

## Longevity 241

Chapter 241 Heavenly Heart Soul Separation, Changle Perishes\_2

Tao Qian, though he didn't ask, Li Changle also guessed what Tao Qian was thinking.

After all, on the brink of death, what secrets mattered anymore?

Without further suspense, he directly answered,

"Disciple nephew, you too have cultivated the 'Immortal Fish Technique', so you must know that in that fishpond, so long as you don't get hooked by the fish hook, all benefits can come without any cost."

"Other cultivators try every possible means but can't manage this, yet I am different."

"I possess a treasure known as the 'Heavenly Heart Soul Separation Square,' which can neutralize the Immortal Fish Dragon Hook. No matter how tempting the bait on the hook, I reject none and always when about to be caught, this treasure would automatically leap out to release me from the hook."

"It is because of this treasure that I was able to gain great benefits in a short time, living carefree for many years."

"Sadly, how could the path of cultivation ever be so simple? There must be a price, and delaying payment just meant when it came due after many years, I was already unable to pay, meeting my death and the end of my Dao, settling all debts."

Upon reaching this point, Li Changle seemed to become talkative,

a characteristic babble of those nearing death that was now manifesting in him.

Without waiting for Tao Qian to ask, he began narrating his own life story,

"To speak of my life, Li Changle, it was cheerful enough, born in an imperial family, with the intention to be a wise ruler upon succession. But sadly I truly lacked the ability, toiling away for over a decade, only to plunge the Longevity Heavenly Dynasty into deeper misery, squandering the legacy of my ancestors."

"Later, I changed my mind, to be an inept ruler, in which I was more adept."

"It's just a pity, the throne was soon lost as well, by the grace of my ancestors I survived, and turned to cultivation."

"My luck and fortune were extremely good, acquiring treasures and numerous benefits, and even being able to join the Spirit Treasure Sect... If only I had not been greedy, if only my Dao Heart had been more firm."

"Disciple nephew, you should know, although my master was very disappointed in me, before his reincarnation, he still left me with some life-saving measures. If I had resisted those Ultimate Happiness temptations and diligently practiced day and night, even the master of the Immortal Fish Technique might not have necessarily been able to do anything to me."

"I, Li Changle, am truly lamentable."

Perhaps it was because of the cultivation technique that Li Changle practiced, or maybe due to his cultivation realm,

Tao Qian could deeply empathize when he described these things.

With just a few words, he sketched out the lifetime of a cultivator who once was an Emperor, with extreme luck, but a weak Dao Heart.

Although on some details, Li Changle did not elaborate,

Tao Qian could also hear that this Alcohol and Meat Uncle didn't lack opportunities for survival.

On the contrary, he had multiple chances to preserve his path and life.

Yet every time, he failed to seize them.

Landing in his current predicament, truly, was his own doing; he could blame no one else.

After Tao Qian heard this, his face showed no change, as a junior disciple he clearly could not judge Li Changle.

Instead, showing the reaction expected of a disciple, after pondering, he asked again,

"Does uncle master know who exactly owns this fishing hook, and why they are so distinguished?"

"Even if uncle master has accumulated debts, would he now be taken away at the Spirit Treasure Mountain Gate, within our Sect, without anyone paying heed?"

As the words fell, Tao Qian locked eyes with a pair of dispirited, melancholic rotting fish eyes.

It seemed that his soul no longer had much strength left and the struggle was growing fainter.

"There's no need for you to ask anymore, disciple nephew. If I truly told you the identity of the fish hook owner, it might harm you instead."

"Just know that the owner alone has strength beyond your master."

"And he's also from a prominent background... Our Spirit Treasure Sect is indeed an overlord in the Cultivation World, but we are far from invincible."

"I have accrued so much karmic debt, the Sect and my master have helped me many times. Other than my death as a resolution to the karma, there is no other way."

"In the Mortal World, they say the master leads you through the door, but cultivation depends on the individual. Although this is simplistic, it's the ultimate truth."

By this point, Tao Qian could clearly see

Li Changle's soul, little by little, being tugged and on the verge of being pulled from the colorful rotting Big Fish body.

He too knew his own end and had no strength left to resist,

but still used a weak voice to tell Tao Qian,

"My time has come, Li Changle. Thank you, disciple nephew, for listening to a dying man's ramblings. I wish I could leave you some benefits, yet I squandered my entire wealth."

"It's just as well, let me leave you with a few words."

"Disciple nephew, remember, there is always a price for cultivation, do not be too trusting in things obtained too easily. Beware that under the appetizing bait, there is always a sharp hook."

"Moreover, in cultivation, you cannot be excessively greedy or hasty. It is essential to solidify your Dao Foundation well to make brisk and forceful progress."

"You are currently in the most critical Foundation Establishment Realm. It was at this stage when I damaged my Dao Foundation, leading to my downfall."

"However, I presume my brothers Duobao and Senior Sister Yunhua have already prepared for you the top-grade Inner and Outer Refinement Method, which must use the heavens and the earth as the furnace, creation as the craftsman, all things as fuel..."

When Li Changle spoke up to this point, Tao Qian's attention was immediately captured.

After his entry into the Sect, the master only told him to wait for the True Inheritor's grand ceremony, awaiting the Ancestor Master's Teachings.

Not a single bit of the magic skills beyond the Foundation Establishment Realm was given.

Tao Qian could only guess that since it wasn't given, there must have been some special arrangement by his Master.

What he hadn't anticipated was the sudden betrayal by Li Changle... The few sentences that hinted at the supreme Inner and Outer Refinement Method made Tao Qian listen intently and seriously.

Right after he had listened, Tao Qian watched with his own eyes as Li Changle's soul was fished out of his body by that hook.

As a cascade of twisted, multicolored lights flashed past, the Summoning God Technique was officially interrupted.

And in that moment, Tao Qian heard Li Changle's last faint testament,

"Nephew, since you have also cultivated the 'Immortal Fish Technique,' perhaps this Heavenly Heart Soul Separation Square will be of use to you one day."

"This treasure, I now give to you."

"Uncle is going!"

As soon as those four words were uttered, Tao Qian suddenly heard a whistling sound beside his ear.

In the blink of an eye, he saw a rainbow light shooting towards him from a great distance.

With his vision, Tao Qian could instantly make out that within the rainbow light was an ancient, mottled jade tablet, filled with various colors.

Its shape and aura were imbued with the feeling of a precious treasure from ancient times.

It seemed that because Tao Qian had also practiced the "Immortal Fish Technique," upon seeing this jade tablet for the first time, he felt a strong desire to possess it.

Additionally, his attention was still immersed in the marvelous Inner and Outer Refinement Method.

Ordinarily, Tao Qian should have reached out to catch the jade tablet.

After all, Li Changle had given a detailed description of this treasure.

From its effects, it was said to be heaven-defying.

Free ride on a treasure!



At least for one who'd cultivated the Immortal Fish Technique, it was indeed an unparalleled divine artifact.

Even if Tao Qian harbored reservations, he should first take hold of it, sense and inspect it a little, before making further plans.

But Tao Qian did not do so; staring at the approaching jade tablet, he heaved a deep sigh, and then suddenly sneered,

"Uncle Li Changle truly underrates me, Tao Qian, too much. No matter how good or marvelous this object is, with your example before me, how could I possibly afford to enjoy it?"

No sooner had he spoken than Tao Qian's thought was acted upon.

The Spirit Treasure Jade Purifying Bottle automatically flew out, and from its mouth, a stream of Pure Immortal Water shot out like an arrow, directly meeting the jade tablet.

The collision stopped the jade tablet's momentum in its tracks.

Tao Qian, still not satisfied, combined his fingers into a sword gesture, and summoned a ray of Selfless Sword Intent that he had not used in a long time and slashed towards it from afar.

With a "clang," the jade tablet appeared to sense Tao Qian's intentions.

It no longer approached, but instead reversed course along with the force of the Sword Intent, flying back toward the giant turtle shell of an island.

...

A few breaths later, on Turtle Spirit Island.

Li Changle's soul, which had been completely fished out by the Void Hook, struggled violently and just then caught sight of the Heavenly Heart Soul Separation Square flying back.

Initially, Li Changle's eyes revealed an intense color of disappointment.

Then came despair, venom, and extreme unwillingness.

"Failed, with no chance for rebirth."

"How could this be?"

"Is there really such a person with a Dao Heart so steadfast in the world, one who would refuse a treasure that can be had for nothing?"

