

Longevity 121

Chapter 121 Hearing All Secrets in the Cave, True Master Wishes to Go to Guanyin Temple

Within the boundaries of Meiling, a terrifying scene was gradually dissipating.

Infant spirits swarming the skies had not lasted even half an hour in the "Xuanpin Heavenly Gate Ten Absolute Array" and were quickly slaughtered by ten types of terrifying calamities.

On the ancient path stretching across the mountain, many commoners and cultivators, although not affected by the array,

all had extremely grim expressions at this moment.

Especially the female cultivators from the Daughter Palace, whose faces were exceedingly grim, barely able to conceal their disgust for the group of cultivators guarding the boundary stele.

This was understandable, although those myriad infant spirits were not real infants.

They all possessed the characteristics of living beings and died in agony amidst their cries.

Unless one was a heartless Evil Cultivator, it was impossible for ordinary people to remain calm after witnessing such a scene.

Nevertheless, no one dared to act, even a blind and deaf person could feel the terror emitted by those few cultivators, let alone the horrifying array capable of unleashing ten calamities.

In a certain hidden valley within Meiling, inside a roughly made cave newly dug out,

Tao Qian sat cross-legged at the entrance of the cave, looking distantly as the array slaughtered the last infant spirit, and he couldn't help but sigh inwardly:

"What a terrifying array, as expected, that Mysterious Saint, Ji Xianxian, had quite a few tricks up his sleeve, no wonder he dared to watch the Devil God Army grow stronger."

"This, indeed, is a true battle between good and evil. The previous campaigns of Master Xiao against Iron Buddha Temple were just a small interlude, I guess."

He had just finished sighing when a soft moan suddenly came from behind him.

Tao Qian turned around and saw that Master Xiao, who had reduced to a girl's size, had awakened on the makeshift couch.

As soon as Master Xiao woke up, she immediately felt that her originally weak and empty body now had an influx of pure infant mother source energy, replenishing some of her depleted vitality.

Unfortunately, her injuries were too severe, and this small amount of energy was barely enough to make a difference.

Upon waking, her first realization was that Tao Qian had not followed her instructions to leave the place.

Her brows furrowed first as she looked at Tao Qian, who had turned around and resumed his original appearance, then she sighed:

"Do you, junior, really think you're capable?"

"Before you think so, first take a look at the state of this True Practitioner here, at this predicament."

"You must realize that I am a Cavernous Mystery Realm cultivator. Although I am not skilled in slaughter, I am not something a mere Qi Refinement Realm junior like you can compare with."

"If you do not wish to die and have your dao dissipate, you'd better leave early."

"And rest assured, I hold no grudge against you. In fact, I find having a minor Qi Refinement Realm cultivator like you following me to be utterly useless and a burden."

Master Xiao's words were logical and convincing.

To ease Tao Qian's guilt and encourage him to leave, she even deliberately provided him an out.

However, what Master Xiao didn't know was that while she had been unconscious and fallen into Tao Qian's arms,

most of her secret information had been exposed due to the drop in her realm, and Tao Qian had spied much of it.

He was fully aware of her current status and predicament.

Thus, at this moment, Tao Qian didn't even need to closely observe Master Xiao's expression; after hearing a few sentences, he knew she was pretending to be strong.

Of course, she really didn't believe Tao Qian could do anything significant.

A mere Qi Refinement Realm cultivator, utterly useless, merely a burden... if Tao Qian were truly just an ordinary Qi Refinement cultivator, this statement would be perfectly correct.

Unfortunately, Tao Qian was not.

Hearing Master Xiao's sigh and her driving him away, Tao Qian avoided a direct answer but abruptly asked:

"Master, when we parted that day, you said you were going to the Infant Sect to report, hoping to punish Ji Xianxian, to save millions in Southern Yue from disaster. Yet as I traveled, the situation in Southern Yue not only failed to improve, but worsened. I saw countless devils devouring humans, with Great Demons and Great Devils taking over mortal cities to establish Earth Devil Countries."

"Could Master tell me what exactly happened that led the situation to deteriorate to such an extent?"

Master Xiao originally wanted to continue persuading Tao Qian to leave but was suddenly interrupted by this question.

Her face, now that of a young girl, immediately showed anger, feeling ashamed that as a senior, she could not prevent Southern Yue from falling into chaos after her junior had provided crucial information.

After a moment of thought, she replied reluctantly:

"On that day, I returned to my Sect, but before I could enter the Mountain Gate, I was ambushed on the way."

"Besides that strange 'Saint,' there were nearly ten Elders of my Infant Sect. Although they have always been unfriendly towards me and belong to different factions, I could never imagine they would collude with outsiders to capture and imprison me, an Elder of the Infant Sect."

"These Elders represent the major power faction in my Infant Sect, and without informing the other Elders or the Sect Master, they directly negotiated an alliance with that Saint and Ji Xianxian. The condition was that once Ji Xianxian completely controlled Southern Yue, the Ten Thousand Infant Sect would have unrestricted access to various resources within the territory, and when Ji Xianxian eventually ascends the throne, our Sect would be promoted as the state religion."

"Those people were overly ambitious, dissatisfied with just being referred to as the number one Sect in Southern Yue, intending to extend the reach of the Infant Sect beyond Southern Yue, challenging the Twelve Daoist Sects and the major Buddhist Temples. Truly, their ambitions have clouded their Dao Hearts, and I believe none of them will advance to the Ultimate Happiness Realm."

"They originally intended to persuade me; I refused, and a conflict ensued. Fortunately, the cultivation technique I practiced restrained those Elders. After paying a heavy price, I managed to escape."

"But that mysteriously appearing 'Saint,' with his numerous and ruthless methods, even though he wasn't present in person, successfully forced me into such a dire situation, even predicting my last resort and preemptively setting up the Xuanpin Ten Absolute Array here in Meiling."

"The 'Ten Thousand Infant Mother's Umbilical' just destroyed by the Ten Extremes Array was the last usable Magical Treasure on me; left with no choice, I had to seek a chance of survival using the infant mother's spiritual sense."

"It's strange. The method of using my infant mother's spiritual sense to seek a chance of survival can only be used once every twelve years, and has never failed me before, always aiding me in escaping danger."

"Why did it fail this time?"

With that, Master Xiao fixed her gaze on Tao Qian.

Though his cultivation and realm were not high, he indeed brought her unexpected turns several times.

After watching for a moment, she shook her head, whispering to herself, "Impossible. No matter how peculiar this junior is, he hasn't even reached Foundation Establishment. How could he possibly help me? I should not endanger his life; it's better to send him away early."

Although Tao Qian could not hear Master Xiao's thoughts, he could guess a thing or two from her expression.

He chuckled softly and continued without pausing, his brows furrowed as he asked,

"Master, their plans are bound to be exposed one day."

"By that time, aren't they afraid of the other Elders of the Ten Thousand Infant Sect and the Sect Master's reprimand or regrets?"

Hearing this question, Master Xiao sighed,

"The other Elders mostly stay out of affairs. By the time it's a done deal, there really won't be much reprimanding. The real trouble is the Sect Master. Knowing him as I do, if he becomes aware of their plans, he will definitely not agree."

"It's perhaps for this reason that they first had the Third Prince take the Sect Master as his mentor, and then they used some secretive means behind his back to get the Sect Master, who hadn't left the sect for a century, to visit Guanyin Temple as a guest, facilitating their actions."

"Now they are openly supporting Ji Xianxian with that foolish Third Prince as a representative of our Infant Sect... In a few days, a major battle will erupt. Ji Xianxian will sweep through Southern Yue with the force of thunder, eliminating the devils and thoroughly seizing control of this area."

"When things are settled, even if the Sect Master returns, he won't be able to do anything to them; he might even have to reluctantly agree."

Master Xiao paused here.

Her fine brows furrowed tighter, and then she expressed her worry, "Their plan is quite meticulous, but I know there's a huge flaw. If it succeeds, at worst, our Infant Sect will be harnessed to their chariot, and with the Sect Master's skills, there might still be room to maneuver. But if it fails, the tens of millions of ordinary people in Southern Yue are likely to end up as miserable as two-legged sheep."

"What kind of flaw?"

Tao Qian replied inquisitively. After pondering deeply, he felt that Ji Xianxian's plan had a good chance of success; he did not see any significant flaws unless there were some unknown secrets.

Sure enough, Master Xiao soon gave an answer,

"The Devil God Army!"

"Currently, the Devil God Army is rampaging through over a dozen large provinces. That Mysterious Saint and Ji Xianxian, in order to succeed, have even colluded with one branch of it willingly, allowing their main force to march deep into the heart of Southern Yue."

"Not enough with that, they even allowed Tang the Divine General and many Great Demons to join forces, even attracting numerous Great Demons from nearby provinces."

"Ji Xianxian's original intent was to grow stronger by nurturing foes, forcing the court's hand, then clearing away the demonic aura and ascending to the top."

"However, they did not anticipate that the Devil God Army might bite back, especially a general called Tang Xianzong, who is known for his extraordinary means and shrewd mind, and who also married the Daughter of Devil God. He would not be content with the little gain Ji Xianxian was offering."

"If in the final battle, the Devil God Army were to turn the tables and directly annihilate Ji Xianxian..."

"Then, Southern Yue would be doomed."

As Master Xiao revealed the inside information, Tao Qian's face could not suppress a look of shock.

Since capturing Hong Youhu, the cloud of doubts that had hovered in Tao Qian's mind had now completely cleared.

Now, Tao Qian fully understood what had happened in Southern Yue, and why it had progressed to such a state.

While Tao Qian was shocked, Master Xiao didn't stop.

Although she held no expectations that this junior in front of her could offer any help, having faced adversity for many days, she truly wished to confide a bit more, continuing,

"I ventured into Meiling this time intending to go to Guanyin Temple to request the Sect Master's return."

"With the Sect Master's influence, perhaps we could even persuade the Bodhisattvas of Guanyin Temple to lend a hand, especially since that dreadful Beautiful Corpse is now wreaking havoc in Southern Yue."

"It would be great if I could make it there, but unfortunately, my injuries are too severe."

"That Saint truly is mysterious and skillful, and I don't even know which Hidden Sect has raised such a True Practitioner. From his memories, it's apparent that such Saints exist not only here but also in other great provinces."

"One would think that in the Cultivation World, only a few of the super Great Sects from Daoist and Buddhist Sects could have such a foundation, truly puzzling... hic!"

"Hic!"

"Hic!"

Master Xiao, lost in thought, suddenly let out three abrupt hiccups.

Immediately, the fragrance of milk permeated the narrow makeshift cave.

Though Tao Qian was morbidly curious to see how this senior Master would blush in embarrassment, he thought better of it and averted his gaze, explaining,

"Earlier, Master bestowed many fine items, particularly the Pregnancy Stone and the Jade Grip that can transform Nascent Soul Source Energy, which have been of great help to me as a junior."

"However, I couldn't use the 'Infant Mother Origin Pearl'. Seeing that the Master was severely injured, I thought this item could help restore some of your vital energy, so I took the liberty of administering it to you."

After Tao Qian finished, there was no response in the cave.

Tao Qian only felt a gradually dangerous gaze fixed on him.

To spare the senior Master from dwelling on the embarrassment and thus keeping him on her bad side,

Tao Qian quickly changed the subject,

"Master, you might have used a Magical Treasure to block the might of the Ten Extremes Array and temporarily confused them."

"But since your true body hasn't appeared, wouldn't they soon realize?"

This tactic indeed worked, as soon as Tao Qian finished,

Master Xiao immediately tensed up, rarely raising her voice, and once again urged Tao Qian,

"You're right, such a disguise won't last long. Those rats will soon catch on. You'd better leave quickly, don't let me bring you into this mess and needlessly hinder your Dao Path."

"Go now, go now, I do not wish to see you again."

Chapter 122 Tao Qian Reveals the Summoning Demon Technique, Annihilation of Nature and Spirit, the 11th Disaster

Exiled again, Tao Qian remained indifferent.

