny," Mu Jinyu shook his head and said.

However, he was actually quite happy inside. The former Jian Ruyan was always cold, almost like an ice block. It wasn't until she reconciled with Xiang Mantang that she got a little better, but she was still somewhat aloof.

When she accompanied him to the Kunlun Ruins, her attitude towards him was not very good. It was only after they spent more time together that their relationship improved slightly.

But now, after he shared the news that Mu Shao'ai had avenged their family, the fear lurking in Jian Ruyan's heart finally dissipated, allowing her to finally act like a normal girl.

She even joked with him now.

Something that was once utterly inconceivable.

At this moment, Wen Rou also let out a soft moan and woke up.

She opened her slightly confused eyes, looked at Jian Ruyan and Mu Jinyu, and mumbled, "Little Mu, did we succeed?"

This was Wen Rou's tone indeed.

Mu Jinyu sighed inwardly and then said, "Yes, we did. How do you feel?"

As he spoke, he performed a spell with the Profound Light Mirror to serve as a mirror for Wen Rou so she could see if she had returned to her original appearance.

Wen Rou widened her eyes, looked in the mirror, and saw her familiar face, the face that had hovered before her eyes for a long time. She appeared a bit dumbfounded, then her eyes reddened, and she couldn't help crying with excitement. She threw herself into Mu Jinyu's arms and murmured, "Little Mu, I've finally returned to my original form, and I can finally hold you like this again, sob sob sob..."

"There, there, it's all over now..." Mu Jinyu also wrapped his arms around Wen Rou, no longer in the awkward, rigid posture he used to have when Wen Rou, in Jian Ruyan's body, occasionally embraced him in emotional outbursts.

His movements were familiar and natural, just like in the past.

Jian Ruyan sat on the side, a faint smile on her lips as she watched the scene, then quietly got up and left the room.

She felt guilty in her heart; if not for her, Wen Rou and Mu Jinyu wouldn't have had to endure this, even though they were by each other's side, they couldn't get too close, suffering emotionally.

Now that she and Wen Rou finally returned to their respective bodies, the guilt in her heart had eased a little.

It was time to let the two lovers have their time of reunion.

...

Jian Ruyan spent half a day cultivating in what was originally Wen Rou's room.

When she opened her eyes again, her gaze was filled with confusion and disbelief as she murmured, "How could this be?"

At this moment, she had finally broken free of the aftereffects of soul seizing, and once her soul returned to her body and she cultivated again, her cultivation level soared from the Fifth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm to the Seventh Layer!

She broke through two minor realms!

This was simply unbelievable!

In theory, while her cultivation talent wasn't bad, it wasn't strong enough to be this impressive, was it?

She now had progress that could rival Mu Jinyu's incredible pace.

"No..." Jian Ruyan quickly realized and murmured, "In theory, although I've returned to my body, my talent shouldn't have improved, but instead weakened considerably. Yet, this situation has occurred, indicating that the effects of the various spiritual medicines that Wen Rou and I accumulated in our bodies over the past year have finally been able to exert their effects now?"

"Also, during the recent time when Jinyu became the Dragon Head Leader, it was said that the dragon vein shifted, and not only in the Heavenly Sword Faction but also in the entire Yan Kingdom, many people broke through multiple levels."

"Wen Rou and I were by his side at that time, without any movement or benefits, which evidently all accumulated and exploded now!"

Jian Ruyan quickly realized that her improved cultivation was not due to strengthened talent, but because a year of cultivation with top-grade spiritual medicines without previous effect had finally exploded, allowing her to break through several realms.

"I wonder if Wen Rou is cultivating, or if she's enjoying the newlywed phase with Jinyu. I wonder how her cultivation progress is going?"

After surmising her situation, Jian Ruyan felt some concern about Wen Rou's progress. Could she have soared to the Eighth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm, or even the Ninth Layer?

"Unfortunately, I can't disturb them right now. I'm really curious to know the result." Jian Ruyan said with some curiosity.

"Knock, knock, knock..."

Just then, her door was knocked upon, and Wen Rou's voice sounded, "Sister Ruyan, you're not cultivating, are you?"

"Mm." Jian Ruyan snapped back to reality, surprised by the coincidence and quickly replied, "Mm, come in, I just have something to ask you..."

"Creak!"

The door opened, and Wen Rou rushed in with excitement, her cheeks still flushed with excitement, and she called to Jian Ruyan, "Sister Ruyan, how's your cultivation? I've actually broken through to the Fanxu Realm."

Jian Ruyan heard this, looked intently at Wen Rou, and her own excited and fervent expression suddenly froze.

It was true.

Wen Rou had directly advanced from the Fifth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm to the Fanxu Realm in just half a day!

How monstrously talented!

Jian Ruyan originally thought that breaking through two levels to reach the Seventh Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm was quite an achievement and guessed that Wen Rou, with possibly better talent, might reach the Eighth Layer or even the Ninth Layer...

But unexpectedly, Wen Rou surpassed an entire major realm and advanced to the Fanxu Realm!

This was beyond her wildest expectations.

And she couldn't help but feel a little lost.

"Oh, Sister Ruyan, you..."

At this moment, Wen Rou also noticed Jian Ruyan's cultivation level, which was only at the Seventh Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm.

Wen Rou wasn't a fool either and knew that her cultivation talent was slightly better than Jian Ruyan's, so she initially speculated that by reaching the Fanxu Realm, Jian Ruyan should have reached around the Ninth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm.

Otherwise, she wouldn't have come over to ask about Jian Ruyan's situation, for fear of unintentionally flaunting and wounding someone's pride.

But unexpectedly, Jian Ruyan turned out to only be at the Seventh Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm.

This was truly beyond Wen Rou's expectations.

"Actually, your situations are quite normal..."

At this point, Mu Jinyu entered and smiled as he explained to them.