

## King Hall 691

Chapter 691: The Little Sapling is Gone!

Not only was San Liu's gaze intense, his heart brimmed with desire.

Mu Jinyu looked at the Dragon Marrow Immortal Spring, nearly five hundred meters in diameter, with a blazing look in his eyes.

With such a vast Dragon Marrow Immortal Spring, he could not only refine his Bloodline Power to an exaggeratedly terrifying level but also allow the exotic species he possessed to fully mature and see what it truly was.

He estimated he could significantly enhance his strength, perhaps even directly breaking through to the Seventh Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm, the Advanced Divine Realm?!

If that were the case, the so-called Ye Wushuang and Li Zhexiong probably wouldn't be able to withstand a single breath from him!

"Let's go, head down!"

Mu Jinyu turned to look at the eager San Liu and said with a smile.

"Mm."

San Liu responded and then leapt down, plunging into the Dragon Marrow Immortal Spring below with a splash.

"You cultivate for a while, I'll go get that tree seed."

Mu Jinyu called out to San Liu below.

"What?"

San Liu was momentarily stunned, then understood Mu Jinyu's intention. He feared that if he also jumped down and cultivated together, like before, he wouldn't be able to absorb much of the spring!

"Dragon Master..."

San Liu's eyes showed his moved emotions, then in order not to let Mu Jinyu's expectations down, he closed his eyes and started to operate his cultivation technique.

"Boom!!"

An even more surging spiritual power than what he had absorbed before suddenly blasted into San Liu's body, automatically smelting into True Essence Power!

However, because the process was too violent, it overwhelmed San Liu.

"Damn, I didn't get to drink much earlier and felt it was a pity I couldn't drink more. Now that I can drink all I want, I simply can't handle it!"

San Liu endured the excruciating pain that was nearly bursting his body, trying to make light of his hardship.

"It seems my constitution is simply not up to it, I really can't drink much at the end of the day, I'm going to disappoint Dragon Master's good intentions!"

"I can only drink as much as I can, I'll do my best!!"

With that thought, San Liu stopped wallowing in random thoughts, focused his mind, closed his eyes tightly, and frenziedly refined the waves of fierce spiritual power attacking him!

Soon, three minutes passed.

Finally, San Liu couldn't bear it anymore, feeling his body could no longer absorb so much spiritual power. Otherwise, he would really explode and die. He hastily stopped the operation of his cultivation technique, stamped his feet on the water, and propelled himself up from the Dragon Marrow Immortal Spring, stepping on air and returning to the cave above in just a few steps!

"Hm? Why have you come up so soon? Didn't you want to cultivate a bit more?"

Mu Jinyu was in the process of dismembering a Nine-Eyed Bichan, partitioning its frog skin, meat, bones, and nine eyeballs. Surprised by San Liu's sudden appearance, he asked curiously.

"Huff...pant..."

San Liu, panting heavily and drying off the water on his body with a spell, waved his hand at Mu Jinyu and said, "I couldn't endure it. If I absorbed any more, I'd die..."

"Hmm?! This..."

Hearing San Liu's words, Mu Jinyu was speechless.

He had given him the opportunity, and yet he couldn't make use of it!

After examining San Liu's cultivation progress more carefully, he discovered that in the short three minutes, San Liu had only reached the peak of the Third Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm, just one step away from breaking through to the Fourth Layer, the Middle Stage of the Divine Realm!

Mu Jinyu couldn't help but persuade, "Go down and cultivate a little more. You're almost at the Middle Stage of the Divine Realm!"

"I can't do it, it's too fast. Although it's just a bit short, it's better to take it slowly, otherwise, I really will die!"

San Liu heard the words, fear flashing in his eyes as he waved his hand to refuse Mu Jinyu.

He knew his own condition well. It seemed like he was just a step away from breaking through to the Mid Stage of the Divine Realm, but that very step, if forced further, could lead him to explode since he couldn't absorb and digest it!

Seeing this, Mu Jinyu did not insist on San Liu using the opportunity to break through to the Fourth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm.

He understood that San Liu actually had a great chance to break through to the Mid Stage of the Divine Realm using this opportunity, but it involved some risks. With himself present, he wouldn't let San Liu's life be in danger, though the process might be painful.

However, since San Liu had refused, he wouldn't force him to endure the unbearable pain to break through to the Mid Stage of the Divine Realm sooner.

Everyone has their own choices, and one shouldn't force others.

"Then okay."

Mu Jinyu said, quickly handling the corpse of the Nine-Eyed Bichan and then placing it into the Shennong Cauldron before standing up and saying, "Then I'm going to cultivate, you protect me."

"Yes, Dragon Master." San Liu responded respectfully.

Mu Jinyu put away the Shennong Cauldron, slipped it into his pocket, and holding the seed that had sprouted tender buds, he leaped into the Dragon Marrow Immortal Spring below!

"Splash!"

As he hit the water, Mu Jinyu strained to operate the True Dragon Art, vigorously devouring the Dragon Power from the Dragon Marrow Immortal Spring.

This time, Mu Jinyu, unlike before, was not completely immersed in the state of cultivation. He felt as if he was about to burst from the formidable Dragon Power, which prevented him from fully immersing himself in cultivation.

But, he could still bear it!

Mu Jinyu, enduring pain as if being cut and sliced by thousands of knives, crazily allowed his Azure Dragon Bloodline to devour the rare essence of the Dragon Marrow!

Thus, his Bloodline Power became increasingly intense, even starting to expel his own mortal blood, undergoing a complete blood transformation!

This process was both agonizing and exhilarating!

What Mu Jinyu hadn't noticed was...

While he was frenziedly absorbing the Dragon Marrow from the Dragon Marrow Immortal Spring to enhance his Bloodline concentration, the seed he tightly held was also crazily devouring the vast Spiritual Power and immense Life Source Energy from the Immortal Spring!

Suddenly, the seed that only sprouted new buds started to grow rapidly, quickly turning into a small sapling!

San Liu, watching from above, was amazed at this sight.

But what alarmed him more was that as the seed transformed into a sapling, the vast Dragon Marrow Immortal Spring had decreased by a whole meter in height.

"My goodness, this sapling is too domineering! It's swallowed so much Spiritual Power and Life Force, and it's only as big as a palm. If it keeps growing, won't it swallow the whole Earth?"

San Liu muttered in shock.

Then, seeing the Dragon Marrow Immortal Spring drop another meter, San Liu hesitated whether to wake Mu Jinyu and alert him to the sapling in his hand, lest the Immortal Spring be completely depleted before Mu Jinyu could cultivate enough!

However...

Just as San Liu made up his mind, preparing to wake Mu Jinyu,

A strange scene occurred!

The small sapling in Mu Jinyu's hand, having grown to about a foot high, suddenly burst into a gentle green light and then vanished without a trace.

"Huh?! Where did the sapling go?!"

San Liu, slightly stunned by the scene, then rubbed his eyes vigorously, and when he opened them again, he still could not find any trace of the sapling!

"Gurgle, gurgle, gurgle..."

Then, San Liu saw, centered around Mu Jinyu, a mysterious vortex formed, stirring the nearly five hundred meters in diameter of the Dragon Marrow Immortal Spring, being endlessly devoured by it!

What was strange was that, under such frantic devouring, Mu Jinyu's strength and momentum showed no changes whatsoever!

Chapter 692 Green Emperor's Wood Emperor Art!

"What's going on here?"

San Liu, standing above, saw the anomaly occurring below, his eyes widened in disbelief.

The freshly grown sapling suddenly vanished; it might have fallen into the Dragon Marrow Immortal Spring below, so he didn't see it, but such a magnificent scene of gushing spring water was extraordinary.

Why did Mu Jinyu's strength and momentum remain unchanged? And where did all that Dragon Marrow Immortal Spring go?

San Liu's astonishment was unknown to Mu Jinyu, who was gradually sinking deeper into his cultivation state.

At this moment, as he sank deeper into cultivation, he was unaware that the tree seed in his hand had turned into a sapling and then vanished.

Mu Jinyu's eyes were tightly closed, focused solely on persisting a bit longer and absorbing more Dragon Qi from the Dragon Marrow Immortal Spring to enhance the concentration of his bloodline.

Then, while in cultivation, he suddenly perceived a brilliant azure glow bursting forth within his body. After the light gradually faded, he saw a small tree, the size of a palm, appear in his Dantian.

This small tree, although palm-sized, had lush foliage and a twisting, sturdy trunk resembling an ancient tree of hundreds of years, only miniature in appearance.

Right when Mu Jinyu found this strange, he was shocked to discover that with the appearance of the sapling within his body, the speed at which his body absorbed the Dragon Marrow Immortal Spring surged to a terrifying extent!

"Boom, boom, boom!!"

It was like a floodgate had opened, unstoppable!

"It's over, it's all over!"

Mu Jinyu, seeing the bizarre rate of his absorption, was terrified, thinking he was about to be burst alive.

However, he quickly realized something was off.

He found that the roaring Dragon Marrow Immortal Spring flooding into his body was not being refined into his Dantian and transformed into True Yuan, but was being endlessly devoured by the small sapling!

"This sapling..."

Having realized this, Mu Jinyu momentarily panicked but then calmed down as he understood what the sapling really was.

Without a doubt, it should be the germinated tree seed he held in his hand, which he had planned to grow!

Unexpectedly, it had already grown into a small sapling, and even burrowed into his Dantian!

What in the world?

Mu Jinyu felt absurd yet curious and worried about what the intrusion of this sapling into his Dantian would bring, be it benefit or harm.