Master Xiao's cultivation realm had fallen to a point even lower than his, and her internal injuries were severe. Having lost that last exotic treasure, her harsh command to expel him held no deterrence.

Especially considering her present appearance, a young girl burping up milk, how could she possibly trouble Master Tao?

With a smile, Tao Qian then said candidly,

"There's no need for the True Master to worry about this junior. If I'm needed to fight those Transcend Mortality Cultivators or to force my way through the Xuanpin Heavenly Gate Ten Absolute Array, then I would pay no heed, obey the True Master's command and turn to escape at once."

"However, if there's any other crafty method that might assist the True Master, I would naturally not refuse."

Upon hearing Tao Qian's words, Master Xiao couldn't help but look at him, then revealed a bitter smile.

There was no hope in her tone, only a shake of her head as she explained,

"I've expended all my exotic treasures, my cultivation has been mostly wasted, and most critically, my whereabouts have been locked onto by the mysterious Saint Heir Qin Wuxiang, whose Prediction Divine Arts surpass mine. Right now, I am nothing but a burden assured to be captured. If you were to take me with you, and those people caught us, it's not certain that I would die, but you would definitely not escape death."

"You should consider carefully. Is there any crafty method that would allow you, a Qi Refining Realm cultivator, to take away a cripple and break through the Ten Extremes Array guarded by several Transcend Mortality Cultivators and the thousands of fierce soldiers from the Demon Suppression Army lurking in the shadows?"

"Although you and Lin Xiaohua have different natures, your sense of righteousness is indeed a rare existence in the Cultivation World."

"I see that both your talent and aptitude are extraordinary. Would it not be too regrettable if you were to die because of me?"

"Go on, go on. This True Master owes you a favor. Should I find an opportunity to escape trouble, I might go to the Spirit Treasure Sect to properly thank you."

Master Xiao alternated between threats and comfort.

She had thought that this would make the junior in front of her withdraw in recognition of the difficulties, but unexpectedly, Tao Qian truly began to think it over according to her words.

And not long after, Tao Qian suddenly looked up, staring intently at her with seriousness,

"True Master, do you know that in the Cultivation World there's a magic skill that can summon a horde of Outer Realm demons at will?"

"Not all those All Heavens Ten Thousand Demons are skilled in slaughter; many of them have special Divine Skills and methods. If used well, perhaps they could help you break through that Ten Extremes Array."

Upon hearing these key phrases from Tao Qian, Master Xiao's eyes, carrying the radiance of motherhood beneath her thin brows, instantly lit up.

Perhaps because her cultivation realm had fallen too hard, and her injuries were serious, not only had her body reverted to that of a young girl, but her personality and behavior also underwent subtle changes.

Upon hearing this "good news," she became so excited that she actually pounced forward.

Just before she could grasp Tao Qian's arm, she abruptly stopped and then said excitedly,

"The Secret Demon Sect's Summoning Demon Technique?"

"You've learned this skill? How did you do it, aren't you a Spirit Treasure Cultivator?"

"I almost forgot, I also saw you use the Secret Demon Sacrifice Body Sword Technique before. You should know, both these skills are considered the Secret Demon Sect's proprietary expertise. You've learned them so easily, could it be that you are an undercover agent sent by the Secret Demon Sect to infiltrate the Spirit Treasure Sect...?"

"Burp!"

A milk burp made Master Xiao realize what she had just blurted out.

The cave became somewhat quiet again.

If it weren't for some considerations, Tao Qian would have liked to sigh and then complain, "Master Xiao, speaking like that makes it easy for others to silence you."

But since he had decided to reveal his own secrets, Tao Qian had some expectations for Master Xiao's reaction.

Without letting her speak any more awkward words, Tao Qian continued, "Due to a twist of fate, I've learned a few Divine Powers from the Secret Demon Sect, but my Basic Method has never changed. The True Master must not misinterpret."

As he finished speaking, Tao Qian couldn't help but lift his hand to form the Spirit Treasure Seal while directly reciting the Nine True Spirit Sound.

The former was fine, but the latter convinced Master Xiao to nod in recognition, saying, "Indeed, it is the pure Daoist Spirit Sound Divine Skill. Unless deeply compatible with the Spirit Treasure Skill, one would find it difficult to comprehend this method."

Having cleared himself of the suspicion of being an undercover agent for the Secret Demon Sect, Tao Qian still couldn't help but silently complain.

"If I weren't afraid you'd try to take me back, exposing my 'Innate Dao Seed' would clear me even more of suspicion."

Tao Qian revealed that he knew how to summon demons, thinking of calling upon the Empty Demon, Star Zha Demon, Illusion Demon, Substitute Demon, and other such Demon Chiefs.

With the capabilities of these Demon Chiefs, perhaps they could work together to get Master Xiao out of Meiling.

Even in Tao Qian's mind, a plan began to take form.

But before he could speak further, Master Xiao looked at Tao Qian with a face full of regret. Although there was a glimmer of hope in her eyes, more than that, there was regret.

Master Xiao spoke again, frankly revealing all the dangers one by one.

"Actually, those Transcend Mortality Cultivators are not a real problem, just a few Loose Cultivators lured by the Saint Heir 'Qin Wuxiang,' nothing extraordinary or vicious."

"What's truly terrifying is still the [Xuanpin Heavenly Gate Ten Absolute Array]. Most likely, it was personally set up by Qin Wuxiang."

"If it dares to be called 'Heavenly Gate,' it naturally suggests it's very difficult to break through."

"You are currently only at the Qi Refinement stage, and even if you're skilled in the [All Heavens Demon Summoning Technique], at best you could only summon some low-level demons like the Illusion Demon and Charming Heart Demon. Even if you're lucky enough to summon somewhat more rare demons like the Empty Demon or Star Zha Demon, they would still not be able to break through that Heavenly Gate."

"Thousands of miles of Escape Skill, Void leaps... it all depends on what kind of Demon uses them. If they're too low-level, it's meaningless."

"If you could summon the Five Directions Demon or Yin Yang Demon, the high-level Demons that can harmonize the Five Directions, reverse yin and yang, then there might be a chance."

"However, to achieve that, at the very least, you'd have to enter the Transcend Mortality Realm to have a chance."

"Sigh!"

"It seems that the method I thought of to seek a way to live wasn't wrong, as you, the junior, really do represent a thread of hope."

"Yet it's too weak and of no help at all. This is Heaven cutting off my Xiao Meiniang."

"Poor child, she will become an orphan in the future."

"But that's also good. Without my infant mother source energy to feed her, Du Du, the Immortal Infant, might return to the heavens and earth, not needing to be tainted by the filth of this mortal world..."

""

In the cave, Tao Qian looked somewhat lost for words at Master Xiao, who was heaving sighs and had accidentally revealed her true name and the details of the Immortal Infant.

It was not because Master Xiao had rejected his sneaky plan; rather, Tao Qian had suddenly noticed Master Xiao's constantly changing demeanor.

Although not very obvious, the diminished girl-like Master Xiao had been acting increasingly unstable.

Were her injuries this severe?

Or was it because of the cultivation technique she practiced?

As Tao Qian speculated, both he and Master Xiao sensed something simultaneously and looked toward the cave entrance at the same time.

At that very moment, the previously retracted Ten Extremes Array unfolded once again.

It was the same old Transcend Mortality Cultivator, who controlled the sky and ascended, his voice suddenly turning cold and filled with killing intent as it echoed throughout the territory of Meiling.

"Mr. Xiao Daoist, what a clever move, and how willing you are to deceive us by offering that exotic treasure to be completely destroyed as a price."

"If not for the Saint having prepared in advance, we might have really let you slip by."

"No doubt, Mr. Xiao Daoist is currently hiding within Meiling, waiting for us to come searching for you, then seizing the opportunity to counterattack?"

"On the surface, Mr. Xiao Daoist seems utterly exhausted, but after all, you are a Cavernous Mystery Cultivator, even the Beautiful Corpse Bodhisattva almost fell into your hands; how could we dare to hunt you down?"

"However, it doesn't matter; the Saint has already prepared measures for us that can force you to show yourself and surrender."

"It's just a pity for the common folk here, as well as all those righteous and heterodox loose cultivators."

"If you must blame someone, don't blame us; go blame Master Xiao of the Ten Thousand Infant Sect."

"Ha ha ha..."

"Not good!"

In the cave, Master Xiao's face suddenly turned pale upon hearing this.

She seemed to have guessed something; her youthful face tensed, and her eyes were filled with anger and unwillingness.

And the next moment, throughout the Meiling territory, a command imbued with a chilling killing intent resounded:

"Activate the array!"

"Ten Extremes Annihilate Spirit!"

Boom!

It was still a case of 'saying and following'; those ten calamities that had effortlessly destroyed Master Xiao's exotic treasure surged forth once again.

But this time, these calamities did not fall.

Everyone watched as fire, ice, golden light, blood transformation, soul descent, poison water, red sand, wind erosion, demon consumption, ghost devouring... these ten calamities collided in the high sky, slowly merging together, and eventually all seemed to vanish into nothingness; had they all disappeared?

Seeing this spectacle, Master Xiao's face was extremely unsightly.

With her teeth clenched tightly, almost to the point of breaking, blood flowed from the corners of her mouth as she said with extreme pain, word by word:

"The Ten Extremes Array is an array created by evil demons and heretics; besides those ten calamities, the truly terrifying thing is the eleventh calamity that emerges after the Ten Extremes merge."

"It is a wind, a breath; wherever it passes, whether commoners or cultivation intermediaries, if their cultivation realm is not sufficient, they will inevitably suffer... the calamity of annihilation of nature and spirit!"

"Annihilation of nature and spirit?"

Tao Qian's eyes still showed confusion.

But just as he was about to ask further, an extremely cruel answer immediately presented itself before his eyes.

Starting with the Meiling Boundary Stele, an extremely terrifying, indescribable, and imperceptible Invisible Object suddenly blew out.

In an instant, the entire Meiling was filled with this "Invisible Object."

Then, Tao Qian saw it.

Not far from the cave, at the waist of a mountain peak, a caravan of traders, roughly dozens of people, mostly adults and the elderly, was resting.

Initially, they too were part of the audience, observing the marvel of immortals at play.

But abruptly, the "light" in every one of their eyes dimmed, and the expressions and demeanors they each possessed vanished, leaving behind a cold, absent gaze.

Roar!

With that first inhuman roar, the dozens of people in the caravan began to mutate.

Tao Qian looked in horror as the caravan leader laughed wildly while his body exploded outward, entrails intermixed with numerous alien objects, conspicuously copper coins. These coins stuck together continuously, actually enveloping the man into a giant ball of bloody, fleshy copper.

He watched a frail woman that screeched hoarsely, her body growing wildly in height, her cherry lips splitting to her ears, her tusks overflowing, saliva dripping.

A young man in a white robe let out a weird laugh, violently ripping his clothes apart, revealing a thin body that suddenly sprouted numerous tentacles coated in a disgusting slime. Each tentacle had a fissure on its tip, spewing forth a corrosive poison that stank.

Another elder held his head and howled; as copious amounts of slime splashed out, his head mutated into a ferocious and hideous fish head.

A burly man also laughed frantically as he tore off all his clothes, his bare body growing numerous egg-like blisters. With his running and jumping, the transparent eggs were flung all around, bursting upon contact with the ground, releasing noxious fluids...

What struck Tao Qian motionless with shock, unsure of what to do next, was that the transformation and fall of this caravan was just the beginning.

As the Invisible Object spread, within the Meiling territory, various regions began to echo with roars and howls.

Behind him, Master Xiao's voice, laden with extreme pain and struggle, came through:

"Once a person suffers the calamity of annihilation of nature and spirit, they can no longer be called human. They will be controlled by the desires and obsessions deep within their hearts, and both their bodies and spirits will be distorted."

