

Longevity 551

Chapter 551 - Sun Golden Rope, Authority of the Zhengyi Alliance_2

At this moment, Shi Yingqiong stood there, hand without sword, body without sword, yet her fearsome Sword Intent pierced the heavens, impossible for anyone to ignore.

Especially someone with a similar demeanor like Shen Ruolan, whose gaze had been completely captivated by her at some unknown time.

In her eyes, there was both the intent to fight and affection.

She even blurted out without regard for the bystanders:

"This sister, such fierce Sword Intent, given this extraordinary demeanor, you must be Daoist Shi Yingqiong from the Shaoqing Sect."

"Once this affair concludes and if I'm not dead, I shall have a hearty battle with sister. After the fight, if sister doesn't mind, we can become sworn sisters."

Hearing these words, Shi Yingqiong, who was always serious, couldn't help but smile.

She nodded with equal straightforwardness, responding:

"You must be Sister Ruolan that Brother Fei Peng mentioned. I've come on behalf of Brother Yuu, also to see the heroine who cultivated the 'Yue Girl Demon Slaying Scripture' that has emerged from the Ancestor Dragon Society. I specifically came to see for myself."

"Now that I have seen, your reputation is well-deserved. After this affair, we shall fight, and afterward, you will be my good sister Shi Yingqiong."

Having said that, she then turned to Zhong Ziyang, Chen Xiyi, and others.

With a solemn expression and quite formally, she said:

"Daoist friends of the Ancestor Dragon Society, my visit this time represents not the Shaoqing Sect, but the National Salvation Congress."

"We have already announced nationwide, the National Salvation Congress will form an alliance with the Ancestor Dragon Society."

"You've had some internal strife within your society. Fei Peng has informed me."

"No matter, it might even be for the better. People like Ying Qingdi, Yin Susu, and Xu Wenkai, with their greedy and ambitious offspring of Evil Gods, they don't deserve to ally with our National Salvation Congress. But your noble character and aspiration to save the world are similar to our members of the National Salvation Congress. It is appropriate to form an alliance."

"You are currently purging your ranks. Ying Qiong will not say much. If you need assistance, merely speak the word."

"Right, these friends here come from the [Divine Ear Sect], [Ten Thousand Miles Sect], [Ting Di Sect]... practicing different paths from ours. They are like reporters from our Cultivation World, having heard of the major changes here and coming from all directions to witness the events."

"I encountered them on the way here, and thus they accompanied me. They need not be given special attention, these few have their means of self-preservation."

After she finished speaking, Shi Yingqiong pointed to the five cultivators behind her, whose appearances and attire were all quite eccentric.

She then truly stood aside and said no more.

However, by the anxious look in her eyes as she kept glancing at the ongoing fierce fight between the man and the ape, it was clear she was waiting for an opportunity.

As long as Tao Qian and others gave the word, this "Shaoqing Witch" would immediately join the battle.

Unfortunately, no one did.

Zhong Ziyang, Chen Xiyi, and the others could tell that Shi Yingqiong's combat strength was much stronger than Shen Ruolan's, but definitely not a match for the four—Zhong Ziyang, Lin Runiu, Chen Xiyi, Qi Daozhen.

Even if she joined the fight, it would change nothing.

Despite the Golden Ape from Fangcun Mountain being peerless in killing, fighting Ying Qingdi until the heavens and the earth changed color.

Yet Tao Qian and others, along with Mei Su of the Taishang True Inheritance, all had a keen eye.

They soon arrived at a judgment: Sun Xiaosheng, the Golden Ape, could not get the upper hand over Ying Qingdi.

Being the elder brother of Zhong Ziyang, Mei Su even conveyed directly:

"Brother Xiyi, send a message to your disciple. Set aside his pride for now and join us in killing this enemy."

"This brute is an offspring of the Evil God and can continuously draw upon the Evil God's power. Your disciple will eventually exhaust his strength... It's not a time for competing. If we cannot break through his defenses, allowing them to set up their restrictions to delay the return of our friends from Beichan and Xuan Dao Sects, our small victory is nothing but an illusion."

"And I have an ominous feeling; since this brute has the [Yellow Heaven Evil Mirror], should he wish, he could unleash more fierce Divine Skills. Why does he continue to engage in close combat with Brother Golden Ape? There must be some trickery behind his actions not adhering to logic."

Upon hearing this, Zhong Ziyang immediately communicated the tale of the Yellow Robe bestowing Divine Skills almost costing the Ten Talents.