"Boom, boom!"

At this moment, due to the absorption of sufficient Spiritual Power, the sapling began to grow more robustly. Its roots extended from the Dantian, spreading towards the Rushing Spring Acupoint at his feet.

Its branches and crown also began to stretch upwards, the lush foliage covering Mu Jinyu's chest cavity, with two of the stoutest branches, like roots, extending into his arms.

"Hmm?!"

Mu Jinyu watched this scene internally with a bizarre feeling.

At first, as the sapling extended beyond the Dantian and its branches reached towards his chest cavity, he thought his viscera would be smashed by the foliage, but that did not happen.

It was as if the strange tree he saw internally didn't have a physical form but was a kind of energy body.

"In that case..."

Mu Jinyu calmed down, pondering this strange situation, thinking how he could gain the most benefit from it!

"With this situation, wouldn't it be most suitable for me to switch to the Green Emperor's Wood Emperor Art?"

Inspired by a bold idea, Mu Jinyu's thoughts raced!

"Green Emperor's Wood Emperor Art," was one of the numerous Cultivation Techniques passed down to Mu Jinyu upon his awakening, after the Jade Pendant of his master, Mu Shao'ai, shattered.

It was also the best among those Cultivation Methods!

It was countless times better than the Cultivation Method he was currently cultivating!

"Green Emperor's Wood Emperor Art," was a Cultivation Technique created by the Five Ancient Emperors.

As the name implies, "Green Emperor's Wood Emperor Art" is the purest and most direct method aiming towards the origin of the wood attribute!

After obtaining this technique, Mu Jinyu coveted it immensely, but he had to reluctantly give it up because the conditions for cultivation were too harsh for modern times to achieve.

Because this method required the cultivator to have the strongest wood attribute constitution, and during cultivation, it also required obtaining a rare and unparalleled Spirit Root, merging it with oneself, controlling the Yin and Yang of the wood element, and completing the original cycle of one of the five elements of wood!

However, when Mu Jinyu obtained the "Green Emperor's Wood Emperor Art," although his cultivation aptitude was good, his True Yuan had no attribute, which prevented him from cultivating the "Green Emperor's Wood Emperor Art" as the first condition was not met!

But now, he had activated the Azure Dragon Bloodline, making his True Yuan contain Yi Wood Azure Dragon Qi, and with this strange ancient tree, if he refined it and completely integrated it with himself!

Then he would possess a body coveted by all wood element cultivators, the Green Emperor's Wood Emperor Body!

He would control the origin of the Five Elements Wood System!

By then, all cultivators of the wood element techniques would be suppressed by him!

"Hmm, let's give it a try," he said.

Mu Jinyu actually thought about switching to "Green Emperor's Wood Emperor Art" after activating the Azure Dragon Bloodline, but had not done so because he couldn't find the suitable Spirit Root for cultivation. However, considering this bizarre tree's ability to penetrate into his body, it clearly wouldn't be inferior!

Having made the decision, Mu Jinyu no longer hesitated, immediately recalled the operational routes of "Green Emperor's Wood Emperor Art," and began to change his Cultivation Technique!

"Boom, boom, boom!"

As Mu Jinyu was changing his Cultivation Technique, San Liu, standing above, looked on with some concern, but then, he discovered that Mu Jinyu's speed of absorbing the Dragon Marrow Immortal Spring had increased!

If earlier his absorption rate of the Dragon Marrow Immortal Spring was like a water pump, now it was like a whale gulping down a feast!

In just one second, the level of the Dragon Marrow Immortal Spring dropped by a meter, dramatically causing San Liu to click his tongue in wonder.

"Has he really been refined by the Dragon Master? Or is someone digging a pit below, causing the Fountain of Youth to flow downwards?" San Liu murmured, goosebumps on his scalp.

"Boom, boom!!"

San Liu had barely finished speaking.

When he looked down, the originally nearly five hundred meters large Dragon Marrow Immortal Spring had been completely drained by Mu Jinyu, not even a drop of water left.

Afterward, the spiritual energy of heaven and earth crazily rushed towards Mu Jinyu!

"Whoosh!"

At that moment, San Liu astonishingly saw a robust stream of True Qi suddenly rising from Mu Jinyu's body, making his entire body shimmer with a luminous green light, like a figure carved out of jade.

Then, this wood attribute True Qi, when it reached the top of Mu Jinyu's head, suddenly split into two, showing two starkly different transformations. One stream of True Qi appeared lush and dripping with vibrant masculine energy, while the other was tinged with a touch of pale yellow, resembling tender new shoots sprouting from a tree, swaying weakly in the spring breeze, exuding a beautiful femininity!

This all belonged to wood attribute True Qi, yet it had divided into Yin and Yang!

San Liu watched in amazement, knowing that Mu Jinyu was cultivating a Great Divine Power!

As time slowly passed, the two streams of True Qi above Mu Jinyu's head began to gradually condense into two silhouettes.

Those silhouettes, from their appearance, were a man dressed in dragon robes and a woman in phoenix attire. Although their specific faces were indistinct, both exuded an aura of boundless majesty!

They were none other than the Green Emperor and the Wood Emperor!

Chapter 693: Trial of Making a Magic Treasure!

As Mu Jinyu divided his True Yuan into Yin and Yang, evolving them into the Green Emperor and Wood Empress, his cultivation suddenly shot up from the Fifth Layer of the Divinity Transformation Realm to the Sixth Layer!

His momentum surged once more, and although he was only at the Middle Stage of the Divine Realm, to San Liu, it felt as if he were facing an unprecedented and ferocious primordial beast!

That kind of imposing pressure made him hold his breath.

Although San Liu had never witnessed the aura of a powerhouse at the Advanced Divine Realm, he felt that even the Absolute geniuses of the Ninth Layer of the Divine Realm might not compare to Mu Jinyu!

This was the purest form of suppression stemming from the physical body!

"Huh..."

At that moment, as the nature's spiritual energy rushed towards Mu Jinyu, it suddenly paused, and the chaotic spiritual energy of heaven and earth started to calm down once again!

"Hiss!"

Right then, the silhouettes of the Green Emperor and Wood Empress that appeared above Mu Jinyu's head slowly dissipated, and the shimmering Green Emperor True Yuan around him also silently dispersed!

This made him no longer resemble a jade statue!

"Pfft!"

"Pfft!!"

A miraculous scene unfolded; as Mu Jinyu failed to perfectly retract the Green Emperor True Yuan and let it scatter, the mud around him suddenly sprouted green grass and fresh flowers!

It was as if Mu Jinyu were the deity of spring, governing the growth and sprouting of plants!

"Huh..."

While San Liu watched in astonishment, Mu Jinyu finally ended his cultivation, suddenly opening his eyes.

A dazzling burst of green light, so intense that it was difficult to look at directly, flashed by, and Mu Jinyu stood up, his body instantly ringing with a series of crackling sounds.

"Ha!!"

A hearty and satisfying roar echoed, filled with great delight!

He had succeeded.

He had successfully transitioned to cultivating the "Green Emperor's Wood Emperor Art," with all his True Yuan now transformed into Green Emperor True Yuan, filled with endless vitality. He no longer needed to invoke his Azure Dragon Bloodline and use Yi Wood Azure Dragon Qi to save people when faced with difficult patients!

The effects of his present Green Emperor True Yuan were in no way inferior to the Yi Wood Azure Dragon Qi, and might even surpass it!

Mu Jinyu felt that his trip here was absolutely worthwhile, far exceeding the gains from Alchemy, the Tai Sui Stone from Luo City!

Here, he had elevated his once scarce Azure Dragon Bloodline that had to be meticulously utilized, to nearly a perfect realm.

From now on, when he executed the "True Dragon Art" and invoked the Yi Wood Azure Dragon Qi, it could be used not only to heal people but also to enhance his cultivation significantly, just like Xiang Mantang!

He wouldn't have to worry about burning through his scarce Dragon Blood with excessive force one day, to the point of not being able to produce it again!

Similarly, having cultivated the Green Emperor's Wood Emperor Body, he could now truly claim to have undergone a rebirth!

This level of transformation was far greater than when he had broken through from the Peak Energy Transformation stage to the Divine Realm.

With his newly formed Green Emperor's Wood Emperor Body, he was now completely unafraid of the so-called Ye Wushuang!

Even if Xiang Mantang was here, controlling that Ghostly Demon, he even felt that he could put up a fight!

"Huh..."

As the roar subsided, Mu Jinyu laughed freely a few times, then casually grabbed a dragon bone beside him, sculpted like white jade. He leaped up and, holding the nearly hundred-meter-long dragon bone, returned to the cave above!

"Thump!"

Upon seeing Mu Jinyu coming up, San Liu snapped out of his stunned state and, without hesitation, knelt on one knee and called out respectfully, "Congratulations on the completion of your Dragon Master's Divine Skill!"

"There's no need for that, get up!"

Mu Jinyu said with a smile.

San Liu then rose from the ground and, after a moment of hesitation, asked, "Dragon Master, where did that little sapling go afterwards? Did you put it away?"

The one thing San Liu was curious about was the little sapling that had absorbed a large amount of the Dragon Marrow Immortal Spring and then suddenly disappeared, causing the speed at which Mu Jinyu consumed the fountain to surge by dozens of times.

Therefore, he was particularly curious about the whereabouts of the little sapling.