"They're after me, quick, hand me over."

Chapter 123 Difficulties Crossing Mei Pass Twice, Tao Qian Again Summons All Demons

At the entrance of the cave, Tao Qian's expression almost solidified as he swept his gaze around, listening and watching the Mutated scenes and roars that were intermittently occurring within the Meiling boundary.

He and Master Xiao, in their area, also began to be penetrated by the "Invisible Object," forcing them to endure the annihilation of nature and spirit.

This caused Master Xiao's condition to become even more unstable. Conversely, Little Age and Lian Jing'er, the two youngsters, showed no abnormalities.

Obviously, this was because both of them were non-human Alien Species, innately immune to this disaster.

While Tao Qian was categorized in the Record Type as Abnormality, he possessed all the human traits.

However, at this moment, as the terrifying Invisible Object infiltrated, his mind instantly thundered.

His heart thumped explosively, and the bizarre information was quickly sorted by his Mutated soul into a format Tao Qian could understand, surfacing as follows:

[Record Name: Annihilation of Nature and Spirit Disaster.]

[Record Type: Heavenly Signs.]

[Record: Originally, this disaster was a mysterious phenomenon in the world, later decoded by some human ancestors and integrated into Divine Power Skill, such as the current Xuanpin Heavenly Gate Ten Absolute Array, blending ten disasters to create this calamity that can exterminate human spirit, allowing humans to be controlled by deep-seated desires and obsessions, eventually leading to their Mutated and Fallen state. This disaster is driven by the Array but can also be reversed by the Array, though it requires at least half of the Xuanpin Pearls within the core of the Array Point, releasing the 'Xuanpin Tai Miao Wind' to restore affected humans.]

[Note 1: The source of this disaster is the Xuanpin Heavenly Gate Ten Absolute Array; the core of the Array is set within the Meiling Boundary Stele, containing one hundred and eight Xuanpin Pearls, with thousands of Heavenly Disaster Stones buried around Meiling. Operating this Array comes at no small cost, but there are two methods to counteract: one is to transfer to the Xuanpin Pearls, and the other is to sacrifice Mutated Devil to the Array.]

[Note 2: The cultivators controlling this Array were originally instructed to use the first method, but they switched to the second method on a whim to embezzle those Exotic Treasure Xuanpin Pearls.]

[Note 3: Destroying the core of the Array Point will render this Array ineffective.]

[Note 4: Victims will become dependent on this Array, irrespective of how rampantly they rampage, they will not leave the range of this Array until they are sacrificed and merged into the Array's power.]

[Note 5: Exempt from this disaster, spirit unharmed.]

...

As these records emerged one after another, Tao Qian's brows furrowed tighter, but his eyes were also beginning to sparkle.

In his mind, myriad intricate inspirations burst forth.

He had thought that this disaster was unsolvable, this Array unbreakable, that "Mei Pass" also impossible to breach.

Yet now, with these secrets revealed, Tao Qian seemed to see hope.

His focus primarily fixed on the third note.

"So it means that the Mysterious Saint, Qin Wuxiang, didn't plan a massacre. Obviously, he can't see those commoners or cultivators; his only target is Master Xiao, hence the arrangement of one hundred and eight Xuanpin Pearls, to maximize the power and effectiveness of the Array in these few Transcend Mortality Wanderers without causing a 'Meiling Massacre.'"

"But these wandering cultivators, did they change their minds on their own, intending to achieve their goals while embezzling some of the Xuanpin Pearls?"

"If I can get close to the Meiling Boundary Stele, that is, the core of the Array Point, do I stand a chance to destroy this Array?"

"While taking advantage of the Array becoming ineffective, I could use the Star Zha Demon General to send Master Xiao away. Guanyin Temple is within the Fumin territory; if I summon a few more Star Zha Demons to relay her there, it might directly take Master Xiao to Guanyin Temple."

"The only two issues are, how do I disarm the guard of those Transcend Mortality cultivators to approach the Array Point? And how can I completely destroy the Array Point?"

These thoughts flashed one after another, and the light in Tao Qian's eyes grew brighter.

Suddenly, Tao Qian turned his head and looked at Master Xiao, who was painfully struggling and trying to break through Little Age and Lian Jing'er's blockage, trying to offer herself to resolve the human disaster within the Meiling territory.

At this moment, he couldn't care about anything else, and he went up and forcibly restrained her.

Startlingly, Master Xiao began to mutate.

On her youthful face, expressions of crying, laughing, sorrow, and resentment appeared one after another.

But what was most conspicuous was her abdomen, which bulged and subsided repeatedly, and faintly, the sound of a baby's cry could be heard.

Although there were no tumors or drool, those filthy things, the scene was only more bizarre and made Tao Qian's spine chill slightly.

Knowing he could not delay any longer, Tao Qian leaned in and then he spat out something.

The Nine True Spirit Sound!

Although their Cultivation Realms were vastly different, at this moment's downfall for Master Xiao, this pure Daoist Spirit Sound had a miraculous effect on her.

A few breaths after the Spirit Sound entered her brain, she broke free from the mutation.

The moment she awoke, she saw Tao Qian's face close up and heard him solemnly ask:

"True Master, you said you have exhausted all the Magical Treasures on you, but could you check once more to see if there are any treasures like the Thunder Fire Pill or Yin Thunder Pearl that have the power to directly destroy the core of the Array Point? Don't worry about whether I can get close, or whether those Transcend Mortality Wanderers will stop me."

Perhaps it was because she had just listened to Tao Qian's Spirit Sound, that she unconsciously chose to follow Tao Qian's command.

She didn't immediately respond. Instead, she promptly started searching in her Storage Treasure Bag.

Before long, she appeared to present a treasure, pulling out a small and exquisite, material-unknown Magic Artifact, which looked like a baby holding a thumb, with strands of thunderbolts flashing across its surface intermittently.

The moment this object appeared inside the cave, it immediately made Tao Qian feel what it's like to be terrified.

Before he could reach for it, Master Xiao's voice came first:

"This is called the 'Little Heavenly Gang Thunder Infant,' nurtured from the essence qi of the Heavenly Gang Yuan Thunder."

"Just a simple refining and it can be controlled at will; once detonated, at close range, those at the Foundation Establishment Realm will surely die, those in the Transcend Mortality Realm will be injured, and although the Array Point of the Xuanpin Heavenly Gate Ten Absolute Array is also tenacious, it can't withstand the power of this treasure."

"If you need it, I can gift you a few."

"This item is of no use to me; reaching my level of Cultivation Realm, unless you detonate thousands of Thunder Infants at once, it can't even scratch me, nor can it harm the Elders who are hunting me down, let alone that Qin Wuxiang."

"As for these few Transcend Mortality Wanderers, it would be useful if they were up close, but they are too cunning, managing through the Ten Absolute Array to exhaust the last Exotic Treasure, 'Ten Thousand Infant Mother's Umbilical,' from me."

After hearing Master Xiao's words and watching her take out two more Thunder Infants, Tao Qian finally understood a bit.

It was clear that when the high-level Great Cultivators talked about "running out of Magical Treasures," it was not the same as his running out.

Tao Qian carefully took the Thunder Infant, feeling somewhat relieved, and thought to himself, "With this in hand, I won't need to risk myself later. Excellent."

First, he stored the three Thunder Infants, then Tao Qian suddenly turned to Master Xiao with a slightly enigmatic expression and said,

"True Master, I will hand you over to pacify the catastrophe here."

"But before that, I'll need you to bear with it a little, as the timing is not yet right, and I need to make some preparations."

After that, Tao Qian sat down cross-legged.

Calming his mind, he slowly entered into meditation.

Before meditating, Tao Qian muttered in his mind, "Fortunately, I have stocked up quite a few Corpse Demonic Sky Demon Elixirs; otherwise, summoning these Demons on such short notice would truly leave me without any Demon Pills to offer."

Moments later, inside his Secret Acupoint Platform,

Tao Qian's Primordial Spirit sat upright as the Ten Thousand Demon List fluttered and turned pages in front of him, revealing all sorts of bizarre Outer Realm Demons possessing Divine Powers, flickering past.

Then, Tao Qian formed the Summoning Demon Dharma Seal and declared loudly:

"Heavenly Demon Daoists, I have encountered some calamities and truly need your powerful assistance."

"However, I am not a stingy person. I will not let you work for nothing; Heavenly Demon Blood Transformation Pills are prepared as a reward."

...

Meiling, which was once bustling but relatively peaceful, had completely turned into a Demon Realm.

Covered by the "Xuanpin Heavenly Gate Ten Absolute Array," the endless ancient paths and trails, whether they were used by mortal traders, fleeing civilians, or those Loose Cultivators and Cultivators from various sects, were all struck by disaster.

Annihilation of nature and spirit!

This disaster was indeed too horrific, much worse than the previous ten disasters.

Oddly, the Primordial Yang Sect, which was very close to Meiling and controlled the area of Yang County, protecting the civilian populace, seemed unaware of the turmoil.

Or perhaps, the cultivators of Primordial Yang had noticed, but they dared not intervene.

If it were Evil Cultivators causing chaos, they might have assisted.

Alas, that was not the case.

Even though the events occurring within Meiling were actually more brutal than the chaos caused by Demons.

Almost half of humanity had mutated and fallen.

Still, even so, the Transcend Mortality Cultivators had not yet seen Master Xiao appear.

Given their understanding of Infant Sect Master Xiao, this was extremely unreasonable.

In the Boundary Stele area, several discussions were taking place:

"Why hasn't she come out yet? Could it be that the lady really ran away? Otherwise, with her temperament, she would have come out and surrendered herself early."

"That's impossible. She's trapped in the Ten Extremes Array, with the power of that Exotic Treasure drained to hide. She's completely exhausted and unable to escape the Meiling area."

"Could it be that she's really been too heavily injured and can't even withstand the annihilation of nature and spirit, leading directly to her mutation and fall?"

"Hmm? That's indeed possible. That would be problematic. Xiao Meiniang is very important; those old men from the Infant Sect and the Third Prince and Ji Xianxian don't wish for her to die."

"The Saint also instructed that besides definitely stopping her from escaping to Guanyin Temple, it's best to capture her alive."

"How about we send a few thousand Demon Suppressing Soldiers to search? Assign a Xuanpin Pearl to each squad to ensure these Demon Suppressing Soldiers don't fall."

"Alright, let's proceed with..."

Just as that elderly Transcend Mortality Wanderer dressed like an Old Immortal was about to make a decision,

Suddenly, within the area covered by the Ten Extremes Array in Meiling, a voice filled with anger suddenly reverberated.

"Hey, you old Daoists over there, I order you to stop this damn Array right now, or I'll straight-up kill this lady. Did you hear me?"

"Boom!"

The few Transcend Mortality Cultivators immediately followed the voice and saw in the middle of the Ten Extremes Array, atop an isolated mountain peak, was an unfamiliar male cultivator.

This man had an average appearance and wore a simple Daoist robe, with a Hundred Refinement Sword Pill circulating around him, and an extremely astonishing Sword Intent soaring into the sky.

And in his hands, he held their target for the trip.

Master Xiao!

However, unlike what they had seen in the past, at this moment, Xiao Meiniang was completely unconscious, her face shifting with various expressions, and her abdomen kept swelling and then subsiding, with the sound of a baby's cry continuously emitting.

Seeing this, the group felt a shock in their hearts and exclaimed:

"Xiao Meiniang has indeed suffered too severe injuries to withstand the annihilation of nature and spirit; she is undergoing mutation and fall."

"Who is this young man, and how did Xiao Meiniang end up in his hands?"

Among the group, someone had just voiced their doubt.

The leading Old Immortal's brow furrowed tightly, as if recalling something, and suddenly said:

"This is troublesome. This young man seems to be that mysterious Sword Cultivator who received part of the Secret Demon Sect's inheritance, slaughtered the entire Fragrant Meat Collection, and beheaded that disgusting infant demon on Iron Buddha Mountain... He has not yet left Southern Yue and has unexpectedly encountered us, with Xiao Meiniang inexplicably falling into his hands."