Hearing this, Mei Su shook his head again, his expression growing even more solemn as he communicated:

"The Yellow Robed Divine Skill is indeed powerful, but not the most powerful."

"I'm planning to experience the Ultimate Happiness and am thus planning for adventures in the Outer Realm, so I'm aware of the fierceness of those 'Outer Realm Yellow Robes'."

"If this brute is a progeny of the Yellow Robe, having inherited the Evil Mirror, he must be able to unleash even more formidable techniques..."

"Do not delay!"

"Kill!"

Currently, Mei Su had the strongest cultivation and the broadest knowledge on the surface.

Thus, when this black-robed Daoist finished speaking, everyone chose to listen.

Originally, the Golden Ape called "Sun Xiaosheng" was enjoying the fight and didn't want others to interfere, much less join hands in a combined attack.

But he held great respect for his senior brother Chen Xiyi, and upon his persuasion, he agreed.

The next moment, everyone suddenly saw that the Ancestor Dragon Society's Ten Talents, together with Taishang True Inheritor Mei Su Daoist, simultaneously made their move to besiege Ying Qingdi.

In an instant!

The area, already a chaotic storm, became even more tumultuous, like a pot of mush.

People could only see rainbow lights tumbling, sword light piercing the heavens, and Divine Weapons flying all across... The most eye-catching, of course, was Mei Su, showing his combat power for the first time.

Tao Qian and his nine companions were already close to exhaustion, with not a few seriously injured.

The Fangcun Mountain Golden Ape had already shown its prowess and was no longer considered rare.

On the contrary, it was this donkey-riding Daoist who, in a blink, revealed the disturbing depth of Taishang Dao's power.

First, he untied the belt around his waist and commanded, "Go."

That belt, inflated by the wind, turned into a hundred-mile-long, rainbow-light Flashing rope. It circled the Evil Lake, passed through the Divine Light, and tightly bound Ying Qingdi, along with his Blood Flesh Yellow Robe.

Next, he patted the black donkey underneath him and, after it brayed three times, it spat out a dozen or so pitch-black Treasure Beads.

Mei Su pointed a finger, and the beads flew out one by one, all smashing onto Ying Qingdi's body.

"Immobilize, immobilize, immobilize!"

Accompanied by Mei Su's spell, Ying Qingdi's movements indeed stiffened.

At the same time, the Taiji Demon-suppressing Immortal Sword, which was originally in the Golden Ape's hands, suddenly broke free and flew into Mei Su's hand.

The Daoist wasted no time, brandishing the sword to behead the Green Emperor.

The event unfolded too quickly for anyone to react.

Few could expect that this inconspicuous, black-robed, donkey-riding Daoist would strike without a hint of flamboyance, yet his lethal power was even more terrifying than that of the Fangcun Golden Ape.

"What a formidable Taishang True Inheritance!"

Shi Yingqiong exclaimed with admiration.

Behind her, one of the five strange cultivators, clad in colorful garments, holding a colorful banner, wearing Mang Shoes, and sporting a pair of long ears that stood up like a rabbit's, suddenly revealed:

"Taishang Dao disciple Mei Su's Immortal Rope is called the 'Sun Golden Rope,' made from the essence of Sun Star Power melted into gold threads. Despite its dark appearance, it is first-rate in binding others. Moreover, once bound, the person will immediately suffer the torment of Sun Star Fire burning their soul, with stiffness being the least of worries. If bound for long, they will undoubtedly perish."

"And those black donkey balls are 'immobilization Pearls,' each of which requires the Immortal Donkey to nurture for months to be used effectively, capable of an immobilization spell."

"The Taiji Demon-suppressing Immortal Sword doesn't unleash much power in the hands of the Fangcun Golden Ape, but in Mei Su's hands, it's different."

"If Ying Qingdi cannot break free, he is sure to be injured this time."

"Only injured? He won't die?"

Shi Yingqiong had just raised her question when the other strange cultivators, in remarkable unison, took turns to respond.

"How easy could it be to kill an evil god's offspring devoid of humanity?"

"Even in our Ting Di Sect, there aren't many methods guaranteed to kill an Evil God's offspring, especially the favored ones. Even a drop of blood or a piece of flesh left can be resurrected by the Evil God."

"The best way is to drive them away, which can be achieved once the Beichan Temple and Xuan Dao Sect people arrive."