As for the accomplishment of Mu Jinyu's Divine Skill, with two divine shadows materializing above his head and a breakthrough to the Sixth Layer of the Divine Realm, San Liu was not that curious!

"Hehe..." Mu Jinyu chuckled softly and replied, "It wasn't put in the Shennong Cauldron by me; rather, I refined it."

To San Liu's question, Mu Jinyu didn't gloss over it, but he also wasn't going to give away everything.

The sapling, of course, wasn't really refined by Mu Jinyu. It was still inside Mu Jinyu's body, only now it was no longer like before, with roots steadying its feet and branches extending through arms, its crown spreading across the five viscera and six bowels!

It had once again shrunk to the size of a palm, becoming a delicate little tree, and found its way into his Sea of Consciousness, where it took root.

Don't misunderstand; it didn't take root in Mu Jinyu's Sea of Consciousness to draw on his spiritual power for its growth; instead, it drew from the spiritual energy of the outside world, so that Mu Jinyu was constantly cultivating without a moment's pause.

A normal person always has to be distracted by various things and can't be cultivating all the time, but with the sapling, Mu Jinyu had double the support when cultivating, and when he was not cultivating and attending to matters, it was akin to focusing solely on cultivation.

It could be said that one day of his cultivation was equivalent to over ten days for others!

"So that's how it is."

When San Liu heard Mu Jinyu's response, he had an epiphany and nodded in realization.

He just thought that after Mu Jinyu had refined the sapling, his aptitude for cultivation had increased again, which is why he had such a terrifying speed of absorbing spiritual energy.

He couldn't imagine that there was even a sapling taking root in Mu Jinyu's Sea of Consciousness.

Mu Jinyu said no more as his exhilarated mood gradually calmed down. Looking at the dragon bone he was holding in his hands, he thought for a moment and said, "Let's go back later. I will refine these two materials into a magic treasure. After all, it's not easy to carry this dragon bone back."

Although the Shennong Cauldron could grow and shrink, it had a limit to how much it could expand, and it was definitely impossible to stuff nearly a hundred-meter-long dragon bone into it.

And this dragon bone, although it was from a Flood Dragon that had failed at Tribulation Transcendence, was still a valuable item; to discard it simply because it couldn't be carried back, like the great python he had slain in the Hundred Thousand Great Mountains, would be too much of a pity.

"As you wish, Dragon Master." San Liu wasn't in any particular hurry to return and was quite excited to see how Mu Jinyu would refine the magic treasure!

Mu Jinyu did not rush to refine the dragon bone into a magic treasure, because if it failed, it would be a waste. He let go of the bone and placed it on the ground, then took out from the Shennong Cauldron the already separated parts of the Nine-Eyed Bichan—the skin, bones, tongue, eyes...

And other materials!

Looking at these materials, Mu Jinyu began to think about how to create a magic treasure.

After several minutes, Mu Jinyu's eyes suddenly lit up as he knew how to proceed!

The eyes of the Nine-Eyed Bichan have the power to Capture Souls, right? Then use them to make a Pellet Drum!

A Pellet Drum is a type of folk musical instrument and toy, whose main body is a small drum, with a pellet attached to each side; it has a handle underneath, and when the drumstick is turned, the pellets strike the drum to make a thumping sound.

With the materials at hand, it was perfect to use the frog bones for the drum frame and handle, the frog skin for the drum surface, with the frog's tongue for the connecting rope, adorned with those nine eyeballs.

Once it starts rotating, the pellets made from the nine eyeballs would thump against the drum face made from the frog skin, surely bringing out the Soul Capture ability of the Nine-Eyed Bichan to its fullest!

Chapter 694: Ye Wushuang Emerges!

Mu Jinyu felt that the chances of success were very high.

Although it was a bit malicious to let the Nine-Eyed Bichan find no peace even in death, using its eyeballs as pellets to strike its hide felt like whipping a corpse.

However, this was also considered its alternative way of living.

"Hmm, let's give it a try."

Mu Jinyu eventually decided to give it a try.

...

While Mu Jinyu began to attempt creating a Magic Treasure from the corpse of the Nine-Eyed Bichan.

Far away in the depths of Shennongjia, today, a major upheaval was to occur!

In the rarely trodden depths of Shennongjia.

The roar of ferocious beasts echoed occasionally, piercing and bone-chilling to hear.

Outside a few thatched huts by the river.

The weeds within a ten-mile radius had been cleared, packed down to form a martial arts contest ground!

This was the secluded residence of Ye Wushuang, ranked eighth on the Divine Rankings!

Several young men and women in white, after a bout of fighting, were drenched in sweat. They grabbed small stools to sit down in the contest ground and started to chat.

"It's been more than a month, why hasn't Master emerged from seclusion? In today's era, with Heavenly Materials and Earthly Treasures appearing frequently, various former nobodies have leapt ahead by chance encounters with treasures. Why isn't Master in a hurry?"

"Yes, not to mention the vendetta of our junior brother, Ye Chen, even for Master's own sake, he shouldn't continue to stay here, right? A few days ago, the former number ten in the Divine Rankings, Qiu Fenghan, was defeated by a junior and replaced. That person even declared his intention to challenge our Master!"

"Eh, who is that person? So arrogant?"

"Hmph, that guy is named Qiu Bai. Don't think he's arrogant just because he wants to challenge our Master. His real target is the first rank of the Divine Rankings!"

"Damn, that's insanity. How can he challenge the Banished Immortal Master Li, who is so beyond worldly concerns?"

"..."

While they were heatedly arguing, suddenly, they all seemed to sense something and simultaneously fell silent, turning their heads towards the thatched hut by the riverbank!

"Boom!"

Streams of nature's spiritual energy furiously surged toward the hut!

An aura as terrifying as a prehistoric giant beast, along with the swallowing of nature's spiritual energy, was steadily escalating!

"This is..."

"Is Master about to leave seclusion?"

Ye Wushuang's disciples, sensing these changes, excitedly got up from their stools and ran towards the hut!

Then they stopped about ten meters away from the hut, respectfully waiting for their Master to emerge from seclusion.

They waited for roughly fifteen minutes, and finally, accompanied by a loud booming sound, the hut exploded!

The thatch turned into dust and was blown away by the wind!

Ye Wushuang's disciples, excitedly watching as the hut shattered, saw a tall figure emerging amid the radiant glow and thousands of auspicious hues!

That was Ye Wushuang!

They suppressed their excitement and dared not make a noise to disturb their Master.

After another three minutes, finally, the radiant glow and auspicious hues completely dissipated.

Revealed was a middle-aged man standing still, with his hands clasped behind his back.

The man had handsome features and an upright posture, resembling an unsheathed sharp sword standing still; an aura of piercing sharpness billowed around him, making it impossible for anyone to approach!

"Master!"

Ye Wushuang's eldest disciple, unable to contain his excitement any longer, shouted.

At this call of "Master," everyone present instantly knelt down with a thud and cried out in unison:

"Greetings, Master, on your return from seclusion!"

"Greetings, Master, on your return from seclusion!"

"..."

"Hmm." With his hands clasped behind his back, Ye Wushuang looked at them, his eyes sparkling as he spoke indifferently, "Why do I not see Ye Chen and Lin Xue among you?"

At Ye Wushuang's question, the expressions of all the disciples slightly changed, turning somewhat somber and helpless.

In the end, the eldest disciple spoke up, "Master, it's like this..."

The eldest disciple briefly recounted to Ye Wushuang how Ye Chen had met his tragic end at the hands of Mu Jinyu.

"Hmm?!"

After listening to the eldest disciple's words, Ye Wushuang's expression barely changed, and his eyes narrowed slightly as he said indifferently, "Died at the hands of the New Dragon King of the Dragon King Hall over a Spirit Stone? What a waste!"

Upon hearing Ye Wushuang's unsparing scolding, everyone felt a cold shiver and lay prostrate on the ground, not daring to make a sound.

After hesitating for a moment, the eldest disciple mustered up the courage to ask, "Then, Master, will you avenge the wrongs done to disciple Ye Chen and the others?"

"Avenge?"

Upon hearing the eldest disciple's inquiry, Ye Wushuang sneered and replied, "What right did he have to demand vengeance from me? To stoop down to the weak?"

At those words, the eldest disciple dared not say anything further.

And Ye Wushuang, because they had brought up the Dragon King Hall, also seemed to slightly falter in his gaze, as if lost in reminiscence.

He murmured, "That year, I battled the Old Dragon King at our peak. After defeating him, I was ranked seventh on the Divine Rankings. Now, I am not far from ascending to the Heavens in a swirl of clouds, and yet that Dragon King has already passed away..."

"Time truly holds grudges without keeping the people!"

This was precisely why Ye Wushuang had no intention of dealing with them or seeking vengeance from Mu Jinyu.

He, being of the same generation as the Old Dragon King, would be accused of bullying the young if he sought out Mu Jinyu.

Yet, despite this, the death of Ye Chen at the hands of Mu Jinyu still irked him.

Once he had bested the Old Dragon King, earning seventh place on the Divine Rankings while the Old Dragon King was merely ninth. A century later, unexpectedly, their descendants had reversed the tables of combat!

Ye Chen, also of the Divine Realm, had died at the hands of the Old Dragon King's grandson, who was said to be only eighteen years old!

Thinking it over, Ye Wushuang was somewhat displeased and looked towards his eldest disciple, and said, "Chen Mo, since you are all eager to even the score with that New Dragon King, you shall take action."

He did not wish to bully the lesser, but letting his eldest disciple take action carried no such concern.