"Such a person's existence makes me, Li Changle, seem all the more pathetic and pitiable, ha ha ha..."

In the midst of his muttering, Li Changle's soul suddenly burst into laughter.

Despair and unwillingness were swept away, replaced instead by a complex expression.

His rotting fish head abruptly raised, and his gaze seemed to follow the line and hook up into the indistinct depths of the Void, to that figure who was leisurely fishing with a rod, an indescribable silhouette.

He gave up struggling altogether, much like a true dead fish.

But deep within his soul, Li Changle was roaring with laughter:

"Good, this is great."

"Your Highness, you once boasted: once a being in the world cultivates the Immortal Fish Technique, they are fish in your pond for life, and they can never escape."

"I, Li Changle, truly wish to see whether you can eventually fish up this amusing nephew of mine?"

"What a pity, what a pity, I won't be able to see it."

As he laughed to the end, his final bit of will dissipated.

His soul seemed to rot away entirely, truly devoid of any vitality.

Chapter 242: The Spiritual Tablet Secret Island, Bai Yin Immortal

In the Absolute Immortal Sea, Tao Qian slashed out with the "Selfless Sword Intent," sending the "Heavenly Heart Soul Separation Square" flying back where it came from.

Watching such an ancient treasure from before antiquity fly away before his eyes, there wasn't the slightest hint of pain in Tao Qian's gaze.

Treasures, as good as they are, one must still be alive to use them.

"My Uncle Alcohol and Meat, with his death looming before him, still harbored schemes and cunning tricks. Unfortunately, his stratagems were so crudely executed that not just me, but any slightly astute Spirit Treasure Disciple could see through his malicious intent."

"If I were him, from the start I shouldn't have aroused my suspicion, shouldn't have revealed any signs of mutation in my presence, and should have sought to ingratiate with me earnestly. At a critical moment, I could've found an excuse to gift me that treasure, thereby smoothly shifting the causality onto me, and then he could have gone to reincarnate and rebuild his cultivation anew."

"Of course, I am no ordinary Spirit Treasure Disciple. Even if he had truly done so, he would have undoubtedly failed."

As these thoughts settled, Tao Qian suppressed such reflections.

At this moment, he had a sudden hunch, almost as if on a whim: that Daoist Alcohol and Meat, Li Changle, had perished completely.

For one already dead, Tao Qian couldn't be bothered to think ill of him any longer.

His thoughts in his mind turned to consider other matters; their earlier conversation had been primarily focused on the "Immortal Fish Technique."

Now reconsidering, Tao Qian's attention returned to himself.

"What Li Changle spoke of before his death, except for that last part, the rest was true."

"It's just that I'm still in the dark about that so-called Refinement Technique that uses the heavens and earth as a furnace, creation as the craftsman, and all things as fuel."

"It seems that the answer will come around the time of the True Inheritor Conference."

"Looking at Uncle Li Changle's life experiences, the Foundation Establishment Realm is very important, one can't be careless. Spending more time on it is just fine; establishing a stable Dao Foundation is the only way to seek a smooth Dao Path."

When this line of thought was decided, Tao Qian was already carrying the Jade Purification Bottle filled with spiritual materials and treasures, searching elsewhere.

The scavenging benefits activity in the Absolute Immortal Domain was only going to last a few days.

Tao Qian's harvest so far was already quite perfect, and his yearning wasn't strong, so there was no rush.

But after all, it was a benefit, and if he could pick it up, Tao Qian wouldn't be polite.

However, it seemed like his luck was beginning to fluctuate.

In the following several hours, one could say Tao Qian gained nothing.

Most of the islands he encountered had prohibitions.

The rare one or two that did not, were so barren that they didn't catch one's eye; all the good things had clearly been scoured clean by previous visitors. Other than some bird droppings, there was nothing else.

The only consolation was that at least during these several hours, he was without any surprises or dangers.

Situations like Uncle Wu Chao's had not yet been encountered.

At this moment, Tao Qian was carefully avoiding an island ahead that was in the midst of great turmoil.

On that big island, a pillar of azure light solidified, shooting straight into the sky.

A breath that filled Tao Qian with shock permeated in all directions.

"Yet another senior with severe mutation. This energy, only slightly less than Uncle Wu Chao's."

"Don't provoke it, don't provoke it."

Just as Tao Qian let out a sigh, suddenly an extremely abnormal scene reflected in his eyes.

Although he knew that oddities were everywhere in the Absolute Immortal Sea, he still showed a look of surprise.

He saw that big island with the azure light flaunting the heavens suddenly become peaceful.

Then, a strange "big island" split away, or rather, appeared out of nowhere beside it.

As the prohibitions of Qingxiao Island closed, this unfamiliar island drifted in the opposite direction.

By chance, it met Tao Qian head-on.

Because the change was too abrupt, Tao Qian couldn't react in time to use an Escape Skill to dodge.

So, in that moment, he watched, eyes wide, as a majestic fog arose from the sea, obscuring the island in front of him.

On that island, there was hardly any plant or creature life.

There were only stone tablets.



One after another, the ink-black stone tablets stood on the island like a forest.

Their numbers were not particularly abundant, but there were quite a few.

At first glance, one could say they were densely packed.

In a daze, Tao Qian could only think that this island was essentially a solemn and massive graveyard, utterly bizarre.

What was even stranger was that at the very front of the island, there was a cliff that protruded into the foggy sea like a lone horn. On that cliff stood an extremely tall and large, dark with the cloud-patterned dead tree.

Wrapped around the tree, was a Devil Immortal.

It was a Snake Demon, whose upper body was in the likeness of a human woman, draped in a loose robe, without so much as a padded jacket underneath, lazily lying on the trunk, with her beautiful form partially hidden.

Her lower half was that of a White-Scaled Giant Snake, with scales white as snow, and shining like jade, closely packed and resembling a long, soft snow ribbon entwined around the tree.

Due to the sudden appearance of this island, tree, and devil, they nearly collided head-on with Tao Qian.

He couldn't avoid her in time, and in a moment found himself face to face with the White Snake Demon Immortal.

This island had no prohibitions, and in Tao Qian's perception, there were no signs of danger.

Most crucially, the Absolute Immortal Token resonated.

This naturally also meant that the White Snake Demon Immortal carried an Absolute Immortal Token on her person.

"Another True Disciple?"

"No, absolutely not."

"With such energy, she must at least be a Cultivator in the Cavernous Mystery Realm. Even the number one True Inheritor, Master Taixuan, does not possess such cultivation."

While mulling over this in his mind, Tao Qian's body had already made slight contact with the White Snake Demon Immortal.

Despite his efforts to dodge, he still gently brushed against the long white tail of the Snake Demon.

Certainly, with her level of cultivation, whether it was to send Tao Qian flying with a flick of her tail or to dodge, it would have been effortless.

Perhaps she was unwilling, or simply too lazy.

Nonetheless, they made contact.

With that one touch, enough information burst forth in Tao Qian's mind to form some incomplete records.

"Record: Bai Yin... Elder of the Spirit Treasure Sect, original form is an Alien Species among white snakes, charged with overseeing Spiritual Tablet Island. The island has numerous spiritual tablets, bearing the life stories of perished Spirit Treasure Cultivators over the years. Only upon reaching the Cavernous Mystery Realm do they qualify for a tablet... each time before the Ten Thousand Immortals Conference, some Elders who believe there is no hope for contention invite her to come early to erect their tablets."

Chapter 243: The Spiritual Tablet's Secret Island, Bai Yin Immortal\_2

"The Ten Thousand Immortals Assembly had just begun, when Spiritual Tablet Island, along with Bai Yin Immortal, vanished without a trace."

"Hmm?"

This fragmented Record sparked a gleam in Tao Qian's eyes.

The lifetime of a Cultivator from the Cavernous Mystery Realm!

The entire island, all of it?

Needless to say, Tao Qian was intrigued.

There was such a big island in the Absolute Immortal Sea?

In a flash of thought, Tao Qian's form drifted, landing right before that tree, in front of that immortal.

He then bowed his hands respectfully toward the tree-perched Bai Yin Immortal, saying,

"Disciple Tao Qian, a student of Duobao True Monarch, was sent here to gather spiritual materials, and has the honor of meeting the immortal."

Though Tao Qian believed his manners were impeccable, little did he expect.

The Bai Yin Immortal coiled around the tree, upon hearing his greeting, didn't even lift her head.