...

As they conversed, the result of the assault on the other side had yet to manifest.

Ying Qingdi, sensing the crisis, decisively called for a large number of cultivators contaminated by his "Yellow Robed Summoning Slave Spell" from the Ancestor Dragon Society to aid him.

In an instant, as the Blood Flesh Yellow Robe lifted, including powerful Cavernous Mystery cultivators like Pei Hong and Linghu Ying, hundreds of cultivators burst forth.

Disregarding life and death!

Regardless of the cost!

Among them, there were truly benevolent heroes, such as the couple Duan Qiu.

But now, they had all become puppet servants, revering Ying Qingdi as a deity, swearing to protect his life, even resorting to self-destructive Secret Techniques if necessary.

This sight instantly caused Tao Qian, Lin Bujue, Zhong Ziyang, and the others to stare agape with disbelief.

However, when caught in Mei Su's Taiqing Dharma Eye, they only heard him snort coldly and say,

"Evil demons and heretics!"

"Watch my Taishang Dao Great Method... the Zhengyi Alliance Power Talisman."

Chapter 552 - Dragon Rhino Ancestor Compensates with Hundred Infants, Yellow Robed Lamas Chant Heretical Scriptures

The Blood Flesh Yellow Robe was torn open, and hundreds of Puppet Yellow Slaves charged out— Foundation Establishment Evil Demons, Transcend Mortality Mages, Cavernous Mystery True Cultivators...a mix of them all, their Divine Power Treasures threw the sky into chaos. Each one, fearless and unknowing of escape, even if faced with an Extraordinary Army or Ultimate Happiness Strong People ahead, they dared to fight, even managing to kill.

These individuals could be considered the core backbone of the Ancestor Dragon Society.

Not only did each of them come from remarkable origins, but they were also well-versed in battle and were far from nameless within the Cultivation World.

Unfortunately, their target was Mei Su Daoist.

For other Taishang True Inheritors like Zhong Ziyang, this horde of cultivators attacking without regard for the cost, even through self-destruction, might truly have had a chance at success.

But Mei Su was a different story.

This emaciated Daoist, sitting on the back of a donkey, witnessed this scene. His Dharma Eye perceived the truth, and with a cold laugh, he reached into his robe and pulled out a scroll of Elixir Book Talismans.

He flicked his wrist, and a blinding Golden Light was thrown forward.

Suddenly, he yelled out loud,

"Thousands of disasters and calamities shall not invade each other."

"Disperse!"

It was the Saying and Following, the word as the command.

The sky full of Golden Light Talismans erupted, and in a moment, pierced through those malevolent cultivators.

In a moment, each of them was frozen in place as if struck by an immobilization spell, stiff and unable to move.

Following shortly was a "sizzling" sound, and the thick yellow gas inside their bodies spilled out, a great number of Yellow Robed Evil Seals appeared, and soon, the overwhelming Golden Light drove it out of

their bodies... With this scene unfolding, it was clear to anyone that these Yellow Robed Evil Slaves met their Destroyer.

Ying Qingdi, in order to fully control the Ancestor Dragon Society and capture the fruits of the New Moon rebellion's victory, laid many traps.

One was the Ancestor God Tablet; these evil slaves were another.

The latter took much of Ying Qingdi's Heart Power.

Who would have anticipated?

They would be so easily broken.

And where could he imagine that if it were not for Tao Qian's need not to expose his identity easily, there was actually no need for Zhong Ziyang to send a message for Mei Su's particular help.

Master Tao alone could break his Yellow Robed Summoning Slave Spell with the Spirit Treasure True Word Secret Decree.

Of course, doing so would consume at least half of the Mana inside Tao Qian's body.

Mei Su, being close to the Ultimate Happiness Realm, naturally had somewhat more rampant Mana than Tao Qian, but after he used the "Zhengyi Alliance Power Talisman" Great Method and removed the Evil Curse from the bodies of hundreds of cultivators, his face turned white, and he too lost much of his Mana.

Moreover, having already fought with Ying Qingdi earlier, after going back and forth, he suddenly had little combat power left.

If it was a matter of life and death, he might still endure a little longer.

But now, he also needed to charge towards the Ultimate Happiness Realm, and once he overexerted himself, the risk of failing the realm challenge would greatly increase, and he might even Mutate and Fall.

Coming to aid his junior brother, yet risking his own Dao path, was indeed a bit wronged.