Chen Mo, hearing his master's words, looked up in astonishment, his expression turning awkward. He then explained, "Master, your disciple is inept, I fear I am no match for that New Dragon King!"

"Not even tried and already giving up? Think you're no match?" Upon hearing this, Ye Wushuang's expression darkened.

Suddenly, an imposing pressure burst forth, making everyone present feel almost suffocated!

Chen Mo turned pale and, after a long while of enduring Ye Wushuang's pressure, finally explained tremulously, "Master, your disciple indeed wishes to avenge Ye Chen, but after understanding the New Dragon King's combat record, I knew I was no match..."

Saying this, he then told Ye Wushuang about how Mu Jinyu had forcefully snatched the Nine Heavens Mystical Murder Sword Formation Map amidst the siege of three Divine Realm powerhouses in Fallen Splendor.

After finishing, he added, "Moreover, Master, the day before yesterday, a precious stone named Tai Sui was reported from Luo City. Four Divine Rankings powerhouses contested for it. Though they rank near the bottom, all possess the strength of the Third Layer of the Divine Realm, and the strongest even in the Fourth Layer. And they... all died at the hands of the New Dragon King!"

"Oh? Is that so? A sword formation map and the Tai Sui Stone that can easily obliterate the Divine Realm?"

After hearing his eldest disciple's words, Ye Wushuang, who had maintained a serene demeanor, finally showed a ripple of emotion.

Chapter 695: Grass, Wood, Bamboo, and Stone, Everything Can Be a Sword!

Ye Wushuang's face showed a moved expression, both surprised by Mu Jinyu's rapid rise and covetous of the two treasures.

However, as a senior, he ultimately had his pride and was unwilling to make a move against a junior.

Thus, this feeling of being moved was quickly suppressed.

Nevertheless, regarding the Tai Sui Stone and the Nine Heavens Mysterious Kill Sword Formation, Ye Wushuang was not willing to give up just like that.

Not only could these two supreme treasures easily slay Divine Realm Warriors, but more importantly, for him, although there was a breakthrough in his Sword Realm, he was still stuck in a rut, with no escape and even less chance of catching up to his senior brother, Li Zhexiong!

For him, this Nine Heavens Mysterious Kill Sword Formation presented a great opportunity for breakthrough.

After some thought, Ye Wushuang turned to his eldest disciple and said in a stern voice, "Chen Mo!"

"Disciple is here!" Upon hearing the solemn tone of his master, Chen Mo's body trembled, and he immediately responded respectfully.

Ye Wushuang, with his hands behind his back, said, "As your teacher, I cannot possibly make a move against that junior, but you can. Your current cultivation should be at the Fourth Layer of the Divine Realm, right?"

"Yes, Master!" Chen Mo replied.

Ye Wushuang flipped his hand and seemingly out of nowhere produced a gourd. He unscrewed the stopper and poured out a pill, tossing it to Chen Mo.

Seeing this, Chen Mo hurriedly caught it with shaking hands and asked, "What is this, Master?"

Ye Wushuang flipped his hand again, stowed the gourd away, and explained softly, "This is a pill I refined recently from harvesting more than a dozen Rank Four Spiritual Medicines. It's nearly comparable to an elixir and is extremely potent. You've been at the Fourth Layer of the Divine Realm for some time now; upon taking this, you should be able to break through to the Fifth Layer!"

"Considering the New Dragon King's recent exploits, as you said the day before yesterday, he had to resort to strenuous measures to slay an individual at the Fourth Layer of the Divine Realm, which means he's likely still at the Fourth Layer. In just a few days, it's impossible for him to break through to the Fifth Layer. Once you reach the Fifth Layer of the Divine Realm, capturing him should be absolutely certain!"

"Thank you for the generous gift, Master!" Upon hearing Ye Wushuang's words, Chen Mo immediately bowed deeply with excitement, expressing his gratitude.

"Hmm..." Ye Wushuang pondered a bit, thinking that sending his eldest disciple to capture Mu Jinyu with the strength of the Fifth Layer of the Divine Realm seemed to be almost certain.

But didn't Mu Jinyu obtain two treasures?

Perhaps, he might be able to, with the strength of the Fourth Layer of the Divine Realm, turn the tables and kill Chen Mo!

If that really happened, and both of his disciples had consecutively fallen by Mu Jinyu's hand, wouldn't he lose all his face?

After some thought, Ye Wushuang, to be a bit more certain, spoke in a deep voice again, "Chen Mo!"

"Disciple is here!"

Chen Mo was thinking about taking the pill in his hand to break through his strength and seek vengeance for his junior brother from Mu Jinyu. Hearing his master's suddenly grave voice, he couldn't help but tremble and immediately responded in a hushed tone.

He was somewhat puzzled about Ye Wushuang's intentions; could it be that after giving the pill, he had regrets and wanted to take it back?

"Clang!"

As Chen Mo anxiously awaited Ye Wushuang's command,

Ye Wushuang did not speak, but flipped his hand, and a lump of iron pellet appeared in his right palm.

When this iron pellet appeared, a dense Sword Qi immediately burst forth, causing Chen Mo and those nearby to feel a stabbing pain on their skin, as if being continuously pierced by needle points.

Seeing the iron pellet in Ye Wushuang's hand, Chen Mo's expression subtly changed.

This was not any ordinary iron pellet, but a Sword Pill, a Medium-grade magic treasure that would expand and transform into a sword once True Yuan was infused into it.

This was the treasured item on which their master, Ye Wushuang, had built his reputation. It could be said that Ye Wushuang's ascent to the seventh place on the Divine Rankings and overtaking the Old Dragon King owed much to this very Sword Pill.

Ye Wushuang took out the Sword Pill that had accompanied him for most of his life, his expression showing a trace of reminiscence and reluctance. He gently caressed the Sword Pill before his gaze gradually calmed down, and he softly said:

"Chen Mo, you have followed me for several decades. Heading to the Dragon King Hall to avenge your junior brother is fraught with danger. This Sword Pill, I am passing it to you!"

"What?! Master, you this..."

Hearing Ye Wushuang's words, Chen Mo's expression instantly changed, filled with shock and disbelief, and deep in his eyes, there was also a hint of surprise!

He really hadn't expected his master to pass this Divine Sword, a magic treasure, to him!

Indeed, at the moment Ye Wushuang took out the Sword Pill, Chen Mo had guessed some of Ye Wushuang's intentions, which was to let him take this sword to kill Mu Jinyu, but he thought it was only for him to borrow.

But what he hadn't expected was that his master would suddenly become so generous and pass on his famed magic treasure that had accompanied him for most of his life, just like that!

This was something he had never anticipated!

After his initial astonishment, Chen Mo quickly exclaimed, "Master, you should not do this. If you pass this Sword Pill to your disciple, what will you do?"

"Currently, the world is in great chaos, countless strong individuals are capitalizing on the tumult to find treasures and quickly surpass others. Not long ago, even the person who was tenth in the Divine Rankings was defeated by a junior who then took his place. Master, you..."

Chen Mo was hesitant to say, I'm afraid you might also end up like that warrior from the Divine Rankings who was surpassed by a junior after losing your magic treasure.

It was a bit too disrespectful, but he believed that Ye Wushuang would understand his implication.

"Oh? So the guy who was tenth in the Divine Rankings has been defeated by a junior?"

After hearing Chen Mo's explanation, Ye Wushuang naturally understood the unsaid words, but after being slightly surprised, he just lamented the flourishing age of martial arts and let it go.

He was not worried about being replaced by someone else!

He had this confidence and, moreover, he did not care about his place as the seventh in the Divine Rankings— had he wanted to, he could have climbed to the top five in the Divine Rankings a few years ago.

His goal was not so shallow; he intended to defeat his senior brother, Li Zhexiong, and seize the first position in the Divine Rankings!

Ye Wushuang looked at Chen Mo and smiled faintly, "Are you worried that without the Sword Pill, as a master, I'll be like a tiger that has lost its claws and teeth, easily defeated by anyone?"

"Disciple did not mean that..." Chen Mo's heart trembled, and he quickly shook his head in denial, wanting to explain further.

Ye Wushuang said, "Don't worry. If I can pass the Sword Pill to you, it means I no longer need this magic treasure. Otherwise, with this treasure that is as vital to me as my life, would I dare to pass it on lightly?"

"You mean..."

Hearing Ye Wushuang's words, Chen Mo was taken aback for a moment and then couldn't help but become excited, "Have you reached the realm of Swordless in the Sword Realm?"

The other disciples also began to get excited.

"Mhm."

Ye Wushuang gave a slight nod, his voice carrying an unnoticeable pride, "Today, after emerging from seclusion, not only has my cultivation advanced from the middle stage to the later stage of the Divine Realm, but my mastery of the Sword Realm has also reached the supreme realm where I am not confined to a sword— all things in heaven and earth can be a sword!"

With that statement!

All the leaves, weeds, and stone fragments within a ten-mile radius rose into the air, swirling and sweeping across the sky amidst howling winds, blocking out the sun, and dense Sword Qi burst forth with terrifying might!

It was as if with a single command, thousands of swords had returned to their master!

Seeing this, the disciples of Ye Wushuang, like fervent believers beholding the true body of Tathagata, had their eyes blazing with zeal!

Chapter 696 West Lake White Snake!

"So, you've decided to accept the Sword Pill, haven't you?"

Ye Wushuang looked at his disciples with a calm gaze and spoke softly.

"Thank you, Master, for your generous gift!"