Chapter 124 Marvelous, Marvelous Xuanpin Wind, Recklessly Stumbling Secret Demon Child

Although Tao Qian's cultivation realm was indeed not high, one might even say it was quite low,

his recent battle achievements were indeed astonishing.

First, he slaughtered the Fragrant Meat Collection!

Then, he withstood the continuous manhunt by the Devil God Army for a full two days, during which he turned around and slaughtered countless Evil Cultivators and Demons!

In the last half day, he even toyed with a giant troll baby demon and beheaded it in front of many demons at the Joyful Pavilion!

Afterwards, he fled ten thousand miles, truly ruthless and carefree.

With these achievements as his foundation, and numerous Evil Cultivators and that infant demon as stepping stones, in the Cultivation World of Southern Yue, no one regarded him as a mere Qi Refining Realm cultivator.

Whenever mentioned, especially among the demon groups, the comments were mostly along these lines:

"Oh, that person must be a child of the Demon Path, don't be fooled by his upright actions, but his nature is cunning and ruthless, usually appearing in the guise of a Qi Refining Realm cultivator, showing weakness then seizing the opportunity to deliver a deadly blow, truly shameless."

"Perhaps he was a Righteous cultivator before obtaining the inheritance, but he clearly fits better with the Demon Path, otherwise, it's unexplainable how he could cultivate those Divine Power Skills of the Secret Demon Sect so brilliantly."

"I suspect this child must have uncovered his true nature after receiving part of the Secret Demon Sect's inheritance, hence appearing both righteous and evil. As long as he continues to cultivate the Secret Demon Magic, he will eventually fall and become a lawless Demon Head of the Secret Demon Sect."

...

At the Boundary Stele, several Transcend Mortality Cultivators looked rather displeased at the moment.

Officially, they were under the jurisdiction of Ji Xianxian, but secretly, they belonged to the Saint Child Qin Wuxiang.

Reminded by the leading Old Immortal, they all recalled the information related to the strange cultivator who had taken Xiao Meiniang hostage.

Although unaware of the details, they were acquainted with the overall battle achievements.

If it were only him alone, they would have no concerns.

They would have directly activated the Ten Extremes Array and killed him, despite his strong battle record, as they were all experienced Old Cultivators. How could they not see that the person's cultivation realm was far from Transcend Mortality, and his beheading of the infant demon must have been a fluke relying on those strange Divine Power Skills of the Secret Demon Sect.

But now, that he had captured Xiao Meiniang for blackmail immediately put them in a dilemma.

None doubted that the "Master Xiao" held in Tao Qian's hands was fake, firstly because of the extremely noticeable infant mother's energy and secondly due to Master Xiao's mutated and fallen appearance. If it weren't really her, it would be impossible to simulate just by conjecture.

Although it was very unsettling to be threatened, they had a mission, and the lead Old Immortal, frowning, stepped forward and addressed Tao Qian loudly:

"This woman is indeed the fugitive we have been tasked to capture, yet, unexpectedly, she has fallen into Daoist's hands."

"Just right, please transfer her to us."

"We are from the Forbidden Immortal Hall of Southern Yue. Currently, Governor Ji is about to deploy an 800,000-strong Demon-suppressing Army to stabilize the demon influences in Southern Yue. We are merely concerned that this woman may leak crucial military information, hence our mission to capture her."

"Daoist has indeed made a contribution by capturing her. After transferring her to us, we will surely reward Daoist."

"At that time, whether it's cultivation techniques, cultivation resources, they will be plentiful."

"Or if Daoist wishes to join some major sects or schools, there is no problem at all. With Governor Ji's recommendation, perhaps you could secure a position as a True Cultivation Disciple."

The Old Immortal thought he spoke very diplomatically, clearly stating the official position and promising substantial rewards.

To prove his point, he even summoned thousands, nearly ten thousand Demon-suppressing Soldiers stationed in the shadows.

With their strict military discipline and the terrifying aura they exuded, these soldiers were already a symbol of the Southern Yue officials, impossible to fake.

A normal Loose Cultivator, seeing these soldiers and hearing these conditions, would probably be tempted immediately.

Unfortunately, Tao Qian was indeed not quite normal.

Hearing these words, Tao Qian just scoffed and then, the Hundred Refinement Sword Pill exploded with sharp sword light, gruesomely severing a fair and enticing arm from Master Xiao.

This abrupt scene immediately elicited exclamations from the few at the Boundary Stele.

Then they saw this Secret Demon Child, pointing at them and cursing:

"A bunch of hypocritical cultivators, why so much nonsense?"

"Hurry up, stop this broken array for me, no, reverse it directly, don't think I'm unenlightened. I have read about your broken array in the manual. Blow out that 'Xuanpin Tai Miao Wind' for me, restore all these poor folks."

"I can't stand you cultivators who are high and mighty yet completely devoid of humanity, pretending to bully the common people, each one unfit to be a human being."

"I give you ten counts. If you fail, I'll directly behead this woman. After all, she can't last much longer and is quickly mutating into a demon."

"Ten!"

"Nine!"

"Eight!"

After finishing speaking, Tao Qian didn't wait for their response and immediately began counting down.

In front of him, the Hundred Refinement Sword Pill was eagerly moving, the daunting sword intent hanging directly over Xiao Meiniang's head, about to strike down.

They, having been dispatched by Qin Wuxiang, were all experienced and meticulous in thought.

How could they not see that the cultivator before them, caught between righteousness and evil, was utterly unafraid of anything, a truly irreverent Demon Child.

"Damn, this guy must be a reckless youth after obtaining the Secret Demon Inheritance, harboring dissatisfaction with cultivators, and his lawless nature fits perfectly with the Secret Demon Sect's Method. Clearly a Demon Child, yet always engaging in acts of upholding justice, not minding that it doesn't suit his identity as a Demon Cultivator."

"What to do now? If we don't comply, he might indeed kill Xiao Meiniang. If we do, the benefits of the Xuanpin Pearl that we could have shared will be vastly diminished."

"Why not let him kill her? Afterwards, we'll slaughter all of them cleanly, providing companions for Xiao Meiniang's death. Although we couldn't capture her and bring her back, at least we have completed the task of preventing her from reaching Guanyin Temple."

Among the group, a middle-aged cultivator with a pale face and clean eyes, seemingly as modest as a gentle gentleman, suddenly spoke such harsh words.

However, immediately, the leading old immortal raised his hand to stop them,

"Do not forget the capabilities of the Saint Child. Although he has tacitly allowed us to secretly appropriate some treasures and resources, the primary condition is that we must prioritize completing the mission."

"If we put the cart before the horse and, for the sake of a few Xuanpin Pearls, allow Xiao Meiniang to perish, creating a 'Meiling Tragedy' intentionally, we might not make it back to the Governor Mansion before the Saint Child executes us."

"Let it be, let it be. Heaven has the virtue of loving life, so let's spare the lives of these mundane mortals."

"Even though this will cost us half of the Xuanpin Pearls, rescuing Xiao Meiniang would mean successfully completing the mission, and the Saint Child will surely reward us."

These few sentences successfully persuaded the other cultivators.

Although a few still coveted the Xuanpin Pearls and harbored resentment against Tao Qian, their hands did not stop moving.

After a few breaths, the start point was still the Meiling Boundary Stele.

"Boom"

A gust of invisible wind harshly blew in all directions.

This wind seemed to carry endless profound meanings, constantly generating life.

In just an instant, all the previous screams and howls ceased, and then those who had mutated and fallen began to slowly revert to their original forms.

Seeing this unfold, the Secret Demon Child holding Xiao Meiniang instantly grinned broadly and shouted, "Wonderful, wonderful! This damn Xuanpin Tai Miao Wind, just as described in the records, brings refreshment to the spirit, returning to the truth."

While he rejoiced, those near the boundary stele were in a bad mood.

The leading old immortal, restraining his patience, shouted to Tao Qian, "Daoist, we have done as you said, can you send this woman over now?"

His voice was gentle and resonant, even carrying a bit of an immortal-like aura.

But Tao Qian could tell that the killing intent in his words was nearly condensing into substance.

"This old thing must be furious. If I refuse again, he'll surely start the formation and kill all life here in one fell swoop."

"I wonder what Basic Method these people actually cultivate. On the surface, they are Righteous cultivators, but their actions are no different from those of Evil Demons."

"They play the game of transferring costs quite well."

Tao Qian muttered to himself inwardly with disparagement, but outwardly he nonchalantly nodded his head.

Then, carrying Master Xiao on one side, he said,

"I always honor my promises. What I say, I do."

"Though this woman is quite beautiful, had it not been for this affair, I might have taken her back home to be my bride."

"But since I've promised you, it's fine."

"Just now we had some conflicts; you won't take advantage of me later, will you? Though if you do want to ambush me, that's fine too. I always operate with the justification first. If you strike first, then I, in response, have good reason to counterattack and kill you, and take this woman back as my bride. That would also be quite reasonable, right?"

Tao Qian's somewhat jumbled words entered the ears of the few men.

It only made them chuckle inwardly, even surer now that he was just a greenhorn who had lucked into the Secret Demon Inheritance.

And from the leading old immortal came the voice transmission that confirmed what they were going to do next.

"We are close enough now. The sensing magic artifact given by the Saint Child has also been verified. This guy is just a Middle Stage Qi Refining Realm little demon, with nothing but flashy Secret Demon magic to his name."

"All the fame he's earned comes mostly from relying on external objects besides the Demon waste."

"Once he hands over Xiao Meiniang, just kill him directly. Wasting half of the Xuanpin Pearls, he deserves to die."

As the last voice transmission fell, Tao Qian, carrying Master Xiao, precisely landed in the boundary stele area.

Bang!

Tao Qian, merging sword and body, rocketed down, crashing onto the ground. The impact seemed a bit too strong, and the gourd hanging at his waist was shaken loose, its lid loosening slightly. Soon after, an extremely enticing pink smoke poured out, and within the smoke appeared several naked, alluring witches.

This sudden change was about to prompt the men to strike.

But unexpectedly, the little demon, with a pained expression on his face, casually threw "Xiao Meiniang" aside, then ran towards the gourd while shouting, "No, my wives, don't run away..."

Seeing this scene, the few men, along with the Demon-suppressing Soldiers, all could not help but show amused expressions.

Truly a little demon, seemingly standing up for right, yet still consorting with Demons.

Yet among them, no one noticed, as they laughed, that each of their gazes uncontrollably fixed themselves upon the gourd.

What emerged from inside was no longer just naked, charming, black-skinned witches.

But various scenes, perfectly matching their innermost desires, so vivid that even Transcend Mortality Cultivators could not distinguish them.

At the same moment, what appeared in Tao Qian's eyes was:

An enormous demon with an illusory body that had unknowingly appeared in this area, its external form resembling a colossal human brain devoid of a skull, covered with numerous tentacles connecting to the spirit of everyone present.

As the "Heart-Residing Demon," capable of peeking into the cultivators' most fundamental desires, succeeded, a vast number of Outer Realm Demons such as Joyful Demons, Glutton Demons, Alcohol Demons, Power Desire Demons, and others, reluctantly emerged from the gourd.

Then with extreme precision, each found a cultivator to latch onto, nourishing their demonic nature to satisfy the desires of these Transcend Mortality Cultivators.

As for the Demon-suppressing Soldiers, they were all handed over to several "Joyful Demons."

Accompanied by a series of clattering sounds of military gear and armor hitting the ground, several robust Demon-suppressing Soldiers, under the command of the black-skinned Joyful Demons, started to engage in numerous indecent acts.

Chapter 125 Filled with satisfaction from achieved ambitions, disaster still looms as sudden bad news arrives that Wuxiang is coming

Meiling Mountain, still within the narrowly carved temporary cave.