Still lazily sprawled out, then Tao Qian heard a very faint and listless voice that was oddly pleasant to the ears, seeping into them.

"Hm!"

"Leave."

Just two sentences, four words.

If there were a mirror before Tao Qian, it would show his face full of question marks.

In his perception, there was nothing amiss with Bai Yin Immortal's energy, no sign of injury.

Moreover, in the indifferent voice, Tao Qian heard no dissatisfaction.

What Tao Qian discerned was a kind of "indifference" towards all living beings, an equal disinterest, a sort of desolation and sorrow that cared for no change in the world.

He had a premonition: even if his master, Duobao True Monarch, were to come here and greet Bai Yin Immortal, the reply would likely be these four words.

Upon hearing this, Tao Qian scratched his head and thought for a while before finding a somewhat precise term from a previous life to describe Bai Yin Immortal before him.

Depressive!

The aura, actions, and voice of this immortal were imbued with the utmost sense of loss.

For a moment, it even seemed to infect Tao Qian, making him unintentionally bow his head, ready to obediently leave.

Fortunately, his interest prevailed in the end, as his eyes coveted the stone tablets on the island.

After several thoughts flashed through his mind, Tao Qian teleported once more in front of Bai Yin Immortal.

It just so happened that the immortal, perhaps tired of lying down, leisurely shifted positions.

Her long robe consequently opened, providing an ephemeral glimpse of beauty that startled Tao Qian into quickly lowering his gaze, eyes to nose, nose to heart.

He took out the Absolute Immortal Token, then naively asked,

"Immortal, when I came here, my Aunt Yunhua mentioned that with the Absolute Immortal Token, one could set foot on any unforbidden island within this sea area."

"I wonder if your island counts, and if I, the disciple, may go up and have a look?"

Although Tao Qian's acting was passable, he had barely finished speaking before locking eyes with a pair of cold, serpent-like pupils.

Those eyes clearly conveyed a message: You find your own treasures, and don't bother me.

She could have said it, but she did not bother.

After glimpsing Tao Qian, the ground beneath her, the isle, and the stone tablets on the island all began to blur.

The island blended together, as if it were a great Magical Treasure capable of movement.

In the blink of an eye, it reappeared hundreds of miles away.

Logically, after being rejected, Tao Qian should have obediently gone to search for treasures.

But inexplicably, whether due to the warning of his own abnormal Soul or a whim of the Taishang Treasure No-leak Body, a reminder arose within him: the departing Spiritual Tablet Island was an opportunity not to be missed, a beneficial circumstance.

With these hints, how could Tao Qian not know what to do?

"Magical Treasures I may lack, but whether in the next few days or in the future, there will be many chances to obtain them."

"Only this Spiritual Tablet Island, filled with the lives of stronger Elders and Cultivators of Cavernous Mystery, is extremely rare and unique."

"To find such worldly goods is easy, but the experience of predecessors is truly scarce, especially in such abundance."

"If I miss this occasion, I'll have to wait for the next Ten Thousand Immortals Assembly."

"Having stumbled upon it, how could I let it go?"



As these thoughts flashed by, Tao Qian moved immediately.

And so, what followed!

A peculiar scene arose within the Absolute Immortal Sea: a special island called "Spiritual Tablet Island," moving on its path, followed at a leisurely pace by a youthful Daoist who seemed enthralled by the chase.

During this, Tao Qian thoroughly observed how Spiritual Tablet Island operated.

Each time the island neared another under Great Prohibition, a new Spiritual Tablet would emerge upon leaving.

Initially, Tao Qian thought it would be the Mutated Elders who dictated their stories for Bai Yin Immortal to inscribe.

But in reality, all the Spiritual Tablets were personally carved by the Mutated Elders themselves.

...

"I wonder if that Alcohol and Meat Uncle has inscribed a tablet for himself."

"And what would those Elders without hope of vying write on theirs?"

As these thoughts darted through Tao Qian's mind, an hour had come to pass after a day.

During this day, Tao Qian had been to many places with Spiritual Tablet Island.

In the process, he hadn't ceased to pester Bai Yin Immortal.

Of course, each time he did his utmost to remain earnest and respectful, only to be rejected time and again, but the progress was in the lengthening sentences in their dialogues.

At this moment, ahead of him, Spiritual Tablet Island had left another prohibited island, and indeed a new Spiritual Tablet had appeared.

According to previous routine, the island would move again towards the next forbidden island.

But unexpectedly, a mishap occurred.

A scene that had occurred a day ago was replicated today.

Spiritual Tablet Island collided against the opposite direction, and quite abruptly, brought Tao Qian into close contact with the cliff with a single horn, the withered tree, and Bai Yin Immortal on the tree.

Moreover, it was a literal close contact.

Struck by an island, Tao Qian couldn't avoid it at all.

Chapter 244: The Spiritual Tablet's Secret Island, Bai Yin Immortal\_3

Suddenly, before his eyes became vague, when he looked again, his body had shockingly fallen into the hands of Bai Yin Immortal.

A pair of snow-white lotus-like arms pressed him against the cloud-patterned tree trunk, her soft yet icy body resting atop Tao Qian. Her upper body slowly supported itself, her waterfall-like black hair cascading down, neatly enveloping them both.

To outsiders, this scene would undoubtedly appear enchanting.

But for Tao Qian, who was directly involved, he sensed only great danger.

For at that moment, he was entirely enveloped by an extremely terrifying, formidable aura.

He had no doubt that if the owner of this aura wanted to kill him, even if he summoned the Buddha Ape Guardian as quickly as possible, it would be of no use; he would be dead in the blink of an eye.

Fortunately, the Records bursting forth in Tao Qian's mind also conveyed the state of the Bai Yin Immortal lying on top of him.

Killing intent?

There was none whatsoever.

Tao Qian lifted his head and, as he saw a supremely beautiful but expressionless face, he also locked eyes with a pair of cold snake-like pupils.

In those eyes, he saw a rare flicker of emotion, seemingly a spark of interest in Tao Qian.

The Immortal slowly opened her mouth and, shockingly, extended a forked red tongue, licking him.

Accompanied by the chilling touch, Tao Qian could no longer hide his face full of astonishment.

Afterward, Bai Yin Immortal spoke the longest speech she had in many years.

"You... are quite amusing. Other True Disciples who come to the Absolute Immortal Sea will desperately search for the relic treasures."

"Over the years, I've encountered quite a few Disciples, none of whom dared to pester me, wanting to set foot on the island, except for you."

"Only it's a pity Duobao and Yunhua seem to favor you greatly."

"If I were to take you, they would be angry, and I cannot defeat them."

Initially, Tao Qian was pleasantly surprised that this cold and sullen Immortal spoke at length to him for the first time.

But soon, upon hearing the crucial part, he was shocked.

What did she mean by 'take you'?

Those unacquainted would think something else entirely upon hearing this.

Despite the ambiguous and charming position the two were in, Tao Qian was acutely aware.

This Bai Yin Immortal had a high and profound Cultivation Realm and could have assumed a true Human Clan form.

But she didn't do so, always maintaining her inherent 'Snake Species' characteristics.

Their current entanglement was in fact just Tao Qian being captured by an Alien Species White Snake, with no hint of romance to it.

Fortunately, the Bai Yin Immortal continued to speak at length, explaining the reason.

"Besides the Spiritual Tablet, there's nothing else on the island. If you're not here for Dual Cultivation with me, then you're here to see the Spiritual Tablet."

"But you're too weak, little child. Not only can you not withstand the contamination from the tablet, but you also can't bear the consequences of Dual Cultivation with me."

"Are you pestering me all day in hopes of a meeting gift?"

"It's unfortunate the timing is off; my possessions are all in my lair. Otherwise, I'd pluck a snake scale for you to nurture with Immortal Spiritual Qi later, which could turn into a small White Snake similar to my true form—a bit useful."

After uttering these fierce and threatening words, Tao Qian watched as the Bai Yin Immortal holding him down appeared to forget she could release him. A fleshy lump suddenly bulged beneath her ribs, and two fresh snow-white arms burst forth, arching back as if to pluck a snake scale from her lower body.

This scene left Tao Qian almost speechless.

He had a faint realization: this Bai Yin Immortal had a dual nature—one part sullen and detached but at least akin to the Human Clan, and the other entirely similar to a snake in thought, action, and speech.

As the Immortal was about to pluck a scale, Tao Qian quickly spoke to stop her.

"Immortal, please hold!"