Upon hearing this, Chen Mo came to his senses, his eyes still ablaze with fervor, but his tone was even more respectful.

He no longer declined.

After all, he had truly coveted the Sword Pill Magic Treasure for a long time.

"Take it and bring back the Sword Array Diagram and Dragon King's Head to see me," Ye Wushuang threw the Sword Pill to Chen Mo.

"Yes, disciple will definitely not let down Master's high expectations!"

Chen Mo caught the Sword Pill and assured solemnly.

"Hmm, go now. Ah-Hu, Xiaoming, you guys stay here and keep watch, I'm going to find your Master Li!"

Ye Wushuang gave Chen Mo a slight nod, then turned to the other disciples eager to try and instructed.

"Yes, Master!"

Ah-Hu and Xiaoming had originally planned to go out with Chen Mo to see how their senior brother would take down the Dragon King's head!

But hearing Ye Wushuang's instructions, they immediately felt disappointed, yet still respectfully complied.

Seeing that they complied, Ye Wushuang no longer spoke, pinched a spell with his hands, and his figure suddenly soared into the air, swiftly racing toward the southeast!

His speed was as fast as thunder, resembling a fighter jet, emitting a fierce howl, leaving behind a long white trail in the air, and then vanished in a flash.

Chen Mo, a strong practitioner of the Divine Realm Fourth Layer, could only faintly see a dark shadow, while several disciples not yet in the Divine Realm had no idea where their master had flown to.

"Huh!!"

As soon as Ye Wushuang left, suddenly, the vegetation and stones reflecting the heavens lost the control of True Yuan, first dispersing the Dense Sword Qi that clung to them, then one by one plummeting down.

Seeing this, Chen Mo's eyes narrowed, he pulled up his True Yuan and channeled it into the Sword Pill in his hand.

"Clang!"

A clear sword cry rang out, the coiled soft sword, instantly stirred by the True Yuan, stood upright quickly, forming a three-foot Qingfeng!

And on the blade, two words shone with razor-sharp edges, Leopard Gall!

This was the Sword's name!

"Bang!!!"

A stone slab falling from the sky, over a meter long, almost struck a female disciple's head. Chen Mo, holding the Leopard Gall Sword, raised his hand and a burst of Sword Qi instantly shot out!

Turning the slab into powder!

After that, other large objects fell continuously, Chen Mo seemed to hardly make a move, but all the objects that could cause serious injury to his junior brothers and sisters were blasted into powder!

His junior brothers and sisters watched Chen Mo's actions, their eyes fervently on him.

Not worried about their own safety at all!

Finally, when these objects nearly stopped falling, only the last batch remained, nearly a hundred pieces of stone slabs and wood spurs came plummeting down at once!

Seeing this, Chen Mo's eyes flashed, holding the Leopard Gall Sword, he made a motion as if drawing the sword!

"Whoosh!!"

A blade of light suddenly appeared, like a gentle breeze, not even stirring up ripples on water, but the nearly hundred pieces of stone and wood in mid-air were instantly shattered, turning into powder and falling!

This was the realm of lifting weight as if it were light!

"Indeed, it's a fine sword!"

Chen Mo's sharp momentum, after the destruction of all vegetation and stones, quietly subsided, then holding the retracted Leopard Gall Sword, his eyes filled with joy and exhilaration!

"Congratulations, senior brother!"

"Congratulations, senior brother!"

Seeing this, Chen Mo's junior brothers and sisters all clapped and congratulated him.

Chen Mo smiled and said, "Let's all work hard together."

After that, he looked toward Ah-Hu, "Ah-Hu, you help me guard the mountain. I am now starting to break through to the Divine Realm Fifth Layer. Once successful, I will immediately go and settle the score with that Dragon King!"

A glint of sharpness flashed in his eyes, Chen Mo's tone carried a chilling intent to kill, "Dare to kill my junior brothers and sisters, even if he is the Dragon King of Dragon King Hall, My master once suppressed their Dragon King underfoot, today, I, Chen Mo, can do the same!"

...

Hangzhou.

West Lake.

Sheng Rulai, dressed in a plain robe, sat alone on a wooden chair by the lake, his gaze fixed on the beautiful scenery of West Lake.

Lost in thought.

After the end of the dark turmoil, he had thought everything was over and he could return to Buddha's Land to continue his meditation, staying away from worldly distractions.

But when he returned to the Land of Ten Thousand Buddhas, even the daily chants of the Sanskrit could not calm his mind. Every time he closed his eyes to meditate, as soon as he immersed himself in the sounds, visions of demons rampaging uncontrollably would suddenly emerge in his consciousness!

Snapping him out of his meditation!

Half a month later, Sheng Rulai's mind was completely disturbed, unable to meditate peacefully anymore.

He knew something was wrong, the impact of the demon chaos on him had been too great.

Afterward, he made a decision, since seclusion and cultivation were no longer feasible, why not engage in worldly cultivation?

Thus, he re-entered the world, wandering about, observing the various states of life, and unknowingly, he arrived at the shores of West Lake today.

"Sigh..."

Sheng Rulai gazed at the Leifeng Pagoda not far away, shimmering under the sunset, and sighed softly.

Initially, when he came to West Lake, he thought of staying with a high monk who lived on Leifeng, planning to discuss the Buddhist Law. However, he found out that the monk had died during the dark turmoil.

Even his body was never found.

Yes, that's right, the monk did not know martial arts, so when the dark turmoil struck, he had no means to defend himself.

Indeed, even if he had been a martial monk, at most he could have protected himself from sudden calamities, but still, he was no match for the fierce demons.

The monk was dead, and Leifeng Pagoda had also become deserted in the aftermath of the turmoil, with no one coming to pray for peace within a month after the chaos ended.

"Rustle rustle..."

As Sheng Rulai was pondering how to deal with the impact of the demons, suddenly, a sound came from the tranquil West Lake.

Sheng Rulai turned his head, expecting it to be the noise of a fish swimming, but it wasn't, instead, it was...

An ancient-looking small pagoda floated up from underwater!

"Hmm?!"

Upon seeing it, Sheng Rulai slightly pondered, sensing that magical mana fluctuations were emitting from the small pagoda!

"Is this a magic artifact?"

Sheng Rulai waved his hand, and immediately, the small pagoda that had floated to the edge of the lake flew up and landed in his hands!

Upon closer inspection, the small pagoda was exquisitely made, with a total of thirteen layers!

"This... somewhat resembles the Leifeng Pagoda?"

Sheng Rulai looked at the ancient-looking small pagoda in his hand for a few moments, then glanced towards the Leifeng Pagoda standing on Leifeng nearby, feeling increasingly that it was similar.

Not that they looked alike, but their Essence, Qi, and Spirit felt very similar!

"Could it be, this is the old Leifeng Pagoda?"

Sheng Rulai boldly speculated.

Yet, he then thought, wasn't the old Leifeng Pagoda already collapsed? Isn't the current Leifeng Pagoda built upon the collapsed old one?

"Or could it be that the legendary Leifeng Pagoda, which is believed to suppress Bai Suzhen, is not the commonly perceived pagoda but a magic treasure?"

Sheng Rulai speculated.

At that moment, a faint smell of blood suddenly wafted from the lakeside.

"Hmm?!"

In his deep contemplation, Sheng Rulai was suddenly jolted awake, as he turned his head to look toward the rippling West Lake.

"Splash!!"

The calm surface suddenly churned, water splashing everywhere, and a snow-white giant snake, at least three meters wide and of unknown length, suddenly thrust a snake head out, its cold snake eyes emotionlessly fixed on Sheng Rulai!

Not!

It should be said... it was fixed on the ancient-looking small pagoda in Sheng Rulai's hand!

Chapter 697: Leifeng Pagoda Suppresses the White Snake!

Upon witnessing the sudden appearance of this massive White Snake, Sheng Rulai's body stiffened for an instant as he was slightly startled.

"Ah!!"

"What on earth is that thing?!"

"It's a snake demon, run!!"

"Help me, save me..."

At this time, about a dozen people scattered around the West Lake, upon seeing the massive White Snake suddenly surge from the water, let out piercing screams that nearly ruptured eardrums.

Although the dark unrest had left most tourist attractions bleak, with hardly anyone daring to venture out for fear of danger,

the status of West Lake was ultimately different, and there were still people who came to visit, albeit only a few dozen in number.

Seeing the sudden emergence of the enormous White Snake, they all believed it to be the reappearance of demons. Those with less courage went weak at the knees, too terrified to run.

Some even lost control of their bladder!

Those who had barely mustered some courage amid the dark unrest now had pale faces, suppressing their fear and breaking into a run!

For they knew that being afraid in the face of danger was useless; only taking the right actions and measures would give them a chance to escape death.

And in the current situation, it was clear that staying calm wouldn't scare away the White Snake. Running away and leaving the stragglers behind as the snake's dinner was their only chance of survival!

"Hiss!!"

The White Snake's icy gaze filled with endless chill, ignored the screams and departures of the bystanders, focusing solely on the Leifeng Pagoda in Sheng Rulai's hand, slightly opening its mouth and flicking its tongue, emitting a warning hiss!

"Hm? Audacious monster! How dare you cause trouble under the bright sky and the vast heavens!"

Having been startled momentarily, Sheng Rulai quickly regained his composure amid the screams of the bystanders. With a sharp glint in his eyes, he let out an authoritative roar!

"Hiss!!"

"Hah!!"

The White Snake, seeming to understand Sheng Rulai's reprimand, displayed flames of anger burning within its beautiful icy eyes.