Before an ancient mirror transformed by a Demon, four heads huddled together, watching the scenes unfolding at the Meiling Boundary Stele.

When the Joyful Demon manipulated, Tao Qian didn't forget to cover the eyes of Little Age and Lian Jing'er.

Sensing something, he turned his head only to see Master Xiao staring at him with an extremely strange, suspicious look.

Although Master Xiao did not speak, Tao Qian easily understood the meaning in her eyes: "With so many Demons assisting you, do you still claim you are not a Secret Demon Dark Child?"

Tao Qian smiled, then transmitted his voice:

"True Master, please do not misunderstand. It is merely a coincidental chance that I acquired some Heterodox Magic Skills, which happen to restrain these low-level Demons, making them serve me."

"And to approach that boundary stele depended entirely on True Master's life-or-death situation, making many hesitate to act. Without such conditions, no matter how many flashy spells I have, I wouldn't withstand the devastating erosion of the Ten Extreme Array."

"Moreover, whether this cunning method succeeds depends on whether the Thunder Infants you provided possess sufficient power."

"The Demon-suppressing Soldiers are manageable, as long as they are prevented from gathering strength to form an array, a few Joyful Demons can handle them all."

"The most troublesome are those shameless Transcend Mortality Cultivators. The Heart-Residing Demons can discover their deepest desires, and the Demons I summoned can confuse them, but only for a brief moment, at most a few breaths."

"Within this time limit, if the two Substitute Demons impersonating you and me fail to destroy that boundary stele and halt the Ten Extremes Array, True Master will likely still not escape."

Tao Qian's words were complicated, but it was just a transmission.

At the same moment, changes occurred at the boundary stele again.

Taking advantage of several Transcend Mortality Cultivators and Demon-suppressing Soldiers being confused, the Substitute Demon impersonating Tao Qian chuckled suddenly.

He then reached into his chest and directly took out three delicate Thunder Infants sucking on their thumbs.

Then, he placed them on the boundary stele, and as he withdrew, he forcefully pulled their thumbs out of their mouths.

This caused great trouble.

"Wow!"

"Wow!"

"Wow!"

Three cries in succession, the delicate infants who occasionally had lightning snakes flashing across their surfaces, turned entirely into thunder in an instant.

Without giving anyone time to react, three Thunder Infants exploded simultaneously, their endless thunderous aura even merging together, triggering an even more terrifying reaction.

Many mortals and Cultivators were shocked to see "Mei Pass" completely enveloped in the brilliance of thunder.

In the midst of the night, it was exceedingly conspicuous.

If these thunders were allowed to explode outward, they could at least kill one or two of the Transcend Mortality Cultivators in the area.

But Tao Qian did not do so. He had a clear sense of priorities.

Under his remote control, all the thunderous aura transformed into at least a million lightning snakes, emitting a piercing screech that made everyone in Meiling cover their ears. Shortly after, they saw these serpents of thunder madly burrowing into the tall boundary stele.

A moment later, the Meiling Boundary Stele, which had existed in the mountains for a thousand years and witnessed countless major events of the Mortal World, silently turned into dust and vanished.

Half of the remaining Xuanpin Pearls inside also vanished into nothingness.

Boom!

A tremendous boom, audible throughout Meiling, arrived belatedly.

The remnants of thunder and infant cries then splattered in all directions.

Without the stele, it meant the core of the Array Point was directly destroyed. Shortly after, they saw the extremely terrifying and brutal "Xuanpin Heavenly Gate Ten Absolute Array" surrounding Meiling flicker a few times and then come to a complete halt.

Inside the cave, before the mirror.

Both Tao Qian and Master Xiao excitedly rose to their feet.

"It worked."

"We succeeded."

Tao Qian simply uttered a phrase, while Master Xiao, unable to contain her excitement, leapt up, her chest heaving with joy as she shouted, her youthful face showing elation.

Although he felt an urge to tease, Tao Qian knew time was of the essence and not a moment could be wasted.

In the instant the Ten Extremes Array halted, Tao Qian already had a thought.

At that moment, out of his body leaped three Demon children clad in blue.

Apart from the lead one showing reluctance, the other two newcomers were quite obedient.

Seeing this scene, Master Xiao knew what was to come.

Her demeanor returned to her youthful days, her actions and words somewhat peculiar, as she slapped Tao Qian's shoulder seriously adding:

"Having accomplished such a feat, in my many years of cultivation, I have never seen a junior like you. Spirit Treasure Sect truly found a treasure."

"I must convince the Sect Master upon my return to head to Spirit Treasure Sect, and no matter what, I intend to snatch you away..."

As she openly declared her intention to poach him, Tao Qian was dumbfounded.

The youthful state of the True Master, indeed, was not as lovely as when she was composed.

Without paying heed, he immediately commanded the three little demons.

"Command you to deliver True Master to Guanyin Temple with utmost speed. On your return, each of you will receive an unaltered Heavenly Demon Blood Transformation Pill."

"Understood!"

As the word fell, the narrow cave suddenly filled with dazzling Star Dust.

The three Star Zha Demons disintegrated their Demon Bodies, wrapping around Master Xiao's body, and then the sky above Meiling trembled, revealing the long-concealed stars, with brilliant starlight bursting forth, swiftly passing over the land and entering Fumin territory, then disappearing without a trace.

Gazing ahead, Master Xiao's figure was nowhere to be seen.

Inside the cave, Tao Qian finally let out a deep breath.

"This time, it truly succeeded."

When he uttered these words, it was the first time Tao Qian revealed an expression of relief on his face.

Although there hadn't been any intense fighting or dangerous entanglement, the enemies he faced now were far more perilous than any he had encountered before.

The giant troll baby demon was quite powerful; it was a Transcend Mortality Realm demon wielding an Exotic Treasure. Tao Qian had exerted a great deal of effort to escape. Right before leaving, beheading it only served to let out some pent-up resentment and could hardly be considered a real victory.

But that infant demon was nothing compared to the enemies within Meiling at this moment.

There were those shameless, brutal Transcend Mortality Wanderers, nearly ten thousand Demon-suppressing Soldiers, and most terrifying of all, the Ten Absolute Array.

Fortunately, he was only tasked with sending someone away. If it had been required for Tao Qian to confront them directly, he would have turned and fled.

Facing the Ten Absolute Array, even if he summoned a hundred, a thousand demons, it would still result in his death and the obliteration of his Daoist path.

Tao Qian had just managed to maneuver and move quickly, acting through demons, also playing some psychological games using his prior notoriety, and finally relied on the power of the Thunder Infant to successfully send Master Xiao away.

It sounds straightforward, but even a minor mistake during the process would have led to a tragic outcome.

Now that the objective was achieved, it was no wonder Tao Qian was somewhat discomposed.

He directly and relaxingly seated himself on the ground, enjoying through a mirror the continuous howls of frustration from within Mei Pass.

Within two or three breaths,

The Boundary Stele exploded!

The Ten Absolute Array stopped!

Those callous and greed-ridden Transcend Mortality Cultivators, along with nearly ten thousand Demon-suppressing Soldiers, all came to their senses simultaneously.

Then they saw what had happened, also recalling what they had done after being misled by the demons.

At this moment, the followers of Ji Xianxian and Qin Wuxiang seemed as if they were going mad.

They howled, prepared to wantonly slaughter these demons.

Except for a Joyful Demon that coveted the essence blood of the Demon-suppressing Soldiers, and a Power Desire Demon whose body seizing had failed, the other demons, particularly clever during the explosion of the Thunder Infant, had already fled, especially the two "Substitute Demons" that had disguised themselves as Tao Qian and Master Xiao—it was the most risky division of roles.

Had it not been for the effects of the Corpse Evil Brain God Elixir they ingested, those Substitute Demons wouldn't have agreed to such a plan given their nature.

Thus, as soon as the thumb of the Thunder Infant was plucked, the two demons flipped and dove into the Void, returning to the Outer Realm.

Meanwhile, the demons also encouraged each other to delay responding if summoned again in the future, deciding it was far too dangerous to work for him.

...

At the pass of Meiling, unable to slaughter the demon heads and vent their rage, the group of cultivators and Demon-suppressing Soldiers thought to directly slaughter the common folk and solitary cultivators but soon realized the Ten Absolute Array had been destroyed.

Not a single Xuanpin Pearl was captured, and even the mission they were all but certain of had failed.

Each person's face twisted in torment.

"Ha ha ha."

Inside the cave, Tao Qian reveled in their incapability and raging howls, his face breaking into an uncontrollable smile filled with delight, which echoed immediately within the cave.

Although building his joy on others' pain wasn't ideal,

at this moment, Tao Qian wanted nothing more than to experience it several more times.

He didn't laugh for long, however, as he soon abruptly realized something.

Affected by the "second disaster", his Divine Soul, which had been trembling continuously, had not ceased even after sending Master Xiao away.

On the contrary, it had become even more intense.

Tao Qian abruptly sat up straight, an incredible thought flashing through his mind:

"How is that possible?"

"Could it be that the second disaster wasn't about sending Master Xiao away? Or was sending her away just the beginning of the second disaster?"

"Boom,"

Just as Tao Qian pondered, his mind trembled violently once again.

A tremendously intense throbbing sensation came at that moment.

This time, there was no need for guesses.

"This is bad, a powerful being, whom I absolutely cannot resist, is personally coming here."

"Who could it be?"

"Qin Wuxiang?"

Though it was a guess, Tao Qian strangely felt he had hit the mark precisely.

Not daring to delay even for a moment, Tao Qian rose to his feet.

Not even having time to retrieve the Demon Gourd sent back by the Empty Demon, he directly moved his mind to summon a demon.

A Substitute Demon that had just done some dirty work was forcibly summoned by Tao Qian.

To avoid waste and for a more perfect and realistic disguise, Tao Qian paired it with a Star Zha Demon.

He inserted a Heavenly Demon Blood Transformation Pill into each, then commanded, "Take my form, spread my qi, and then start running, the farther the better."

After these preparations, Tao Qian then looked at Sui and Lian Jing'er.

Although the two youngsters had always concealed their true appearances, it was clearly not wise to take risks now, so he reassured them directly, "Someone dangerous is coming soon, I must inconvenience you for a while."

Having said that, Tao Qian took out a magic artifact that could contain living beings and secured the two youngsters inside.

He himself then stumbled, unexpectedly transforming into a handsome young cultivator wearing a green Daoist robe, one hand holding a sword, the other grasping a Jade Ruyi.

Merely in terms of appearance, he came across as somewhat frivolous.

Yet Tao Qian was quite satisfied with this, and abruptly stamping his foot at the mouth of the cave, a cloud of auspicious light immediately appeared under his feet.

Then, carried by the Spirit Treasure Sect's special "Auspicious Cloud Skill", Tao Qian silently flew to an ancient path in a mountain cove nearby.

As the cloud dispersed and he appeared, blending naturally with the night, Tao Qian seamlessly merged into a group consisting of common folk, numerous cultivators, and other species.

Chapter 126 Wuxiang seems like an immortal from the Moon Palace, claiming he can decipher the Summoning Demon Technique

It was indeed a coincidence that Tao Qian had just blended into the crowd when he noticed some familiar faces.

These were the female cultivators from the Daughter Palace who, after the turmoil of the "Longevity Star Transit" and the "Annihilation of Nature and Spirit," had dispersed from their original group—yet here they were again.

However, whether before or now, none of the female cultivators recognized him.

Tao Qian didn't intend to do anything in particular; he simply stood silently. This time, his disguise required no further acting, for apart from his face, all other details matched perfectly with the appearance that Tao Qian should have at this moment.

He had barely landed and merged with the crowd when—

The sensation of palpitation in his mind peaked directly.

A terrifying aura materialized out of the void, and the next moment, it descended fiercely.

Not far ahead, within the raging rage—bereft of power—of the Meiling area.

The void, without any warning, split open.

Boom!