"Disciple's desire is precisely to observe the Spiritual Tablet left by our ancestors and masters."

"As for contamination, Disciple has his own methods."

"I will act within my limits and not make things difficult for the Immortal."

Chapter 245: Master Demon Eye, Three Methods to Transcend Mortality

"Oh?"

"Don't you want my snake scale?"

On the black dead tree, the immortal who was about to pluck the scale heard Tao Qian's words, turned her head back, and a hint of confusion appeared on her indifferent face.

Two fresh lotus arms had just sprouted under her ribs, seemly having nowhere to place them, she simply pressed them against Tao Qian's abdomen.

This made their posture even more intimate.

But Tao Qian really couldn't stand it, not just because the cold temperature of Bai Yin Immortal's body, but also because the gap in strength between them was too large.

Being embraced and pressed down by the other party, Tao Qian felt like a fragile porcelain doll, a little carelessness might collapse his ribs, quite painful indeed.

He could not well call for the Buddha Ape to protect him, so he had to cough lightly a few times and softly replied,

"Immortal, you are my mentor, a disciple who requests something from the mentor should bring gifts, how can I ask to take the scales from the immortal?"



"Although it's just one snake scale, being a part of the immortal's true form, it must be a treasure, not to mention it might cause some pain to the immortal, I can't accept it."

"I only wish for the immortal to allow me to observe the Spiritual Tablet, and if my wish is granted to let me know the location of the Magic Vein Dojo, I will visit as soon as I leave this realm and listen to your teachings."

"It's coincidental that I have recently cultivated some Immortal Plant Spirit Roots and harvested many Immortal Peaches, which I can bring for the immortal to taste..."

Tao Qian was saying this when suddenly Bai Yin Immortal moved close to his neck and ear.

The next moment, her red tongue darted out, accompanied by a "hiss" sound, seeming to lick him a few times.

Such an action reminded Tao Qian of a real Snake Species.

Perhaps she was collecting his pheromones?

Just as this thought arose in Tao Qian's mind, the immortal lifted her head, and there seemed to be a slight change in her expression within those snake eyes that were close at hand.

That perpetually expressionless face miraculously curved into a slight smile.

Seemingly, was she smiling?

Though it was somewhat stiff, Tao Qian had to admit,

This immortal, she was indeed stunningly beautiful.

Unlike Xie Lingji who possessed the beauty favored by Heaven and Earth Spiritual Resonance, Bai Yin Immortal was like a Goddess of Snake Species residing at the edge of the universe, isolated, indifferent and lonely, a kind of beauty divergent from that of the Human Clan.

Regrettably, that smile soon faded away.

Then she spoke, as if she could see right through Tao Qian's emotions, in a soft voice,

"You are a very peculiar and interesting person, you like me but do not want to engage in Dual Cultivation with me."

"You have desires, but you restrain them."

"Somewhat amusing, yet also a bit dull."

"You can look at these Spiritual Tablets if you want, but you only have two days. If you fail to leave the island in time, you will have to return to the Secret Realm with me, and it's really boring there, then you might cling to me wanting to Dual Cultivate, but back there, I prefer sleeping."

"If you can't withstand the pollution and Mutation, and Fall, I will eat you."

"If Duobao and Yunhua blame me, I will go seek justice with my teacher."

After a very significant and completely frank speech, the immortal finally straightened up properly.

But the cold touch Tao Qian felt deepened, his body was wrapped up by her lower half that seemed like snow satin, slowly pulled away from the tree trunk.

Then that snow-white and cold snake tail very gently, placed Tao Qian's body on the island, in front of the first Spiritual Tablet.

Till then, Tao Qian's head was still buzzing.

In his heart, he was still digesting those words by Bai Yin Immortal.

Well then!

So those licks indeed were collecting pheromones, extremely accurate at that.

Tao Qian's feeling toward Bai Yin Immortal was indeed just like that.

He admired the beauty of this Alien Species immortal, but to engage in Dual Cultivation upon first meeting, this was something Tao Da, the Great Master, could not do; at the very least, it was proper to cultivate some feelings first.

The following few warnings were lightly mentioned by the immortal.

But Tao Qian had sensed great danger.

"This island, after two days, will return to a certain Secret Realm, and it's isolated; if I fail to leave in time, I won't be able to leave at all."

"If I Mutate and Fall while viewing the Spiritual Tablets, I will be eaten by Bai Yin Immortal."

"This 'eating' is clearly meant in the literal sense, a proper eating."

Thoughts flickered a few times, Tao Qian didn't react much.

He had anticipated risks when he had impulsively desired to see the numerous Spiritual Tablets on this island.

For now, it seemed all still bearable.

"Let's see what's so special about these Spiritual Tablets that gave me such premonitions?"

As this thought formed, Tao Qian's gaze firmly settled on the first Spiritual Tablet.

Empty!

The pitch-black Spiritual Tablet that should have borne inscriptions was smooth as a mirror, without a single word.

Just as Tao Qian frowned and turned around to ask a question, suddenly he heard Bai Yin Immortal's cold voice beside his ear,

"With the Absolute Immortal Token, the Spiritual Tablet can reveal the owner's name, titles, Cultivation, and Divine Skills information ."

"Touching it with the palm allows one to read the life of the Spirit Tablet's owner and could also be subject to its corruption."

"Choose some with low Cultivation; don't touch those above Cavernous Mystery."

"If you feel you can't endure it, and if your body shows signs of Mutation, immediately cut off that arm of yours to save your life."

"I'm not hungry today; I don't really want to eat you."

After the immortal spoke, she paid no further attention to Tao Qian, her soft body reclining back and soon amidst the cloudy mist and dead trees, she let out a long breath and quickly fell asleep.

Tao Qian muttered silently, "I don't want to end up inside your belly, immortal," then turned his head back.

The Absolute Immortal Token automatically leaped out, flicking over the Spiritual Tablet in front.

Indeed, as a pale light surged, lines of text gradually emerged.

Also appearing was a vivid, lifelike figure, as if the owner himself was right before his eyes.

## Chapter 246: Master Demon Eye, Three Methods to Transcend Mortality\_2

This figure was indeed a towering Great Man, clad in armor from the waist down, with a bare torso displaying robust muscles, a fierce face, and an extra pair of eyes on his forehead, and red hair fluttering. He held an ancient long spear in his hand, and at a glance, he resembled a kind of giant demon god that feasted on evil ghosts.

Text beside the figure emerged,

"Hong Sheng, Elder of the Spirit Treasure Sect, known as Master Shi Mei, at the Cavernous Mystery Realm."

"In his childhood, he awakened his ancestral return, grew two Spirit Eyes, one eye could see through malevolent spirits and demons, the other could emit the Breaking Charm Divine Light. His mutated bloodline allowed him to devour demons, increasing his cultivation."

"How strong!"

Without realizing it, Tao Qian exclaimed inwardly.

At the same time, he felt the uniqueness of the Spirit Treasure Sect again, truly a place with no distinctions in teaching.

During his time at the Sect, he had seen some Human Clan Cultivators, and even more Elder Cultivators of alien species.

According to Lin Xiaohua, beings like Aunt Spider and Bai Yin Immortal, who were born alien species, could at most mix in as Dharma Protecting Beasts in other sects.

The situation of those with acquired mutated bloodlines like the one before him was slightly better, but only slightly.

Only in the Spirit Treasure Sect were all treated equally.

No wonder they could create the grand event "Ten Thousand Immortals Coming."

After sighing inwardly, Tao Qian did not reach out to touch the stele of Uncle Hong Sheng.

Following his spiritual intuition, which had led him shamelessly to the island, Tao Qian decided to choose the Spiritual Tablets by following his inspirations and premonitions as well.

Thinking this, Tao Qian followed his intuition directly into the forest of steles, looking left and right, when he suddenly remembered a detail.

Due to the Innate Spiritual Sensing left by Senior Sister Xie Lingji on him, Tao Qian's spiritual vision had always been elevated. He could previously see the process of Sister Bai Yao's flesh transforming, but just now he couldn't see anything wrong with Bai Yin Immortal's half-human, half-snake body, nor any signs of mutation or corruption.



Either the Immortal's cultivation was too high, concealing everything.

Or she was indeed entirely without any mutation or corruption.

Tao Qian tended to believe it was the latter.

Amidst these distracting thoughts, Tao Qian suddenly stopped in front of a Spiritual Tablet. The Absolute Immortal Token flickered, and instantly light and text both leapt out.