After flickering its tongue a few times, it suddenly opened its huge, gaping mouth and lunged at Sheng Rulai.

A pungent and overwhelming odor immediately assaulted Sheng Rulai's nostrils!

"Ignorant of your place! You even dare to strike at this monk!"

Sheng Rulai, seeing the White Snake's attack, felt no fear.

He remained calmly in place!

Because this White Snake was not one of the demons from the darkness, which only gold and Magic Artifacts could scarcely restrain, and even God Realm powerhouses could not handle them. This White Snake was merely an enlightened Ferocious Beast, its power nearing the God Realm, but it was by no means his match!

"Hah!"

As the vast White Snake's chilling jaws were about to crush him, Sheng Rulai let out a light shout, then forcefully summoned his Buddha Yuan and executed Profound Buddhist Dharma, causing a brilliant golden light to appear in his hands!

The dazzling Golden Light made it difficult for anyone to look directly. Even more importantly, it radiated Upright and Magnanimous Energy. On closer look, one could see that each of Sheng Rulai's palms bore a Swastika glowing with Buddha Power!

With this Swastika, all kinds of evil spirits dare not approach him; the lighter consequence would be severe injury, while the more severe would result in their souls scattering!

"Go!"

With one hand holding the Leifeng Pagoda and the other striking out, Sheng Rulai sent the Swastika Buddha Seal flying towards the White Snake's gaping mouth!

"Boom!!"

Just a meter away from Sheng Rulai, the White Snake's gaping mouth was suddenly struck by the Buddha Seal, exploding like a grenade inside its mouth, splattering blood and flesh everywhere!

"Hiss hiss!!"

The White Snake let out a mournful hiss, its former ferocity gone without a trace, and it quickly retracted its body, aiming to return to the depths of West Lake!

"Where do you think you're going!!"

Sheng Rulai wouldn't let the monster get away; with the advantage on his side, he immediately struck out with another palm towards the White Snake!

"Bang!"

"Clang!!"

However, this time even though his Swastika Buddha Seal hit the White Snake, it did not inflict any substantial damage. Instead, upon striking the snake scales, it sounded like the clashing of gold and iron, sparks flying everywhere, leaving only a mark on the pale white snake scales.

The White Snake, in pain, let out a hiss and, seizing the opportunity, retracted its head. Its massive body, like a dragon returning to the sea, plunged back into West Lake!

"Splash splash!!"

Sheng Rulai stood on the shore and saw a nearly hundred-meter long snow-white snake shadow swimming a few times beneath West Lake before gradually sinking down, disappearing without a trace!

"Hmph!"

Seeing the White Snake elude capture, Sheng Rulai snorted coldly, his visage imposing, resembling a wrathful Vajra, devoid of his usual Confucian gentleness and amicability!

For he understood that although this White Snake was not Bai Suzhen, that legendary thousand-year-old Snake Spirit, it was still a Snake demon that had cultivated to form. If left unchecked, it would certainly endanger the nearby commonfolk!

"Ha!!"

Sheng Rulai's face was resolute, suppressing the raging fury within. Then, with a tap of his toes on the ground, his figure abruptly soared into the sky. In only a few strides, he had traversed to the center of West Lake!

Suspended in mid-air over West Lake, Sheng Rulai held the Leifeng Pagoda in one hand and pinched and twisted the Buddha Seal with the other while chanting the Buddhist mantra:

"Great Majestic Heavenly Dragon..."

"Great Majestic Heavenly Dragon!!!"

"Tathagata of the Earth Treasury..."

"Tathagata of the Earth Treasury!!!"

"Prajna-Paramita of All Buddhas..."

"Prajna-Paramita of All Buddhas!!!"

"Prajna Paramita Om!"

"Prajna Paramita Om!!!!"

The profound Buddhist sounds descended!

Instantly, Buddha's Light burst forth from the Leifeng Pagoda in Sheng Rulai's hand, radiantly splendid and boundless. Then, spinning slowly, it drifted away from Sheng Rulai's left palm!

The tiny Leifeng Pagoda Magic Treasure, in the midst of its flight, continued to grow in size until it ultimately transformed into a monolith the same size as the pagoda built by mortals atop Leifeng Mountain!

"Go!!!"

Sheng Rulai gestured as if picking something delicate with a finger, pointing toward West Lake below while uttering a commanding shout!!

"Boom!!!"

Upon receiving Sheng Rulai's command, the Leifeng Pagoda slowly rotated downward, a formidable and boundless terrifying aura cascading forth like a mountain collapsing and a tsunami surging!

"Rumble!!!"

Skies of splashing water stirred, and ultimately the vast waters of West Lake were mysteriously drawn up to the heavens, leaving behind only ground scattered with fish and shrimp, along with a massive White Snake at lake's bottom, shivering in the muddy silt!

"Go!!!"

Sheng Rulai caught sight of the White Snake, his mouth curving with a cold sneer, having no intention of letting the White Snake go. With a flick of his finger, the Leifeng Pagoda pressed down toward it!

"Master, please spare my life..."

At that moment, a soft and helpless voice suddenly resonated within Sheng Rulai's mind.

"Hm?!"

Upon hearing this voice, Sheng Rulai, while still directing the Leifeng Pagoda to suppress the Snake demon, turned his head to look around, trying to see who was telepathically pleading for him to spare the monster.

However, as he turned left and right, he saw no one. The several pedestrians who had been frightened by the manifestation of the White Snake had long since run off.

"Master, it's me, I am the White Snake!"

At this time, that tender frightened voice echoed once again within Sheng Rulai's mind.

It was filled with panic!

"Hm? The White Snake?!"

Sheng Rulai, hearing this, showed a slight change in expression and turned to look at the White Snake at the bottom of the lake, too afraid to move!

"Is it you speaking, Snake demon?!" Sheng Rulai demanded.

"Boom!!!"

Just then, the Leifeng Pagoda had precisely descended to a position just above the lakebed. The bottom of the pagoda opened up, suddenly emitting a brilliant golden light that enveloped the hundred-meter long body of the White Snake. In a flash, the Snake demon was absorbed into it!

Splash!!!

The waters of West Lake, which had been drawn up into the air by the Leifeng Pagoda, fell heavily downward as Sheng Rulai relaxed his control, kicking up skies of water spray in an extremely magnificent scene!

"Snake demon?!"

Receiving no further reply, Sheng Rulai couldn't help but issue another questioning shout.

Chapter 698: The Nine-Eyed Pellet Drum!

Sheng Rulai asked again, but still received no response.

He then looked towards Leifeng Pagoda, which floated above West Lake, slowly spinning.

Since there was no response, it was clear that once the snake demon had been locked inside Leifeng Pagoda, she couldn't transmit her thoughts anymore.

"Take!"

With a light command from Sheng Rulai, the majestic and solemn Pagoda, bathed in Buddha's light, began to shrink while rotating and eventually returned to its original size to fit in Sheng Rulai's palm.

Holding the delicate Leifeng Pagoda in his hand, with a solemn expression, Sheng Rulai sent his Divine Sense into it, and immediately on the first layer, he saw a white snake the size of an eel, shivering and coiled in a corner.

"Mercy, great master..."

Realizing that Sheng Rulai's Divine Sense had entered and was observing her, the white snake inside the pagoda immediately transmitted her weak thoughts.

"Hm? Snake demon, how did you awaken your Spiritual Wisdom?"

Sheng Rulai was slightly surprised to hear this soft voice again, and then he asked in a deep tone.

In his century of cultivation, he had met many ferocious beasts that had become spirits, and had witnessed demons rampaging amidst darkness and chaos, but none, like this snake demon before him, was truly capable of communicating with people!

Those spirits that had been ferocious beasts were at most more intelligent, able to understand human language, and able to communicate with simple gestures.

But this snake demon actually possessed consciousness and could communicate with people. Aside from still being in a snake's body, she was almost no different from a human, a true monster!

Upon hearing Sheng Rulai's words, the white snake understood his meaning and shyly replied, "I'm not too sure myself. Since I can remember, it seems like it was a while back, when I ate a shimmering lotus seed at the bottom of West Lake that I gained Spiritual Wisdom..."

"Is that so?"

Upon hearing the white snake's words, Sheng Rulai fell into thought.

If the snake demon had not lied, then it must be that recently, with the revival of Spiritual Energy, Heavenly Materials and Earthly Treasures started appearing frequently, and it just happened to consume a Spirit Plant that allowed it to develop Spiritual Wisdom, thus transforming from a spirit into a demon.

Thinking this, Sheng Rulai then asked sternly, "Then why did you attack me earlier? If you do not give a proper explanation, I will disperse your soul today!"

The white snake hurriedly explained, "Great master, I did not intend to kill you. I merely wanted to scare you a little, to make you return the pagoda to me."

"Hm? What do you mean?"

When Sheng Rulai heard the white snake's words, he frowned and asked in a deep voice.

The white snake then explained that it had found Leifeng Pagoda at the bottom of West Lake. As soon as it dug it out from the mud, it mysteriously floated to the shore, where Sheng Rulai picked it up.

It thought that Sheng Rulai had taken her possession, so it rushed out of the water, attempting to scare Sheng Rulai into returning the tower. Unfortunately, she didn't expect Sheng Rulai to be so formidable, and in the end, she was the one restrained by him.

"Is that so?"

After hearing the white snake's explanation, Sheng Rulai recalled the snake's previous behavior.

When it burst out of the water, it did not immediately attack him but hissed and flicked its tongue as a warning.