A blazing white brilliance, starting from that crack, surged tumultuously across the entire territory of Meiling.

In an instant, everyone, including "Tao Qian," along with numerous commoners, loose cultivators, and sect cultivators, were engulfed in this white light.

It was as if an additional full moon had suddenly appeared above Meiling.

Indeed, it was the moon.

For in everyone's perception, although the white light submerged everything, it was not blinding and didn't obstruct visibility at all.

Though there was no Moon Toad, no enormous Osmanthus tree, and neither Moon God nor the Guanghan Palace existed here.

Curiously, everyone felt as though they were in the Moon Palace during those vague moments.

Subsequently, the powerless rage and screams ceased, followed by a rustling sound as the thousands, nearly ten thousand members of the Demon Suppression Army, along with the foundation establishment and transcend mortality cultivators, all involuntarily knelt down.

Especially the leading elder immortal, who actually had a higher cultivation level than the giant troll baby demon.

But at that moment, he had no room to resist. His demeanor had long since lost its divine-like grace, instead resembling a trembling old eunuch with a face vibrating and eyes filled with intense fear, kneeling on the ground.

Above his head, an inexplicable force seemed to appear, pressing him lower and lower as he knelt.

Yet he dared not resist at all, only conforming to the force, letting his head and face progressively approach the ground until they gently contacted the soil.

But it didn't stop there; the force continued to press the old immortal down into the dust.

This scene was witnessed by all.

Whether it was the frailest commoner, a cultivator like Tao Qian, or some alien ghosts, everyone watched as a stunning figure appeared out of nowhere in the place where the moonlight-like white light was densest. They watched this figure tread on the elder immortal's head, grinding it into the dirt, forcing him to swallow copiously.

Towards the end, everyone could even clearly hear the sound of the elder immortal's facial bones breaking.

Under normal circumstances, such a cruel scene, involving an old man with the appearance of a sage, should have elicited immense sympathy from the crowd.

Regrettably, it was this same old man.

With the upheavals that had occurred earlier, those who had witnessed this old man's cruel deeds couldn't muster a shred of sympathy.

"Thrilling!"

This was the thought flashing through everyone's minds at that moment.

Also, because of this scene, although those slightly wiser could discern that the noble and beautiful figure deep within the moonlight was actually associated with the group of cruel cultivators and the Demon Suppression Army, many still couldn't help but feel a fondness for that figure.

Of course, it could also be due to the charisma of the figure.

Even Tao Qian had to admit at this moment.

That lofty and mysterious figure had a demeanor that made one feel this was definitively a divine being descended from heaven.

He should never touch the ground, should never be tainted by the worldly mud.

Among the crowd, Tao Qian felt as if he could hear the calls in the hearts of those around him:

"An immortal, this is a true immortal."

"Is this what a true immortal looks like? Carrying moonlight, stunningly beautiful and aloof, just like the Moon Palace God from the legends."

"How could such a being exist in this world, with such a posture, such grace? If not an immortal, then what?"

As many commoners and loose cultivators got enchanted by this figure.

Suddenly, as if he had tormented the greedy old immortal enough, that indiscernibly faced figure suddenly turned toward a direction.

His figure then flickered, making the moonlight seem even colder.

When people looked again, they saw two demons appearing mysteriously in that figure's hands.

One demon, shaped like a snake, was coiled around an ancient mirror.

The other demon, resembling a green-clothed child, was surrounded by star dust.

Upon seeing this scene, the others felt it strange.

Tao Qian's spirit violently trembled.

Deep within his mind, thoughts surged wildly:

"Master Xiao was right—Qin Wuxiang has a mysterious background, but he is definitely a Cavernous Mystery Cultivator, holding exceptionally strange and numerous Divine Power Skills, and his Escape Skill is extremely astonishing. His speed has already surpassed Master Xiao's Great Innate Infant Mother Escape Technique. Fortunately, he was previously entangled by other urgent matters; otherwise, Master Xiao would have fallen into his hands long ago."

"The claim that Star Zha Demon can escape tens of thousands of miles in a thought indeed contains some exaggeration, but just in the span of one or two breaths, it could have taken the Substitute Demon and escaped a distance of two thousand miles. Yet, even so, it was still captured and brought back."

"Fortunately, I had inquired Master Xiao about related information early on, otherwise, it would have been me who fell into his hands."

"This fellow is on the same level as a True Master but can lock on the True Master's vague range with a stronger Prediction Skill. However, he definitely cannot catch someone using the crude method of tracing back through Qi. Especially after I joined Master Xiao, and with the original source of the infant

mother disrupting our energies, plus my Abnormal Soul being exempt from that kind of magic, my true body remains hidden and unknown to him."

"I myself am a cultivator who has practiced the Spirit Treasure Root Skill, intending to pass through Mei Pass to go to the Spirit Treasure Mountain Gate, which couldn't be more reasonable."

"It remains to be seen if the Secret Demon Transformation Technique has the legendary effect that can deceive the Daoist and Buddhist Sects unprepared, making it impossible for them to see through it."

"If it does, then there is still hope for my survival."

"Also, those three Star Zha Demons, whose boasting is sky-high, have left so long ago; how have they not successfully escorted Master Xiao to Guanyin Temple yet? The three demons escaped much earlier, and moreover, they were relaying in escape. Such should not have allowed them to be captured, right?"

"After this catastrophe passes, I really must thoroughly reflect. There is definitely a major problem with the way I endure the Spirit Treasure Three Calamities."

"If someone like me, who has obtained the Spirit Treasure Root Skill, must endure such tribulations, then how could the Spirit Treasure Sect ever accept wild cultivator disciples? This path should have been severed long ago."

"So, could it be that I court death too freely, carrying too heavy a karma on myself, which led to such severe Three Calamities? It is indeed miserable."

As Tao Qian watched the display of power emerging from the depths of the moonlight, his mental state became somewhat disrupted.

At the same moment, Qin Wuxiang's thoughts were also not very pleasant.

He still stood trampling on the head of that Transcend Mortality Elder Cultivator, gripping those two demons, while simultaneously turning his head to look in the direction of Fumin Province.

He let out a sigh and then spoke.

This was a voice indescribable, fully aligning with everyone's imagination of an Immortal's heavenly voice, noble and aloof,

"Ah, can't catch up anymore."

"Star Zha Demon, such a rare demon. Xiao Meiniang indeed deserves to be one who practiced the Infant Mother Root Skill, finding a sliver of opportunity to escape even in such dire circumstances."

"But her escape was also thanks to your useless help."

"If I remember correctly, when I laid out the Ten Extremes Array, I specifically instructed to use these one hundred and eight Xuanpin Pearls according to my command—Xiao Meiniang should have had no chance of surviving."

"But you still made a mistake, letting her escape."

"Greed, it was greed that cost you your lives and Dao paths."

As this voice, neither male nor female, seemingly only something a Divine Being could utter, resounded,

the group of Transcend Mortality Cultivators felt as if they faced an impending catastrophe, plunging into utmost terror.

Especially that Transcend Mortality Elder Cultivator, whose skull was broken and still embedded in the dirt.

He dared not struggle at all, only using some divine skill to speak, almost shouting:

"Mercy, Saint Heir, mercy please!"

"This greed was sparked among us, but there was an outsider interfering as well."

"It was that Sword Cultivator who received the heritage of the Secret Demon Sect, using Secret Demon Magic to deceive us and helped Xiao Meiniang to escape."

"We deserve to die, but that Secret Demon Child deserves it even more."

"How dare he, how dared he destroy the Array you personally arranged."

"Please, give us some time, let us bring that demon child before you, then at that time you can do with us as you please."

"We cannot die alongside this child; we cannot reconcile with it..."

"Silence!"

"Bang."

As the aloof voice spoke, this time everyone heard the sound of the old man's skull shattering.

Although as Transcend Mortality Cultivators, a broken skull wouldn't kill him.

But now, this Elder Immortal could be said to have lost every bit of his dignity and face.

Meanwhile, the figure in the depths of the moonlight seemed utterly unaware of this subordinate's wailing, only examining the two demons in his hand.

Whether it was the Substitute Demon or the Star Zha Demon, neither felt any malice from Qin Wuxiang's gaze.

In fact, they sensed kindness, a kind of involuntary goodwill, and the Green-clothed Child-like Star Zha Demon couldn't help but rub against the pale hand holding it.

Then in the next moment, the two demons heard a gentle voice asking,

"Little things, is your master hidden here?"

"Come, point them out to me, and I can grant you your freedom."

"The methods of the Secret Demon Sect are indeed the most shameless and cruel, but I happen to have a way to counter the Summoning Demon Technique."

Chapter 127 The Saint Heir Struggles to Solve the Brain God Pill, Tao Qian Suddenly Learns the Secret of the Immortal Fish

Qin Wuxiang would've been better off had he not said that last sentence, for as soon as it left his mouth, he saw two demons simultaneously exhibit an expression of sorrow amid the moonlight.

Especially that child-like "Star Zha Demon," which wore an appearance brimming with tears.

Rubbing energetically against Qin Wuxiang's wrist, it sobbed without uttering a word.

Though those tears transformed back into demonic essence and returned to its body, the scene still evoked much sympathy.

Tao Qian watched silently from within the crowd, thinking to himself:

"Those two pure little demons surely know the art of survival. Knowing they have fallen into Qin Wuxiang's hands, and unable to escape or betray me due to the 'Corpse Evil Brain God Elixir,' they start to act pitifully to coax Qin Wuxiang into breaking the spell first."

"Unfortunately, I cannot strike at them now. Although it'd be easy to use my Divine Thought to control the Brain God Pill and kill the two demons, at such a moment, even the slightest fluctuation might be perceived by Qin Wuxiang; a suicidal move indeed."

"No matter, let's see if this Mysterious Saint can break the Control Demon Technique I developed combining the Exotic Fire Elixir Scroll and the Evil Sect's methods."

As Tao Qian thought this,

Qin Wuxiang had already begun his move on the field. His fingertips suddenly emitted an extremely dazzling, sharp light, lightly touching the Star Zha Demon.

At the same time, he seemed to be playing with his opponent's mind, or perhaps flaunting his skill:

"The summoning technique of the Secret Demon Sect is indeed intricate, especially the 'Soul-locking Spell' used to control demons."

"If your master were at the same level of cultivation as I am, I wouldn't be able to break it."

"However, from what these wastes tell me, your master is just a little demon cultivator of the Qi Refining Realm, maybe talented, but now that you've fallen into my hands..."

"Wow!"

Qin Wuxiang didn't finish his sentence before his fingertip touched the Star Zha Demon first.

However, the feedback he received was not that the demon curse had been resolved, but rather the painful howling of the green-clothed child.

When this awkward scene unfolded, whether it was the crowd of cultivators, the Demon Suppression Army, or the bystanders forced to watch, anyone with a bit of sense simply lowered their heads.

It was clear to everyone that this significant figure had failed in breaking the spell.

Those previous statements could certainly be categorized as boasting.

Although this Saint Child, bathed in moonlight, appeared as an immortal among men, refined and aloof, untouched by worldly matters, unlike those violent, voracious cultivators,

In such times, who could say for sure?

Even the Beautiful Corpse, that female demon, had dared to call herself a Bodhisattva.

This Moon Palace-like Divine being might also be a great demon masquerading under a cloak of hypocrisy.

At least everyone understood one fact: the lives of everyone present were now in his hands.

Qin Wuxiang paid no mind to the thoughts of these ants; he merely frowned and poked the Substitute Demon again.

The Substitute Demon, entwined around the Ancient Mirror like a snake, dared not howl, but instead, its face continually changed into one of pain, looking quite miserable.

"It seems your master did not use the Secret Demon Sect's Control Demon Technique but instead employed a new technique I haven't seen before."

"Hmm, there's a trace of the Evil Sect, and another, more terrifying aura."

"Interesting, truly interesting."

"Taking you two back will also count as acquiring two little playthings."