First looking at the lifelike light and shadow, it was not in human form.

It was suddenly a devil-like body, entirely layers of muscles, limbs turned into adamantine claws, all messy hair transformed into hard scaly tentacles, with a torso sporting tough bone armor, filled gaps carrying hundreds of crimson evil eyes.

His entire body was surrounded by various sinister bloodlights, and behind him seemed to be haunted by twisted resentful souls roaring and howling as if from the ten directions of hell.

Anyone who saw it would affirm: this was a devil that slaughtered all living beings.

Not a cultivator, let alone of the Human Clan.

With the first instance of Master Shi Mei as an example, Tao Qian thought the "relics" preserved on the stele should all be uncorrupted.

But now, it seemed not so.

Text aside the devilish figure emerged:

"Wan Mo, Elder of the Spirit Treasure Sect, known as Master Demon Eye, at the Cavernous Mystery Great Perfection Realm."

"Originally of the Human Clan, with uncommon talent and prowess, renowned as a natural-born killer, his power unmatched among his peers, defeating opponents beyond his level with ease. He was once praised by the Sect Master of the Spirit Treasure Sect, stating that had not Wan Mo damaged his Dao Foundation at an early age, he would have eventually stepped into the Realm of the Tribulation Immortal, a pity indeed."

"To compensate for his deficiency, Wan Mo had no choice but to undertake Dual Cultivation of Dao and Demon. Due to excessive killing, he fell profoundly into demonhood, his path forward hopeless."

In these texts, Tao Qian instantly caught the key point.

Dao Foundation!

Previously, Alcohol and Meat Uncle Li Changle, to gain his trust, had also sincerely advised Tao Qian.

The Foundation Establishment Realm was crucial, not to hasten and damage the Dao Foundation, even intentionally leaking Duobao True Monarch and Yunhua Immortal's plans.

Tao Qian was indeed very curious, how crucial really was the Dao Foundation?

Originally he intended to leave the Absolute Immortal Sea area and seek his Master, or Yunhua Immortal for some questions.

However, he didn't expect that on Spiritual Tablet Island, he might glimpse the answer first.

And more vividly.

Tao Qian thought for a moment, first took out the Spirit Treasure Jade Purifying Bottle and held it in his palm, and then summoned the Buddha Bird Relics above his head.

With these two safeguards, Tao Qian still wasn't quite reassured.

Luckily, his real reliance was on himself.

"If I really can't escape, I'll just cut off an arm."

"Then I'll call Bai Yin 'Aunt' loudly, would instantly seem very compelling."

Tao Qian made a not too big or small joke to himself, then hesitated no longer.

His hand suddenly reached out, gently touching the surface of the Spiritual Tablet.

In that instant, Tao Qian felt the Spiritual Tablet before him empty.

The figure of "Master Wan Mo," originally just an illusion, suddenly emitted a very real roar, and then pounced towards him.

"Roar!"

As the roar sounded, something like a remnant soul burrowed into Tao Qian's mind.

A massive amount of incredibly real scenes burst open, and in Tao Qian's mind, a Record emerged as well.

Ignoring the earlier Record, he only looked at the final notes.

When the words "Already Exempted" appeared, Tao Qian, very familiar with it, shivered violently.

Then, Tao Qian began to comprehend another person's life.

More precisely, the life experience of Master Demon Eye, Uncle Wan Mo.

Just beginning it, Tao Qian realized why Bai Yin had previously warned that if he hadn't left the island in two days, he would have to go with her to the Secret Realm.

Tao Qian had naively thought, two days would be enough for him to read most of the Spiritual Tablets here.

Now it seemed, even one tablet might not be enough?

Chapter 247 Master Demon Eye, Three Methods of Transcending Mortality\_3

If it were the life of a Little Cultivator who had only lived for twenty or thirty years, Tao Qian estimated that it wouldn't take too long.

But there was no such person here.

Each Spirit Tablet Master had at least reached the Cavernous Mystery Realm, meaning they had all lived long years, a hundred years at the very least, and many for several hundreds or even thousands of years.

Just like Master Wan Mo, his age had reached two hundred years.

What Tao Qian was reading at this moment was his continuous, bumpy first half of life. Although it was quite exciting, Tao Qian just wasn't patient enough to watch it all.

Fortunately, Tao Qian soon discovered that he could actually speed up.

Despite this act increasing the risk of Mutated contamination,

Clearly, Tao Qian, who was shivering from the cold, didn't mind that.

"On some level, am I watching a movie?"

After murmuring to himself, Tao Qian started to speed up without any courtesy.

Even so, it took several hours before Tao Qian came to his senses.

His palm detached from the Spiritual Tablet, his breathing rapid, with his eyes showing unmistakable surprise, as well as a sense of relief.

In a matter of hours, Tao Qian, as an onlooker, had witnessed the tumultuous life of a peerless Talent.

Although Tao Qian had some confidence in himself, at this moment, if he imagined Master Wan Mo as his opponent, even if they were of the same stage, would he be able to prevail?

The answer was uncertain, but Tao Qian wasn't very confident.

"Not only was Master Wan Mo born with the seeds for Cultivation, what's more terrifying is his innate Talent for slaughter."

"It seemed that any slaughter-related Divine Skills in his hands, no matter how difficult, he could quickly refine them, and he refined each one extremely well."

"His Cultivation was basically a path paved with blood."

"If it was him dealing with the disaster in Southern Yue, probably starting from the Fragrant Meat Collection, he would have killed and killed and killed, and even Bai Qin would likely be recklessly attacked by him."

"What's strange is that he always won, except for the last duel at the Ten Thousand Immortals Meeting, where he should have been defeated."

"The reason lies in the fact that when he was at the Foundation Establishment stage, he only embraced the intent to kill, leading to an imperfect completion and serious flaws, which ultimately led to his downfall."

"However, this Master's temperament was such that even when it came to inscribing his tablet, he never regretted, only mentioning the Three Methods of Refining Dao Foundation of the Spirit Treasure Sect. He disapproved of the Lower Method as too weak, the Upper Method as too vacuous, and chose the Middle Method, unleashing murderous intent against others, harboring murderous intent against himself, fighting until the heavens and earth were upended, and all things faded."

With these thoughts, the answers to the questions Tao Qian had been pondering also emerged in his mind.

The Inner and Outer Refinement Method used by the Spirit Treasure Sect to break through to the Transcend Mortality Realm was divided into three grades, or three methods.

The Lower Method refines through myriad alien objects!

The Middle Method refines through heavenly portents and phenomena!



The Upper Method refines with the essence of all things in heaven and earth!

...

"Master Wan Mo said the Upper Method was too vague; in a sense, he was also saying it was too difficult."

"Even within the Spirit Treasure Sect, a place filled with remarkable Talents, there are woefully few Elder Disciples who refine their Dao Foundation with the Upper Method."

"And even fewer are the ones who succeed."

"Even my own Master, Duobao True Monarch, and immortals like Yunhua, had ascended to the Transcend Mortality Realm through the Middle Method."

"Li Changle deliberately leaked information; was my Master really preparing me to ascend to Transcend Mortality with the [Upper Refinement Method]?"

Thoughts and notions surged once again in Tao Qian's mind.

Chapter 248: Five Coin Immortal Money, Master Wuxiang

Ferocious and tyrannical, and extremely adept at slaughter - such were the thoughts that filled Tao Qian's mind as he stood before Master Wan Mo's tablet.

Although observing the life of this formidable master helped dispel some of his doubts, it also gave rise to many new questions.

For instance, what exactly did the top-grade Refinement Technique look like?

Even if one managed to refine it, what was so remarkable about it? Would it make the journey on the Dao Path smoother?

Would the other two techniques not lead to the attainment of the Dao?

How should one determine which technique is most suitable for oneself?

As Tao Qian pondered these things, he continued following his inspiration, moving on to the next Spiritual Tablet.

Occasionally glancing behind him, he saw that the Immortal Bai Yin was still sound asleep amidst the clouds, utterly indifferent as to whether Tao Qian would mutate and fall or not, acting as if he did not exist.

Before long, Tao Qian stopped in front of another blackened Spiritual Tablet.

With a flicker of the Absolute Immortal Token, the glowing text once again appeared.

This time, the figure that emerged was that of a child from the Human Clan, dressed in a Daoist's cap with rounded corners, draped in a dark cyan robe with rounded edges, and wearing cyan shoes with round toes. What drew the most attention, however, was the Five Coin Robe he wore—airy like smoke or mist, glowing lightly, truly incomparable to anything ordinary, resembling a celestial child who might stand beside a Daoist Venerable.