Only after he had admonished it did it pounce at him.

It looked like it intended to devour him whole, but there was no real murderous intent in its actions. If he had chosen to throw away the Leifeng Pagoda and run, he could have easily done so.

"Great master, can you spare this little demon this one time? I swear I won't dare to do it again..."

Seeing that Sheng Rulai no longer spoke and the previously overwhelming murderous intent was slowly receding, the white snake asked again, this time more nervously, as she felt less tense.

"Let you go?"

The White Snake's words roused Sheng Rulai from his contemplation. He pondered for a moment and said, "Heaven favors all life. Since you have gained spiritual wisdom and transformed into a demon under a twist of fate, it would indeed be a pity to just help you pass on to the next life. However, your ferocity remains unchecked; setting you free could bring disaster to many. For now, you will stay inside Leifeng Pagoda!"

"What?" Upon hearing Sheng Rulai's words, White Snake exclaimed in a voice filled with despair.

After a pause, Sheng Rulai continued, "During this time, I will regularly recite scriptures and chant Buddha's name for you. If you can comprehend and gain great enlightenment, shedding your violent nature, I will consider taking you in as a Dharma-protecting divine beast under the Buddha's Light Shines Everywhere."

White Snake dared not say anything more, only feeling grateful for the opportunity Sheng Rulai was giving it.

Although it did not wish to become any kind of Dharma-protecting divine beast, under the current circumstances, it dared not ask for more.

It was already fortunate enough to be spared.

...

Elsewhere.

Mu Jinyu extinguished the Taoist fire, and a brilliant display of colorful light flashed.

Then, a somewhat sinister-looking pellet drum appeared before him and San Liu.

After Mu Jinyu's modifications, the drum's handle did not betray its origins from the bones of the Nine-Eyed Bichan. The strings tied to the pellets looked less like a tongue and more like nine red cords.

The nine beads, refined, no longer resembled eyeballs but looked more akin to jade beads carved from emerald.

"Not bad, it seems to be a success. I wonder about the effects," Mu Jinyu remarked, his eyes showing satisfaction as he spoke softly, then turned to look at San Liu.

Feeling Mu Jinyu's gaze, San Liu instinctively had a foreboding feeling, shivering slightly as he weakly said, "Dragon Master, you..."

"Ah-San, do me a favor and let me test the power of this pellet drum, shall we?" Mu Jinyu asked with a faint smile.

"Ah?" San Liu's face fell as he thought to himself that he knew it would come to this, then resignedly said, "Alright then."

He knew he shouldn't be in any danger; after all, Mu Jinyu had timely resolved the mental intimidation caused by the still-living Nine-Eyed Bichan previously.

Now that the Nine-Eyed Bichan was refined into a magic treasure, there was no reason he couldn't withstand it.

Still, the experience of being subjected to mental intimidation was inherently uncomfortable.

Seeing that San Liu had agreed, Mu Jinyu's smile broadened. He then picked up the pellet drum and began turning it by its handle with a gentle twist.

"Thump thump thump..."

Unlike an ordinary pellet drum with just two pellets striking the drum surface, Mu Jinyu's drum, due to the special nature of the Nine-Eyed Bichan, couldn't have just two eyeballs; therefore, it had several pellets that made an even more chaotic and shrill sound when struck together!

"Thump thump thump thump..."

Standing in front of Mu Jinyu, San Liu listened to the discordant, arrhythmic drumming, feeling only annoyance and irritation.

As he listened, he suddenly felt an excruciating headache and let out a roar, clamping his hands tightly over his ears before collapsing to the ground with a thud, rolling and howling in extreme pain!

"Ahh! It hurts, it hurts!!!" San Liu roared hysterically, filled with desperate agony.

"Hm? What on earth is this?!" Mu Jinyu, shocked by San Liu's reaction, quickly stopped spinning the pellet drum.

"Heh heh heh..."

Once Mu Jinyu stopped, San Liu felt much better, but he still lay helplessly on the ground, drooling from the corner of his mouth, eyes vacant, breathing heavily as if he had just endured a torturous ordeal.

## Chapter 699: Dragon Bone Jade Ring!

"Ah-San, are you alright?"

Mu Jinyu looked at San Liu's expression of utter despair and glanced at the pellet drum in his hand, asking with a tone of uncertainty.

Because from the outside, San Liu didn't seem to have sustained even the slightest injury, yet mentally, he appeared to have suffered considerable devastation.

Could the pellet drum, produced through refining, not function as he had anticipated—to intimidate others' spirits and control them—but rather to attack the soul directly?

"Heh, heh..."

Having recovered a bit of his energy, San Liu shivered, gasping for breath, then struggled to his feet from the ground, and with resentful eyes, looked at Mu Jinyu and said, "Dragon Master, this magic treasure isn't quite what I had in mind?"

Mu Jinyu gave an embarrassed smile and said, "I'm not sure why it turned out this way either. Maybe that Nine-Eyed Bichan inherently had this kind of spiritual attack? Maybe it didn't get a chance to show it before I dealt with it, so that's why?"

"Forget it, just my bad luck!"

San Liu knew that he couldn't really blame Mu Jinyu and just sighed heavily, his face full of grievance.

Seeing this, Mu Jinyu took out an elixir that could enhance spiritual power and threw it to San Liu, saying, "Try this pill; it might alleviate your pain."

"Gulp."

San Liu caught it, looked at Mu Jinyu with a skeptical gaze, but finally decided to trust him once more and swallowed the pill in one go.

The moment the elixir dissolved in his mouth, San Liu felt the headache as if his head were about to explode ease up. Then, he sat down with legs crossed and began to practice cultivation and regulate his breath; his face, as pale as paper, started to regain its color.

"It seems effective," observed Mu Jinyu, nodding to himself.

Meanwhile, as San Liu was regulating his breath, Mu Jinyu didn't waste time; he turned his head to look at the dragon bone that had been placed to the side!

The pellet drum magic artifact was just a trial product, and although its effect after completion vastly exceeded expectations, it still wasn't as valuable to Mu Jinyu as the dragon bone!

"I've gained some experience now; time to give it my all!" Mu Jinyu said softly to himself while looking at the dragon bone.

His eyes became confident and sharp.

Straight after, Mu Jinyu began to perform gestures for spells, circulated the Taoist Law, and conjured Taoist True Fire.

"Boom!!"

With roaring flames surging up and catching on the tail of the dragon bone, it immediately burst forth towards the dragon's skull like ignited gasoline!

The hundred-meter-long dragon bone was soon seared by the Taoist True Fire, becoming somewhat transparent.

In the faint view, one could even see the remnants of crystalline and translucent dragon marrow within the dragon bone!

"Ha!"

Mu Jinyu moved one hand to perform the spell, refining the dragon bone with true fire, while his other hand, with fingers together like a sword, stood at the tail of the dragon bone, starting to etch dense talismans into it!

"Crack, crack, crack..."

This process was painstakingly long, far longer than it took to refine the pellet drum magic artifact.

After two full days and nights, Mu Jinyu finally managed to etch dense talismans into every part of the hundred-meter-long dragon bone.

"Huff, huff... heh, heh..."

Mu Jinyu stopped moving his spell-casting hand, his face turned a bit pale as he caught his breath, at the same time wiping the sweat from his forehead.

"Hiss!"

As Mu Jinyu stopped the spell, the Taoist True Fire that had been continuously burning the dragon bone extinguished all at once like a candle blown out by the wind.

Consequently, the dragon bone that was exposed to San Liu and Mu Jinyu looked completely renewed. Gone was its original pale bone texture; instead, it resembled something meticulously crafted from white jade fat, its entire body shimmering with a soft white lustre, which, along with the dense dark talismans on it, cast a mysterious and savage aura.

"Activate!"

Mu Jinyu took a short breath before consuming another pill to adjust his breath, then once again performed the spell, shouting.

"Crack, crack, crack!"

With Mu Jinyu's words, the hundred-meter-long dragon bone suddenly radiated a ghostly light, cloaking its jade-like brilliance. Following that, the sound of bones colliding could be heard.

One could see the hundred-meter-long dragon bone contracting rhythmically, eventually shrinking down to the size of a common jade bracelet.

The black talismans on it, under Mu Jinyu's urging, also completely vanished into the interior of the dragon bone, invisible to the naked eye.

"Crack!"

Finally, accompanied by a crisp sound, the exquisitely delicate dragon head opened its jawbone and bit into its own tail bone, turning into a Dragon Bite Tail Bracelet.

"It's a success."

Mu Jinyu saw this scene and smiled with satisfaction.

"Let's see the power of this magic treasure!"

Hearing Mu Jinyu's words, San Liu's heart trembled fiercely, and he quickly shouted, "Don't use me for the test again, Dragon Master!"

The last 'Dragon Master' even carried a bit of pleading.

San Liu still had some lingering fears about the experiment with the Pellet Drum magic treasure two days ago. Now, with this Dragon Bone Magical Artifact that had taken two days and two nights to refine, he thought it must be more terrifying than the Pellet Drum magic treasure; he did not want to be the punching bag and continue to take hits.

Mu Jinyu looked silently at San Liu and said, "I didn't plan to test it on you again. What are you afraid of, man?"

Hearing this, San Liu chuckled awkwardly, feeling that he was indeed a little too nervous, "Sorry, Dragon Master. I was too tense!"

"It's okay, just relax," Mu Jinyu reassured San Liu with a smile, then turned his gaze back to the Dragon Bone Magical Artifact, gestured the spell, and shouted, "Go!"