Musing to himself, the Saint then inexplicably produced a small jade bottle engraved with bizarre runes on its surface, and, like kneading dough, he squeezed the two demon heads directly into a ball and with a 'gulp' sound, stuffed them into the bottle.

Immediately, Tao Qian felt he had lost contact with the two demons.

Before Tao Qian could ponder further, everyone heard another sigh.

From Qin Wuxiang!

When he sighed, everyone, including Tao Qian, felt a wave of melancholy and regret surge in.

Although at that moment, no one could clearly see Qin Wuxiang's face,

Strangely, everyone knew that the Saint was now looking awkwardly ahead at Mei Pass, at the many commoners and quite a few cultivators present.

He even didn't hide his thoughts, simply saying:

"To kill or not to kill?"

"Xiao Meiniang has fled, and though it's the fault of my useless subordinates, I feel a temptation to slaughter you all to vent my anger."

"Although doing so would cost me a lot, entangle me in numerous karmic consequences, and be troublesome to shift."

"Truly a dilemma, do any of you have an opinion? I'm all ears."

These words penetrated the ears of many, driving countless to nearly madness.

Now, everyone understood.

This Saint, like a Moon Palace Divine being, was undoubtedly genuine.

But at the same time, he had indeed not regarded anyone present as "people," despite there being a large number of civilians, many loose cultivators, and even some sect disciples like those of the Daughter Palace.

To him, they probably still appeared as slightly troublesome ants on the roadside.

His only concern was the slight trouble he would have to deal with after killing this group of ants.

Just as everyone's hearts were about to stop, nearly driven mad,

Another sigh emanated from within the moonlight.

"Forget it, Xiao Meiniang has reached Guanyin Temple; the real trouble is yet to come."

"To kill you all—then I'd have to shift the cost, resolve the karma, truly a waste of time."

"Besides, one of my masters once cautioned me, saying 'the people are like water, and the ruler like a boat; water can carry the boat but can also overturn it.' Though I've always found it to be nonsense, it's sometimes fun to act it out."

With these words, everyone's spirits were suddenly relieved.

Including those Transcend Mortality Cultivators and the Demon Suppression Army, everyone assumed that today the Saint Child might show mercy and pardon their faults.

Chapter 128 Saint Heir Unable to Solve the Brain God Pill, Tao Qian Suddenly Learns the Secret of the Immortal Fish_2

Who would have thought that just then, Qin Wuxiang suddenly looked ahead, smiling as he said, "Slaughtering civilians impedes cultivation, but slaughtering you inefficient subordinates requires no cost whatsoever."

Boom!

As these words reached their ears, the minds of the group of cultivators and all demon-suppressing soldiers seemingly exploded.

The next moment, an extremely brutal and horrifying scene abruptly unfolded.

Bang!

With that first sound of explosion, everyone watched as one of the cultivators' bodies exploded into pieces, sending blood, flesh, entrails, bones, and brain matter splattering in all directions.

And this was a signal.

Inside Mei Pass, it seemed as if someone had suddenly started setting off fireworks, with the sound "Bang Bang Bang" resounding continuously.

Beginning with those few cultivators, then the thousands in the Demon Suppression Army, each one's body exploded into pieces without the chance to resist or cry out in agony, offering up their most precious lives and Dao Paths in a bloody, splendid display of flesh fireworks on behalf of the Saint Child.

Strangely, there was one survivor, now under Qin Wuxiang's foot.

After the splendidly cruel display of flesh fireworks ended, and everyone was left in shock, suddenly with a gentle squeeze of the Saint Child's palm, he gathered up the layer of flesh and blood that covered the mountain range of Mei Pass, constantly merging them until they formed a ball of flesh and blood about the size of a human head, pulsing and exceedingly viscous.

The old cultivator whose skull was shattered, making him look like a deformed child, was suddenly forced to kneel and arch his upper body.

With a "Sssh" sound, his mouth tore open to his ear and then, the ball of flesh and blood was slowly stuffed into his mouth.

During this process, the entire area of Mei Pass echoed with the old man's piercing screams and pleas for mercy.

Unfortunately, it was all in vain.

On the contrary, the more he screamed, the more Qin Wuxiang took pleasure in it, and the onlookers could even hear the unconscious laughter of the Saint Child.

When the old cultivator who had transcended mortality swallowed the blood sphere, his originally noble body swelled up, and people seemed to hear all sorts of bizarre noises coming from inside him.

Initially, he was still "human," but soon, a huge bloated monster, completely filled with rotten flesh, pus, bone spurs, and sharp claws, was born.

The sight reminded Tao Qian of the flesh beast he had seen at Seeking Immortal Pier.

But the creature before him was many times more horrifying than before, especially as it continued to swell.

At the same time, Qin Wuxiang seemed to feed it something else, making the qi inside it even more ferocious, and in a short time, it directly rose to the Cavernous Mystery Realm.

Due to its appearance, almost all the civilians in the area couldn't help but bend over and vomit.

Soon, Qin Wuxiang contentedly said, "That looks about right, roll over to the territory of Guanyin Temple. Letting Xiao Meiniang escape was one thing, but you just need to hold back two Cavernous Mystery Bodhisattvas using whatever means you have. Once this matter is done with, I will grant you a swift end."

As he spoke, the terrifying Blood Beast struggled to nod, let out a howl, and its massive body instantly transformed into a stream of blood light, shooting towards Fumin Province.

The next moment, Qin Wuxiang turned his head again, staring at everyone.

His mood seemed to have improved slightly, his voice even carrying a hint of pleasure as he said,

"Although there was a little hiccup, it doesn't matter, everything is already in preparation, the inevitable cannot be stopped."

"As for you lot who accidentally saw too much, and whose karma is a mess, although it's a pity I can't slaughter you all too, you're not without use, perhaps you could delay the Infant Sect Master for a while."

"Don't be afraid of the pain, just endure it, as long as the Infant Sect Master arrives in time, these bugs won't take any of your lives."

"Set!"

Just as Qin Wuxiang spoke those words, a number of cultivators and civilians in the crowd started to stir, as it sounded like this cruel divine being was about to make his move on them.

But before they could actually run away, an extremely terrifying pressure enveloped Mei Pass, and at his command, everyone was rooted to the spot, unable to move.

Then Qin Wuxiang waved his hand, and instantly, all sorts of strange insects appeared in the sky.

These "insects" emitted dizzying screeching sounds, swarming towards everyone, and without any courtesy directly burrowed into their bodies.

Being immobilized, no one could resist.

Even Tao Qian was assigned one.

At that moment, Tao Qian's eyes suddenly widened, not because of the strange-looking winged, scaly, but mouthless insect about to enter his body through his nostril.

But because of the explosive tingling sensation in his brain and the faint Dragon Qi emitted by these insects.

It was that extremely slight Dragon Qi that oddly felt familiar.

Almost instantly, he recalled the first power he had ever acquired.

The Bo Dragon Pearl!

Yes, exactly that.

Tao Qian firmly believed: these Dragon Qi-bearing insects were of the same type as the Bo Dragon Pearl, or at least had the same origin.

This feeling was abrupt, but based on past records, it had never been wrong.

"Ssss"

While Tao Qian was pondering, the insect had already started to drill into his nostril.

But Tao Qian did not resist at all, simply letting the insect enter his body.

This scene, seemingly perilous to life, in Tao Qian's view, meant that he had safely and completely survived the second disaster.

Because as everyone immobilized saw their bodies begin to exhibit various mutations and let out extremely painful howls.

Chapter 129 Saint Heir Unable to Solve the Brain God Pill, Tao Qian Suddenly Learns the Secret of the Immortal Fish_3

Qin Wuxiang, who was deep within the radiance of the moon, let out several pleased laughs before his figure slowly retreated back into the Void fracture.

He was gone!

Nearly at the moment of his departure, Tao Qian suddenly opened his mouth and spat out the insect enveloped in a layer of Spirit Treasure Immortal Spirit Qi.

While frowning and listening to continuous painful wails, Tao Qian grasped the insect with his hand.

Secret information instantly triggered in his mind, provoking an uncontrollable expression of shock.

[Record Name: Dragon Intestine Worm.]

[Record Type: Abnormality.]

[Record: This worm is a companion creature of the Dragon Clan, known for its fierce nature and a fondness for the flesh of all living beings. It breeds within the intestines of every powerful member of the Dragon Clan, aiding the host in digesting all material consumed. Due to long-term exposure to the Dragon Clan's aura, once the Dragon Intestine Worm parasites another being, it will immediately consume the host's intestines and transform into a bizarre dragon intestine, causing the host to unavoidably mutate into a "Half-human, half-dragon," possessing a very weak Dragon Clan bloodline, but also becoming cruel, bloodthirsty, and unrecognizable to kin.]

[Note one: This creature can be bred, but the method is controlled by a group of special, powerful beings, an organization serving these beings, including the Saint Heir, Qin Wuxiang.]

[Note two: This creature is often used as "bait" by one of the powerful individuals.]

...

"Boom!"

Even Tao Qian himself found it hard to describe his current feelings.

It was as if war drums were thundering in his mind.

Shock? Delight?

Both were present.

Tao Qian had never imagined that he would stumble upon such a profound secret so inadvertently.

To verify further, Tao Qian quickly touched other parasitized individuals, gaining similar fragments of information, which fully confirmed the secrets he had glimpsed.

The "Dragon Intestine Worm" he was clutching did not provoke anything particularly rare.

Even though Tao Qian was not highly ranked at this moment, his existing knowledge was enough to allow him to realize how astonishing the information in those two notes was.

"That is to say, within the Longevity Heavenly Dynasty, within the Cultivation World, there hides a group of extremely powerful special beings."

"A mysterious organization capable of cultivating the likes of Qin Wuxiang, serving only these beings?"

"Also, this worm indeed shares the same origin as the Bo Dragon Pearl, their commonality being used as 'bait,' aside from the Dragon Clan's aura."

"Does this mean one of those beings is the founder of 'Immortal Fish Technique,' also the mysterious, unknown fisherman sitting above the Fairyland Fish Pond?"

As Tao Qian digested these shocking secrets, the Immortal Spirit Qi within his body, along with the Innate Dao Seed, and the Spirit Treasure Method, all stirred at once.

Strong feelings directly dominated his spirit.

Having overcome the second calamity of the Spiritual Treasure, his Cultivation Realm was about to rise.

Realizing this, Tao Qian still frowned, looking at the scene of continuous wailing around him.

Just as he was about to ponder further, suddenly the Void flashed.

Accompanied by a shower of star dust, three Green-clothed Child demons returned.

And they brought good news.

"Lady Meii successfully reached the Guanyin Temple and has managed to summon the Infant Sect Master, who is on the way back."

"Good!"

This news arrived at just the right time, Tao Qian immediately crushed the Dragon Intestine Worm he was holding.

Having just endured the second calamity, with laws within his body stirring, Tao Qian needed to use this momentum to breakthrough his realm, setting aside the earth-shattering secret and major events in Southern Yue for now.

With this thought flashing, Tao Qian swiftly enveloped his body with Star Zha Demon, found a location within Fumin Province, and in the blink of an eye disappeared into the Void.

Chapter 130 Taishang Treasure No-leak Body, Beyond the World There Are Devil Immortals

Within Fumin territory, about eight hundred li from the end of Meiling, there lies a region named "Thorny Mountain."

This mountain, true to its name, is covered in a vast layer of thorny bushes, resembling an immense, spiky green carpet that envelops the entire mountain quite tightly.

If that were all, it would hardly deter the diligent humans.

Whether setting fires to burn the mountain or cleaving paths through it, nothing is too difficult once human effort is applied.

Yet, this mountain harbored many oddities, resisting all methods to clear the dense, spiky undergrowth. As the saying goes, "the spring breeze brings them back to life," but the thorns on this mountain seemed as if they were welded in place, impervious to fire and axe. Coupled with the large number of venomous insects and snakes and the absence of any rare or precious resources.