Even though appearing on this Spiritual Tablet implied a high probability of mutation, downfall, and eventual death in bitter strife,

the mere image was such that one could not harbor any ill will towards him, no matter what.

"Shen Yuanbao, Elder of the Spirit Treasure Sect, known as the Five Coins Child, of the Cavernous Mystery Realm."

"Originally of the Human Clan, with both talent and flair being top-grade, he was a natural Cultivation Seed. In his youth, he received the ancient and exotic Five Coin Immortal Money, was later accepted as a disciple by a Second Generation Ancestor of the Spirit Treasure Sect, guided by him to use the Five Coin Immortal Money as a foundation, constructing a unique Dao Foundation. Upon transcending mortality, he realized multiple Divine Skills, acquiring an extremely special Divine Power Talent known as the Gathering Treasure Dao Body."

"His Dao Body had the power to gather treasures, making his Dao Path extremely smooth, ascending to Cavernous Mystery effortlessly."

"He had the potential for even greater heights, but in the end, it was both the making and undoing of him to gather treasures."

"One day, while spirit-walking outside the Realm without a guardian, he attracted another Outer Realm treasure, mutated and fell, his Dao Path hopeless thereafter."

Indeed, references to the Dao Foundation appeared once again with this new Spirit Tablet Master.

Although the textual information was scant, it was sufficient for Tao Qian to form the most basic judgment:

"This Uncle Five Coins seemed to have used the Low Grade Refining Method 'Foundation Establishment with Exotic Objects.'"

"Yet, it seems that it was also very powerful."

Thinking thus, Tao Qian reached out and pressed his palm upon the Spiritual Tablet.

Having gone through the process with Master Wan Mo, it was no longer unfamiliar.

The shadow of the Five Coins Child rushed at him, and its Record and many scenes exploded and burst forth before Tao Qian, who watched with visible shivers.

After being exempted once again, Tao Qian began to hasten his pace.

Several hours later, he discovered the secret information he wanted to know.

Compared to the tumultuous life of Master Wan Mo, Uncle Five Coins was much more fortunate.

"Uncle Five Coins had an extraordinarily high talent. Without even cultivating, he was sought out by an exotic treasure from ancient times. Moreover, having taken a Second Generation Ancestor as his mentor, he was indeed a winner in life."

"While others were still in basic studies, this master had already established his foundation, and with an Immortal Treasure at that. Truly, it is maddening to compare oneself with others. Even more infuriating was that after establishing his foundation, he acquired the Gathering Treasure Dao Body."

"The miracle of this Dao Body was that no matter when and where, he might stumble upon treasures, or treasures would inexplicably break through space just to find him."

"Other cultivators would kill for such treasures, but he had no need, gathering all the provisions he required for his ascension to the Cavernous Mystery Realm."

"Until one day, without a guardian, he ventured outside the Realm on a spirit-walk and, as usual, attracted a treasure. But the treasures from the Outer Realm were mostly toxic, and it ultimately cost this master his life."

As Tao Qian finished contemplating, his mind became fuzzed, and an unexpected conjecture arose.

Although the three Refinement Techniques for foundation establishment were distinctively categorized as Upper, Middle, and Lower Grades,

it seemed that there wasn't much of a difference.

Regardless of which technique one used, one could successfully establish a foundation, and it did not appear to affect the Dao Path, as after all, those who appeared on these Spiritual Tablets were, to a degree, dead.

"Master Wan Mo chose the Middle Method, refining his Dao Foundation with the heaven-sent omen 'Killing Star Descending,' and advanced to transcending mortality. He eventually attained Great Perfection in the Cavernous Mystery Realm."

"Uncle Five Coins employed the Lower Method, refining his Dao Foundation with the ancient exotic 'Five Coin Immortal Money,' and also successfully advanced to transcending mortality. If not for an accident, perhaps even attaining the Ultimate Happiness Realm would not have been difficult."

"Perhaps, which method one uses is not important, and what is best suited to oneself is truly the best?"

While guessing, Tao Qian moved on again.

When he stood before the third Spiritual Tablet, his premonitions and insights reached their zenith.

Tao Qian had a sense of understanding, realizing that due to the influence of the Human Dao Destiny, the Taishang Spirit Treasure Body, the Innate Spiritual Resonance Sensing, and so on, his whims were actually leading him towards beneficial opportunities, not necessarily in the form of books or treasures, but possibly experiences and encounters related to the Dao Path and cultivation level.

Now, it seemed that the third tablet was very important?

With the thought in mind, Tao Qian took out the Absolute Immortal Token and shook it again.

Within the flickering dim light, new glowing text leaped out.

Tao Qian was accustomed to looking towards the images, and, unexpectedly, the figure that emerged was extraordinarily lively.

It was a middle-aged Daoist in a black Daoist robe, with black hair and beard, standing with hands behind his back. His eyes seemed capable of piercing through anyone's innermost thoughts, giving Tao Qian a feeling strangely similar to that of "Bai Qin." However, in Tao Qian's view, this Elder seemed far more formidable than Bai Qin.

Even though the figure in front of him was a mere shadow, not the true form of a person,

as Tao Qian looked at him, he still felt as if he were being seen through.

Beside him, far more tablet text than in previous encounters sprang forth:

"Qin Jiao, Elder of the Spirit Treasure Sect, known as Master Wuxiang, of the Ultimate Happiness Realm."

"He was once a clan member of the thousand-year-old Qin Family, but due to his average talent and appearance, among other reasons, he suffered much humiliation within the Qin Family. He was even forbidden from cultivating the Qin Family's secret techniques, only relying on the Spirit Treasure Basic Technique picked up from the marketplace. At the age of thirty, he broke into the Foundation Establishment Realm."

"He was supposed to go to the Spirit Treasure Mountain Gate, but his family members hindered him, wasting ten years of his life."

"In these ten years, he faced countless major and minor tribulations, hovering between life and death repeatedly, only to temper his Dao Foundation into even greater perfection."

"Until one day, a Second Generation Ancestor visited the Qin family and, seeing his potential, secretly imparted a Magic Skill to him."



"Coinciding with a time of great chaos when heroes rose together, Qin Jiao took advantage of the situation to enter the world, assisting a Hidden Dragon to power; thus, he officially advanced into Transcend Mortality, obtaining the Formless True Eyes and Destiny Reversing Dao Body, able to peer into hearts and manipulate fortunes..."

"At that time, Qin Jiao also formally joined the Spirit Treasure Sect, and was even praised by the Sect Master as the foremost True Inheritor of this generation, potentially capable of reaching the Tribulation Immortal Realm one day."

Caught off guard, Tao Qian saw the words 'Spirit Treasure Sect Master' again.

If he remembered correctly, earlier Master Wan Mo had been praised once by the Spirit Treasure Sect Master, with similar claims.

From the existing inscriptions, it was evident Uncle Qin Jiao was a Talent with a hidden and resolute character and an expert at calculations.

Such a powerful individual, who rose to prominence after many years hidden, shouldn't fall so easily.

Especially when, after Transcending Mortality, he gained Divine Powers Talent that allowed him to peer into hearts and control fortunes.

Anyone would understand what these eight characters meant.

Such a powerful being would be hard to kill.

Yet now the tablet has been carved, indicating there must have been many complications later.

Tao Qian didn't delay and continued to read:

"After joining the Sect, Qin Jiao did not cultivate within the Mountain Gate but chose to reenter the world, intending to elevate the Hidden Dragon to the Emperor's throne."

"After thirteen years, Qin Jiao succeeded, and in the same period, his Cultivation Realm soared straight into the Cavernous Mystery Realm."

"The new Founding Emperor wished to appoint Qin Jiao as the State Preceptor, but Qin Jiao's master ordered him to decline and return to the Mountain Gate to cultivate."

"During that time numerous unexpected events occurred; Qin Jiao not only failed to return but, after becoming the State Preceptor, reconciled with the Qin Family... In the fifty years that followed, Qin Jiao cultivated using the dynasty's fortune and successfully advanced into the Ultimate Happiness Realm... until the new Emperor's demise, when suddenly a disaster hit, and Qin Jiao returned to the Mountain Gate with a critically injured body on the brink of death."

"Because he had repeatedly defied the orders of the Second Generation Ancestor, the Sect Master did not rescue him, only allowing him to participate in the Ten Thousand Immortals' decisive battle."