"Shi!"

A soft chirp was heard as the Dragon Bone Jade Bracelet began spinning wildly, and with a fierce momentum, it hurtled towards the rock wall above their heads!

"Boom!"

With a loud blast, the rock wall above them was directly shattered, and numerous pieces of the rock fell down, instantly crushed into fine powder by the rotating Bone Ring!

"Rumble!!"

The Bone Ring charged upwards, and in no time, it had broken through to create a passage, allowing sunlight to cascade down from above.

"Let's go!"

Mu Jinyu packed up the Pellet Drum and the Shennong Cauldron, called out to San Liu, and stepped up the rock wall, quickly leaving the cave behind!

After a brief hesitation, San Liu also left the place.

"Go!"

He had just returned to the surface of Ruiyan Mountain when he saw Mu Jinyu issue a soft command, after which the Dragon Bone Jade Bracelet unraveled from its Dragon Bite Tail posture, starting to grow as it met the wind, reverting to a hundred meters in length, then like a dragon soaring in the sky, it hurtled towards a hawk in the high altitude!

"Screech!"

A cry sounded as the hawk was instantly minced, the Dragon Bone making a slight turn to shake off the bits of blood and flesh that had stuck to it!

"Go!"

Mu Jinyu gestured another spell, guiding the Dragon Bone down as it swept toward the nearby woods!

"Bang bang bang!"

Hundreds of trees, decades old, were struck by the Dragon Bone, all breaking in half at the trunk!

"Retrieve!"

Mu Jinyu, satisfied with the result, gestured another spell, and the Dragon Bone shrank back down, returning to the shape of the Dragon Bite Tail Bracelet.

"Let's head back."

Mu Jinyu put away the Dragon Bone Magical Artifact and said to San Liu.

Afterward, they both left Ruiyan Mountain, took a car to Rong City Airport, and boarded a plane back to Jiangnan Province.

Half a day later,

they returned to Yinlong Mountain.

"If you dare, don't trap me with formations, come out and fight me one-on-one!"

Mu Jinyu had just neared Yinlong Mountain when he heard a defiant roar from a distance!

Chapter 700: Qiu Bai Defeated!

"Huh?! Who's causing trouble here?"

Mu Jinyu heard the noise and knew that someone was trapped in the Misty Formation and couldn't get out, which is why they were shouting loudly over there.

"Not sure, should we go have a look?" San Liu asked.

Mu Jinyu shook her head and said, "Let's not bother with him for now. Let's go back and ask what the situation is."

"Okay," San Liu nodded, following behind Mu Jinyu as they made their way through the Misty Formation and returned to the outskirts of Yinlong Mountain.

Instead of going back to Secluded Valley to check on Gu Xiyan and the others, Mu Jinyu went to the newly built headquarters of Dragon King Hall at the outer peaks to find Mu Hongchen and ask about the situation.

"Thump thump!"

"Please come in."

Mu Hongchen, hearing the knock, turned her head and saw Mu Jinyu appear, said, "Dragon Master, you're back."

"Yes, what's the deal with that person outside?" Mu Jinyu didn't beat around the bush and asked directly.

Mu Hongchen's expression stiffened slightly, and she said somewhat awkwardly, "That man's name is Qiu Bai. He has recently defeated the person ranked tenth on the Divine Rankings, becoming the new number ten. He has come to challenge you!"

"I told him you had temporarily stepped out and hadn't returned yet, but he wouldn't listen. He's been making a ruckus because I'm not sure if there's a master supporting him, so I didn't dare to use the Nine Heavens Mysterious Kill Sword Formation to deal with him. I just trapped him with the Misty Formation for now!"

After hearing Mu Hongchen's explanation, Mu Jinyu also had some understanding of Qiu Bai and slightly nodded, "Ranked in the top ten of the Divine Rankings? Hmm, I do want to test my strength, to see if I can easily defeat Ye Wushuang. His arrival is quite timely!"

With that, Mu Jinyu looked up at Mu Hongchen and smiled, "Aunt Mu, you did well not to kill him directly. Although we might not necessarily fear whoever is behind him, having more troubles is not better than having fewer."

"Yes, that's what I thought too." Mu Hongchen's anxious expression faded upon hearing Mu Jinyu's praise.

Initially, she had been worried that Mu Jinyu, upon hearing her explanation, would be displeased, thinking that with the Mountain Protection Array of Dragon King Hall, why should they fear the challenge of someone ranked in the top ten of the Divine Rankings?

She felt that Qiu Bai's rapid rise to the new rank of the tenth on the Divine Rankings suggested he had powerful backing, and it wasn't necessary to kill him outright over such a trivial matter.

After all, Qiu Bai was just seeking defeat, not eyeing up Gu Xiyan and the others intending to abduct them to become his bandit's wife. In that case, without waiting for Mu Jinyu's say, she would've immediately crushed the guy!

San Liu, listening to their conversation, slightly frowned and said, "Dragon Master, not to belittle you, but based on the combat results you have shown so far, you'd rank around the thirtieth place on the Divine Rankings. Although your true strength is undoubtedly beyond that, the new number ten on the Divine Rankings doesn't know this, so why would he go out of his way to trouble you?"

"That's true, why would he come challenge me for no reason?"

Reminded by San Liu, Mu Jinyu also suddenly wondered why she, being so low-profile and not prone to attract trouble, would become the target for Qiu Bai instead of those ranked higher on the Divine Rankings, like Ye Wushuang or Zhuo Yue?

Mu Hongchen shook her head and said, "I'm not sure about that, maybe for the Tai Sui Stone? Or the Nine Heavens Mystical Murder Sword Formation Map?"

"Yeah, it might be..."

Mu Jinyu wasn't certain of the reason either but figured it was probably one of those two items that had drawn Qiu Bai in, as she had been seen publicly seeking those very things recently.

"Let it be, I'll go meet the guy first and then decide," Mu Jinyu said, shaking her head lightly before leaving Mu Hongchen's office without further discussion.

As for San Liu, naturally, he didn't follow to watch the excitement, knowing well that this Qiu Bai was no match for Mu Jinyu. Instead, he went to find Nameless to share his adventures in the Land of Creation and the fortune he had gained there.

...

Mu Jinyu entered the Misty Formation once more.

"Fuck, is anyone there? Roll out here for me!!"

"Ahhhh!!"

From a distance, came several near-breakdown, whimpering roars.

Mu Jinyu shook her head slightly and said, "What's all the shouting for, it's incredibly annoying!"

As she spoke.

The Misty Formation suddenly split to both sides, creating a path that led directly to where Qiu Bai was.

"Hmm? Who? Are you finally coming out?!"

A young man lying on the ground, looking up at the mist in the sky, instantly became alert upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words and looked in her direction!

This person was Qiu Bai, the newcomer to the Divine Rankings at number ten!

After being trapped in this Misty Formation for nearly two days, he was nearly at the brink of collapse. The sight of Mu Jinyu nearly brought him to tears, and he leapt up from the ground, shouting, "Dragon King? Do you finally dare to face me?"

"Bang bang!!"

As he spoke, he strode towards Mu Jinyu with determination!

He had truly had enough of this oppressive solitude, unable to communicate with anyone, not even hearing the sound of insects or birds!

These past two days of confinement had led him to question his life choices. Why did he even come here to suffer?

"Clang clang clang!!"

As Qiu Bai ran excitedly towards Mu Jinyu, she frowned slightly, pinched a sword technique with her left hand, and suddenly, the Nine Heavens Mysterious Kill Sword Formation was activated. A sky full of sword shadows covered the heavens and the earth, dispersing the dense fog, as waves of terrible Sword Qi crashed towards Qiu Bai like a landslide.

The momentum was suffocating.

"Tap tap..."

Qiu Bai, who was originally running towards Mu Jinyu, felt this terrifying change and unconsciously slowed down, eventually stopping in his tracks, with a look of horror and scalp tingling as he gazed towards the heavens.

Seeing Qiu Bai calm down again and start to question his life, Mu Jinyu inwardly chuckled and sternly asked, "Who are you? What do you want with me?"

Qiu Bai's throat moved nervously, swallowing his saliva. Although he really wanted to curse at Mu Jinyu, to put aside the formation and fight him fairly, the Dense Sword Qi made goosebumps rise all over his body, ultimately preventing him from voicing such a challenge.

"My name is Qiu Bai, the Divine Rankings' tenth..."

Just as Qiu Bai began to speak, Mu Jinyu interrupted, "Hmm? Not being honest, are you? I don't recall you being number ten on the Divine Rankings."

Qiu Bai wore a look of aggrieved frustration before taking a deep breath to clarify, "I've just successfully challenged that position and replaced him, becoming the new number ten on the Divine Rankings!"

"Oh, is that so? Please, continue..." Mu Jinyu responded indifferently with a nod.

Qiu Bai took a deep breath, speaking bitterly, "I came to find you with two purposes in mind. First, to challenge you; second, to ask you to refine an Elixir for me. I've heard that you've obtained the art of Alchemy and have learned it..."

"Oh? Is that the attitude with which you ask for Alchemy?" Upon hearing Qiu Bai's words, Mu Jinyu was somewhat surprised; this guy had not come for the Tai Sui Stone or the Sword Array Diagram but to seek Alchemy.

However, upon reflection, it made sense. The market for Alchemy was vast, and she seemed to be the only one capable of it. It was perfectly normal for Qiu Bai to come seeking her help in refining a specific type of Elixir.