Especially in recent years, it seemed as if some plants and vines on the mountain had gained sentience, with strange occurrences happening frequently.

Gradually, the nearby human villagers began to move away, and the mountain became even wilder. In addition to the thorny woods, conifer and bamboo forests began to proliferate, lush and dense, becoming a veritable wilderness, a paradise for birds, beasts, mountain spirits, and wild monsters.

Until this night, when the starry sky above suddenly trembled.

A streak of starlight dashed from the far distance at an extremely high speed, so fast that the mountain spirits and wild monsters on the mountain remained completely unaware.

The stardust scattered, and Tao Qian's form was directly revealed.

His gaze immediately swept across the area, and with the aid of his soul perception, he could not be deceived by any transcendent entity on the mountain.

"There is some form of Source Qi converging here, which has given rise to many plant spirits. However, from the look of their auras, they are benign and have not mutated or fallen."

"The realms of these creatures are not high; none have cultivated the Basic Method. They merely rely on instinct to absorb and expel Source Qi, possessing a raw and barbaric force. However, should they face someone who has cultivated, they would likely be swiftly slain."

"Hmm, this is the place."

"If only there were Pregnancy Stones, I wouldn't need to search elsewhere for a place of tranquility."

Tao Qian muttered to himself and then his form flickered as he dove deeper into the mountain forest.

At another time, even if it were a temporary retreat, Tao Qian would have set it up properly.

Now, however, the stirrings of Immortal Spirit Qi in his body were becoming almost uncontrollable, so he leaned towards convenience.

He quickly found a secluded valley, carved out a rough cave, and directly cast out arrays like the "Xuan Yin Invisible Sword Array" and other Forbidden Techniques.

Once he was absolutely sure of their effectiveness, he released Little Sui and Lian Jing'er.

Then, he directly instructed them, "This place is secluded and remote, perfect for me to meditate for a few days to make a breakthrough. You two little ones can play around, but do not stray beyond this mountain."

As his words fell, Tao Qian patted both little beings on the head.

He then entered the cave, set the Forbidden Techniques, and prepared to assimilate the great benefits he would gain after surviving the second calamity of the Lingbao.

"Having passed the first calamity at Fragrant Meat Collection, not only has my cultivation greatly increased and I've acquired many new Divine Powers, but I also gained a substantial amount of cultivation resources."

"This second calamity at Meiling seems not as complex as that at Fragrant Meat Collection, but in reality, it is even more perilous. After all, back then, I did not need to face a monster of Qin Wuxiang's caliber."

"With such risk, the benefits ought to be..."

With great anticipation, Tao Qian meditated, his mind flickering briefly.

He closed his eyes, banishing all stray thoughts.

As Tao Qian entered into a state of cultivation, the Immortal Spirit Qi, Spirit Treasure Method, and Innate Dao Seed within him almost surged forward competitively, bursting forth.

Tao Qian's Primordial Spirit sat upright on the spirit platform, reciting the Spirit Treasure Method with Spirit Sound.

As he just began the first word, the Innate Dao Seed leapt out from the crown of his head and struck the Void with a thunderous impact, forcefully opening the Gate of the Great Dao.

Boom!

The moment the gate opened, Spirit Treasure Source Qi poured forth in torrents that Tao Qian hadn't anticipated, completely engulfing both him and the newly established cave.

Even the Innate Dao Seed showed signs of slight stagnation, seemingly overwhelmed by its transformation.

Fortunately, Tao Qian was entirely concentrated, his mind free from distractions, and the Spirit Treasure Method activated, transforming the powerful torrents of Spirit Treasure Source Qi into serene and naturally Dao-influenced Spirit Treasure Immortal Spirit Qi.

He originally had three hundred sixty-eight strands of Immortal Spirit Qi,, needed to ripen the one hundred eighty Longevity Peach Seeds, consuming half of them.

Under normal circumstances, replenishing this half would take some time.

But now, the replenishment was exceedingly fast, with each sentient strand of Immortal Spirit Qi continuously emerging, quickly filling up.

The number three hundred sixty-eight began to rise again, without any need for counting, just listening to the frequent peals of thunder, he knew his cultivation was surging.

Although cultivating the Spirit Treasure Method didn't provide the addictive pleasure of cultivating the "Immortal Fish Technique," it felt more natural, more harmonious.

Tao Qian immersed himself, no longer concerning himself with external matters.

Letting time flow like water, he forgot both himself and his surroundings, focusing solely on experiencing the Dao Rhyme.

After an indeterminate period, Tao Qian suddenly came to his senses.

This awakening wasn't due to fatigue of the soul; rather, it seemed he naturally awoke after reaching a certain limit.

Before performing Inner Vision, Tao Qian speculated about the level his Immortal Spirit Qi might reach after this session of cultivation.

Maybe four hundred or more strands of Immortal Spirit Qi,, or more boldly, perhaps over five hundred strands?

These speculations completely dissipated after he performed the official Inner Vision.

At this moment!

Sitting in the rough cave, with the light-transformed body of the Innate Dao Seed above him, his body was almost entirely suffused with Spirit Treasure Immortal Spirit Qi.

His body even floated up, surrounded by auspicious clouds, sweet rain, Qingfeng and other auspicious magic, along with the pure and distinct Daoist spiritual sounds playing.

Anyone present would instinctively recognize that this must be a true cultivator from the Daoist tradition deeply engaged in cultivation.

"Nine hundred and ninety-nine strands!"

Tao Qian, after understanding the new number of Immortal Spirit Qi, couldn't help but exclaim,

No wonder he was so astonished; after attending three classes taught by Lin Xiaohua, he had significantly filled the gaps in his knowledge and understanding as a disciple from a major sect.

Thus, Tao Qian was well aware of the speed of his cultivation.

Even within the top sects like Taishang Dao, Spirit Treasure Sect, and Great Freedom Temple in the Cultivation World, his existence was extremely rare.

Particularly now, the amount of Immortal Spirit Qi was frighteningly high.

Tao Qian had not yet been initiated, so he did not know if this was normal, but from the knowledge taught by Lin Xiaohua, it probably was not.

Moreover, from the sparse words in the Spirit Treasure Nine Truths Diagram, Tao Qian faintly realized: normally, a Spirit Treasure Cultivator in the early stage of Qi Refining has only about ten or dozens of streams of Immortal Spirit Qi, the middle stage just over a hundred, and if there are two to three hundred streams, that already indicates one is in the late stage and should start planning for Foundation Establishment.

"I refined nine hundred and ninety-nine streams, is it because of the Innate Dao Seed, or because I've survived the second calamity, or is it both?"

"And, if I were to go out now with a sword and strike others, releasing nine hundred and ninety-nine streams of Selfless Sword Light all at once, how many Foundation Establishment cultivators could I kill?"

His thoughts drifted for a moment, then quickly refocused by Tao Qian.

He had no intention of exiting his meditative cultivation state but decided, after pondering for a moment, to give his all and strive for the Perfection of the Qi Refining Realm.

The reason was simple, aside from the seemingly already maxed-out quantity of Immortal Spirit Qi.

More importantly, based on previous experiences, Spirit Treasure Disciples who had endured calamities, whether it be through opportunities, luck, or other factors, received significant enhancements.

Moreover, with the Innate Dao Seed within him, why not seize the moment to break through the last barrier?

With that thought, Tao Qian closed his eyes again, not to meditate and refine Source Qi this time.

What Tao Qian intended to do was refine a spell.

The sign of a Spirit Treasure Cultivator advancing to the Perfection of the Qi Refining Realm is not the quantity of Immortal Spirit Qi, but the ability to refine a Divine Power Skill called the Spirit Treasure No-leak Body.

He sat down, regulated his breath, and suddenly formed a Dharma Seal with his hands, reciting special mnemonics aloud with Spirit Sound, "Spirit Treasure Origin, Store God and Firm Qi, Nourishing Essence and Protecting Body, Refining Hundred Bones, Wash away the impurities and leave the purity..."

As the mnemonics resonated throughout the cave mansion, immediate changes began within Tao Qian.

Those nine hundred and ninety-nine streams of Spirit Treasure Immortal Spirit Qi vibrated intensely, seemingly coming to life.

They each burst apart and then transformed into billions of tiny light points invisible to the naked eye, instantly merging into Tao Qian's body.

In an instant, every part of Tao Qian's body, in the truest sense of every part, was filled with Immortal Spirit Qi.

Gradually, they began to connect.

During this process, Tao Qian underwent a complete Light Transformation.

It was as if he lacked all flesh, skin, organs, bones...everything, all transformed into Spirit Light.

Turbid qi and filth he had accumulated over time were expelled bit by bit, accompanied by an indescribable, extraordinarily mystical sensation and transformation.

If at this moment an elderly person had reached this stage of cultivation, the scene would likely be unimaginably wondrous. This is the marvel of the Spirit Treasure No-leak Body, which could allow aged individuals to return to youth, rejuvenate appearance, refresh white hair to youthful dark, impart feathers-light body, replace mortal bones, and ascend to the Upper Pure.

Ordinarily, a Spirit Treasure Cultivator could easily succeed with three to five hundred streams of Immortal Spirit Qi in forming a No-leak Body.

Now, Tao Qian was casting it with the nine-extreme number.

He thought he could succeed in one step, but just as those elemental substances of Immortal Spirit were about to connect.

Even Tao Qian hadn't foreseen the complication that suddenly occurred within his body.

Suddenly, he shook uncontrollably, feeling an immense weight in his head, tears streaming down, becoming deaf, teeth falling out, and wrinkles forming.

Before Tao Qian could react, he suddenly felt extremely irritable and began to feel drowsy.

Then, a third symptom overlaid.

This time, Tao Qian began to experience hallucinations of desires, envisioning images of young girls in his mind, followed by appearances of Pan Hongniang and Master Xiao, real and intimate contacts with females emerged, various romantic fantasies threatened to engulf him like a geyser.

"Hmph,"

Tao Qian let out a cold snort as he struggled to break free from the lustful thoughts.

At that moment, his almost-refined No-leak Body suddenly exhibited a large number of lesions, withering and dying in just a few breaths.

Upon sensing, Tao Qian was shocked to find nine "alien" entities within his body.

These were nine strange insects, like nothing he had ever seen before, seemingly existing inside him from the start.

Regardless of their life force or origins, they were completely integrated with Tao Qian.

This complication threw Tao Qian into a state of bafflement.

However, immediately, a familiar throbbing feeling emerged in his mind, and a bundle of special Records surged forth.

"When a Spirit Treasure Cultivator refines the No-Leak Body, there is an extremely rare chance of triggering a special calamity[Three Corpses and Nine Worms]. If one cannot eradicate these corpse-worms, the cultivation of the No-leak Body fails."

"If one does eradicate them, by misfortune comes fortune, upgrading the No-leak Body to an extremely rare Divine Power Talent...Taishang Treasure No-leak Body!"

"The cost can be waived, the corpse-worms are annihilating."

"Boom!"

When Tao Qian finished reading the Record, that indescribable and unimaginable force surged again within his abnormal soul, effortlessly smashing those extremely troublesome Three Corpses and Nine Worms completely into oblivion.

And Tao Qian himself, at that moment, was shivering continuously, as if he had encountered an inexplicable hiccup in his cultivation.

But in reality, at this time, he was fortunate as he silently chanted, "Having refined the Taishang Treasure No-leak Body, henceforth my soul shall be at peace, disasters will not arise, Evil Demons shall subdue, the body shall align with the Dao, achieving eternal freedom from sorrows."

Just as Tao Qian was boasting to himself, unbeknownst to him,

Due to the combination inside him of Nine Extremes Immortal Spirit Qi, Innate Dao Seed, Taishang Treasure No-leak Body, and the intense past second calamity...these elements together finally caused a stir in an incredibly distant place in the Penglai Sea, within an extramundane realm, alerting a little Demon Immortal who was on duty in a palace.