At this point, the text abruptly ended.

To learn more details, Tao Qian would have to reach out and touch the Spiritual Tablet.

However, by now, line after line of inscriptions had already churned out many thoughts and some baseless yet strong speculations in Tao Qian's mind.

Clearly, Uncle Qin Jiao chose a top-grade Refining Method and succeeded.

The benefits were certainly extraordinary.

He even managed to cultivate from a common man to the Ultimate Happiness Realm within a hundred years.

Even in a place like the Spirit Treasure Sect, this speed would mark him as a Talent among Talents.

Perhaps this is the mystery of the top-grade Refining Method?

"Uncle Qin Jiao with his perfect Dao Foundation and profound cultivation, obviously met his end due to other unexpected events."

"He bears the Qin surname... assisted in founding an Emperor... known as Master Wuxiang... in Southern Yue, that pretty-faced Saint Heir who almost cost me my life, called Qin Wuxiang — couldn't he be the descendant of this uncle of mine?"

"And that secret organization that dispatched numerous Saint Heirs, could it be related too?"

Tao Qian's speculations were without evidence.

Yet to verify them was simple: he just needed to reach out.

However, Bai Yin Immortal had previously warned him solemnly: if you're above the Cavernous Mystery Realm, do not touch it.

And unfortunately, Uncle Qin Jiao was in the Ultimate Happiness Realm.

Tao Qian had a vague feeling that his abnormal soul might also grant him an exemption, at least from most of the corruption.

But as it involved a powerful cultivator and many secrets...

The remaining corruption might just be enough to take Tao Qian's life.

Standing before the Spiritual Tablet, Tao Qian fell into hesitation, weighing the risks and rewards in his mind.

Perhaps it was because he had stood there too long, looking troubled and conflicted...

At some point, the sweetly sleeping Bai Yin Immortal suddenly woke up.

She sighed faintly, her cool voice reaching Tao Qian's ears:

"You wish to see the life of Junior Brother Qin Jiao?"

"He was a very dull person and shared no similarities with you, nor could you take any lessons from his cultivation methods."

"If you really want to see it, I can help you, but you must promise me one thing."

Halfway through speaking, Bai Yin suddenly proposed a trade.

Tao Qian turned around, his expression revealing his confusion, only to hear the still lazily reclining Bai Yin Immortal on the withered tree directly say:

"I enjoy sleeping in secret realms, but occasionally I get a bit bored."

"This might last for a few years, or perhaps decades, even a century — I'm not certain."

"If you promise to come keep me company willingly when I call for you in the future, I will help you."

Tao Qian was certainly not expecting Bai Yin Immortal to make such a sudden request.

It seemed harmless enough.

Still, after some thought, he prudently asked, "Keep you company... how many times? For how long each time?"

This question surprised the Immortal, as if she found it strange Tao Qian would ask such a thing.

After that, she seriously replied, "Once will suffice, I usually only feel bored for twenty-four hours, then I go back to sleep."

Feeling this wasn't enough, she added, "If you agree, I'll compensate you with some other benefits, like helping you in a fight, for example."

## Chapter 249 First Knowledge of the Alchemist, Eight Immortals Demon Island

Although Bai Yin Immortal spoke in a light and casual manner, her words appearing utterly normal,

Tao Qian keenly felt that what the immortal meant by "accompany" was not as simple as it sounded at face value.

For when Tao Qian inquired about the details, the immortal merely shook her head, saying it was merely accompanying her for twenty-four hours, without much danger.

Although he was somewhat uneasy at heart, Tao Qian, after careful consideration, nodded his head in agreement.

This simple exchange gave rise to another reflection for Tao Qian: the pursuit of cultivation truly required constant sacrifices, but it was a worthwhile trade to safely observe Uncle Qin Jiao's life.

After agreeing, Tao Qian stood in front of the Spiritual Tablet and curiously asked, "Aunt, what exactly will you do?"

He didn't sever his own arm, but this address of "Aunt" was not at all incorrect.

Theoretically, Tao Qian could call any of the female fairies within the Spirit Treasure Mountain Gate in such a manner.

"Stand with your back to me, and do not panic."

"It might hurt a little, bear with it."

Bai Yin didn't elaborate further; merely pouring out the second sentence forced Tao Qian to consider.

However, hardly had he turned to face the Spiritual Tablet when suddenly a burst of fragrance came from behind.

A sudden pain at the nape of his neck, Tao Qian first felt a pair of cold, soft lips on his skin, followed by two venomous fangs slowly piercing his body.

The corner of his eye caught a glimpse of Bai Yin Immortal's head, buried against his neck; evidently, it was she who had bitten him.

What was eerie was that the venomous fangs didn't target his body, but his Soul.

A "Record" burst forth within his mind:

"Suffering from the venom of an Alien Species snake... Soul paralysis, exemption possible!"



"Do not exempt"

Tao Qian instantly rejected the help of his own Abnormal Soul.

What a joke?

He, Tao Da, the Great Master, had paid a price for his own rare snake venom; it couldn't be squandered so.

At the same moment, Bai Yin Immortal's head slowly lifted from his neck.

Before leaving, she leaned into his ear and whispered, "You may proceed now."

With that instruction, Tao Qian's palm immediately reached out, touching the surface of the Spiritual Tablet.

A familiar scene unfolded once more, as the remnant soul phantom left by Uncle Qin Jiao immediately surged towards him.

Despite the aid of Bai Yin Immortal's snake venom, Tao Qian still shivered violently, only then completely exempting himself from any negative effects.

He then began to comprehend the life of the uncle who once brought an ordinary person from the Mortal World to the heights of Dragon Court, a true Talent.

In the initial phase, Tao Qian hastened as usual.

But soon, when it reached Qin Jiao's Foundation Establishment phase, of great importance to his own Dao Path, he could not bear to speed up.

Several hours passed before he could barely move on.

But still, Tao Qian couldn't hasten, he scrutinised even more meticulously instead.

Compared to Masters like Wan Mo and Uncle Five Coins, Uncle Qin Jiao's life was closer to the Mortal World, which Tao Qian found even more fascinating.

Especially when Tao Qian saw that the "Bright Lord" chosen by Uncle Qin Jiao to contest the world was actually a beggar, his interest intensified immediately.

The following scenes, complicated and intriguing experiences and processes, completely immersed Tao Qian.

Unconsciously, time began to swiftly pass by, and before long, it would approach the end of the two-day deadline.

On a withered tree by the cliff, lying lazily with her hand propping up her chin, Bai Yin Immortal observed Tao Qian from afar.

She asked and answered herself:

"Should I remind him?"

"I don't really want to. He's such an interesting kid, it would be nice to bring him back to the Secret Realm."

"But it doesn't seem quite right. He's Duobao's disciple, and carries Yunhua's strong scent. If I act on my whims, these two would certainly trouble me, and Yunhua, I can't defeat. Duobao would be even more annoying, bound to calculate against me."

"Forget it, his Cultivation is still so low, I might squash him with a turn in my sleep. Not good, not good."

As Bai Yin murmured to herself and was about to wake Tao Qian,

something caught her attention, and those icy snake eyes snapped back to look.

Despite Tao Qian's back facing her, she still saw his complexion rapidly changing.

Starting with curiosity, and then as if he had seen some incredible scene, horror appeared on his face.

Soon after, a sense of relief as if a question in his heart resolved.

Cycling through these complex expressions.

However, what Bai Yin Immortal saw was a different scene altogether.

What she focused on was the change in Tao Qian's vital energy.

Staring at Tao Qian with her snake eyes, it wasn't clear what she discerned, but Bai Yin heaved another sigh.

Biting her lip slightly, she expressed her frustration:

"Why choose such a complicated and troublesome path?"

"I might lose out on the deal, and if he ever calls me out to fight, it would be troublesome. I hate going out the most."

"But I can't refuse; Bai Yin is a snake with credibility."

As Bai Yin Immortal grappled with her conflicted thoughts,

Tao Qian, who had been standing in front of the Spiritual Tablet for more than a day, suddenly came to.

Perhaps it was because the life of the tablet's owner, Uncle Qin Jiao, was so lengthily and tumultuously recorded,

even as a bystander, Tao Qian felt a tinge of world-weariness upon finishing his viewing.

And yet, there was a complexity of other emotions.

Although he was now awake, Tao Qian's mind was still digesting the lingering aftermath.

Not giving him much time to immerse in solitude, Bai Yin Immortal's icy voice once again transmitted over:

"You have ten breaths left; if you don't leave the island, you won't be able to anymore."

With this reminder, Tao Qian looked around.

Sure enough, he saw the entire Spiritual Tablet Island becoming dim, murky fogs growing rapidly, shrouding each and every pitch-black Spiritual Tablet within.

Chapter 250 First Knowledge of the Alchemist, Eight Immortals Demon Island\_2

Seeing that the island was about to mysteriously revert back to an unknown secret realm, Tao Qian subconsciously moved away.

Just as he appeared outside the island, a slight "hiss" suddenly reached his ears.

Looking up, he saw Bai Yin pull off one of her white as snow, crystal clear as jade snake scales with her extra hand, and then she tossed it over to him.

As the cool and smooth snake scale landed in his hand, Tao Qian had no time to consult the Record.

From beside him, Bai Yin's last words reached him:

"With this scale, you can summon me."

"But don't call me when I'm sleeping; I'm not in a good mood when I just wake up, and I might bite you."

"It's best not to call me to help you fight; you can ask for anything else, even Dual Cultivation, as long as you can withstand it. But going out to fight is bothersome, and I don't like it."

Although Tao Qian was still pondering what he had seen and heard about Uncle Qin Jiao's life, he was momentarily stunned by the bold and ferocious words of Immortal Aunt Bai Yin.

He was about to say something, but in the blink of an eye, he saw that both Spiritual Tablet Island and Immortal Aunt Bai Yin had disappeared without a trace.

All Tao Qian could do was to put away the snake scale and say, "This Aunt Bai Yin is indeed very much like Aunt Spider from the Pan Si Dojo; their personalities mesh well. The only problem is both are top-tier homebodies; compatible as they are, they never seem to come together."

Once he had safely stored the snake scale, Tao Qian did not make any moves.

Instead, he stayed in place, silently sorting through the information he had glimpsed from the Spiritual Tablet.

By now, he had realized that what truly enlightened him on Spiritual Tablet Island was the statue of Uncle Qin Jiao.

The rest were just a preface.

"Spirit Treasure Cultivators refine their Dao Foundation, indeed prioritizing what is suitable for themselves,"

"Take Uncle Five Coins, for example; his Dao Foundation was actually perfect, and his death was merely due to poor fortune."

"But at the same time, the Upper, Middle, and Lower Methods indeed have their differences."

"The main difference lies in the gains. Those who take the Lower Method can gain the power of the alien object itself; those who choose the Middle Method can gain the power contained within the heavenly omens and phenomena; those who take the Upper Method can obtain power from the operation of heaven and earth, the birth and death of all things."

"If one could cultivate the Upper Method, most Spirit Treasure Cultivators would wish to do so, even though the difficulty is extremely high and the probability of death is very great."

"Yet those suitable for the Upper Method are also pitifully few."

"Uncle Qin Jiao was suited and succeeded, and so he acquired the incredible Divine Skills that allowed him to peer into people's hearts and manipulate fortune."



"It was using this Divine Skill that he raised a beggar to the position of the Founding Emperor, and then took advantage of the fortune of the country for his Cultivation. In just a few decades, he advanced to the Realm of Ultimate Happiness."

"Pity Uncle Qin Jiao was too greedy; fortune made him and fortune broke him. His overreliance on it led to his downfall when that mysterious organization struck back at him, leaving him severely wounded and on the brink of death. If not for their fear of the Spirit Treasure Sect, Uncle Qin Jiao wouldn't have even been able to flee back to the Mountain Gate."

As these thoughts flashed through his mind, Tao Qian frowned.

Coming from the Mortal World and having once been one of the lower class, he couldn't help but be shocked at uncovering the secrets of the powerful operation of the Longevity Heavenly Dynasty.

"No wonder people always say, 'History is but a little girl to be dressed up by anyone.'"

"Uncle Qin Jiao created such a legacy, yet in the history books I read in my original life, he barely got a mention and was depicted as someone from the Devil Path. There are many rumors in unofficial histories, but his name is never Qin Jiao; it's always changed to something else."

"Such was his case, and the organization that wounded him was even more secretive; not a single word about them appears in either official or unofficial histories."

"The organization is called the 'Alchemist Organization', with its first and foremost duty to uphold the 'Longevity Heavenly Dynasty' name. Anyone trying to change the dynasty name is their enemy, including those from generation to generation of the Imperial Family who ruled over the Longevity Heavenly Dynasty, who would be mercilessly executed if they contradicted."

"The organization is also well aware of the logic behind the change of dynasties so they do not hinder the chaos in the realm, heroes battling for supremacy, and sometimes even add fuel to the flames, and might even choose a new Emperor to assist, to stabilize the realm as quickly as possible, and continue the dynasty name."

"Uncle Qin Jiao and that Founding Emperor were both exceptional talents who complemented each other. Knowing the power of the 'Alchemist Organization', they unceremoniously borrowed that power to take the world."

"And after accumulating and brewing for decades, when Uncle Qin Jiao broke into the Ultimate Happiness Realm and the Emperor felt he had complete control over the court, the desires in their hearts could no longer be restrained."

"Uncle Qin Jiao wanted to change his fortune and advance into the Daoist Transformation Realm and perhaps even take the first step towards becoming a Tribulation Immortal."

"As for the Emperor, what he wanted was longevity... no, more accurately, he wanted to enjoy forever the lands, the power and wealth, the beauties of the world, not just to hand over the throne after a mere few decades. He was unwilling, he was not content."

"Both of them hit it off immediately and even pulled in the Qin Family, a millennium-old noble house, plotting to change the nation's name and expel the Alchemists."

"The outcome was quite obvious; their rebellion was crushed in one blow by the Alchemist Organization, and the fate of Uncle Qin Jiao need not be mentioned."

"The Founding Emperor died suddenly, with his position passing to his son, who discredited his father extensively after his death."

"The Qin Family fared slightly better, but also paid a heavy price, declining significantly to date."

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"Alchemists!"

Tao Qian caught his breath as he untangled these secrets, rolling the word around in his mouth.

Putting himself in the shoes of Uncle Qin Jiao, he immediately felt a vast expanse of terrifying dark clouds weighing on his heart, heavy and dreadful.

What truly frightened him was that this powerful organization known as "Alchemists" was also not the deepest existence.

At this moment, Tao Qian's mind recalled the secrets he had learned in Southern Yue from fishing bait for Dragon Worms, from Qin Wuxiang, and later, the glimpses he caught from Alcohol and Meat Uncle Li Changle after returning to the sect.

"The Alchemist Organization, capable of defeating Uncle Qin Jiao, the Founding Emperor, and the combined forces of a millennium-old noble house."

"Yet, they also follow the orders of a group of special creatures."

"Was the founder of the Immortal Fish Technique one of these creatures?"

Tao Qian paused involuntarily when he reached this point in his musings.

Despite the lack of further clues, conjectures uncontrollably rose from the depths of his heart.

However, he did not continue pondering and simply pressed these thoughts deep into his heart.

The level was too high!

For now, all of it was irrelevant to him.

As Tao Qian thought this, he quietly estimated the time.

After some consideration, he directly took out a Colorful Feather.

Upon exhaling Immortal Spiritual Qi, the feather instantly burst into Golden Light and transformed into a majestic rooster with a golden crown behind its head.

Just like the first time, the rooster nodded at Tao Qian as soon as it appeared.

Following a resounding crow that echoed in all directions, the golden halo moved, and the rooster vanished from sight.

Fortunately, having had the experience, Tao Qian had promptly let out the Star Zha Demon and swiftly followed.

After about half an hour, the rooster suddenly paused.

With a bang, it transformed back into the Colorful Feather and burned up completely.

Tao Qian didn't have time to look any longer; at that moment, his mind encountered a commotion and change that he had never experienced before.

"Boom, boom, boom, boom,"

It felt like hundreds, thousands of war drums beating at once, with an intense roaring sound.

Tao Qian looked into the distance, and in the next moment, his eyes began to hurt severely.

As tears streamed down, Tao Qian vaguely saw the sky ahead divided audaciously by eight different but all Mutated and Fallen terrifying auras, separated into eight parts.

Each of the eight columns of Fallen aura reached to the sky, dividing the area into two realms.

One realm was the Absolute Immortal Sea; the other was Eight Demon Domains.

"Is this... Eight Immortals Island?"

Tao Qian was stunned, then whispered to himself.