Zhong Ziyang was aware of this and saw his senior brother still sitting on that donkey, looking like he wanted to continue to fight Ying Qingdi.

He immediately approached, took the Taiji Demon-suppressing Immortal Sword, and then said,

"Senior brother, retreat to the rear."

"Leave the rest to me. Your junior brother still has some fate to resolve."

After saying that, Zhong Ziyang immediately addressed the group of cultivators and Heroes who had woken up and were in shock and fury.

"Fellow Daoists, you were previously possessed by this vile Evil Curse. Now, my senior brother has used the Sublime Taishang Dharma to lift the spell."

"Response from the Immortal Saint, Divine Qi within the body, quickly cross that Evil Lake and block those Evil Demons' actions."

The group of cultivators, following Zhong Ziyang's guidance, looked over.

And they saw in front of the corpse gate leading to the Seven Evil Cave, the five daughters of the Devil God, the Taiping Army's Xu Wenkai, the Heaven, Earth, and Human Three Corpse Cultivators, and others were still using the sole remaining token capable of controlling the Evil Cave Heaven, connecting to the remaining Forbidden Techniques of the Evil Cave, impeding Beichan, and preventing the experts of the Xuan Dao Sect from leaving.

They even cast various Evil Techniques to resurrect all the corpses within the Evil Cave, adding to the chaos.

It was fortunate that within the Grotto Heaven, the Sunv Sect's female cultivators could also distract the opposition.

After Pei Hong and the others were previously clouded in mind and Divine Soul but not dazed, they naturally changed sides once the Evil Curse was lifted.

Obedying Zhong Ziyang's command without delay, they turned and charged towards Yin Susu, Xu Wenkai, and the others.

During the process, the thick yellow evil lake at Ying Qingdi's feet also reacted.

With "bubbling" sounds, lots of thick yellow tentacles, slimy and cold, emerged, attempting to drag the hundreds into the lake.

But strangely, whenever the tentacles touched the bodies of the hundreds,

Golden Light burst forth, scorching the tentacles.

In an instant, the hundreds safely crossed the Evil Lake and opened a new battlefield there.

Inside and outside the Evil Cave, the battle raged ceaselessly.

Seeing this scene, Zhong Ziyang, holding the Demon Suppressing Immortal Sword in one hand and the Linglong Gourd in the other, laughed out loud:

"Hahaha... you heartless Evil Beast, now do you recognize the power of my Sublime Taishang Dharma?"

"That Zhengyi Alliance Power Talisman can pacify the soul, shield against decay, and even remove all filth, with Evil being unable to invade—it's precisely the Destroyer of you, the offspring of the Evil God."

"Don't hurry; there's a certain fate today, and the one to take your life can be none other than me, Zhong Ziyang."

Before the words finished, Zhong Ziyang's Immortal Sword was already slashing towards Ying Qingdi's head.

Accompanied by a tearing sound, it was both the shredding of fabric and the slashing of flesh, as a large head flew into the air.

But in an instant, many thick yellow bloody tentacles burst violently from the neck, along with slippery mucus, trying to pull the head back to the body.

Zhong Ziyang, being close, of course did not allow it.

With several more sword strikes, he severed the tentacles.

Behind him, Tao Qian, Chen Xiyi, and Sun Xiaosheng, seeing this, laughed loudly and Riding Cloud approached, directly dragging Ying Qingdi's gigantic Evil body away.

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In that breath's time, the situation reversed once again.

Zhong Ziyang, wielding the Demon Suppressing Immortal Sword and fueled by both fresh grudges and old hatreds, though being a needle refiner by occupation and initially a practitioner from the Medical Family, had also mastered the Taishang Sword Skill quite proficiently. A flurry of chopping and slashing later, he had turned Ying Qingdi's huge beast-like head into something resembling a pus-yellow skull.

On the other side, the many cultivators, each harboring resentment, struck with extreme force. Utilizing various Divine Skills, they shattered that mountainous Evil Body into pieces, scattering corpse chunks across the sky.

The results of these two battles seemed to bring a sense of relief to everyone's mind.

It seemed as if the outcome was already decided?

The Ten Talents were supposed to be massacred, but successive arrivals of two key reinforcements ultimately turned the tide of the battle.

As long as they could continue like this, even if they couldn't kill Ying Qingdi, they could still seal him off in pieces and expel him from the country.

Under normal circumstances, that should have been the case.

However, at this moment, those strange cultivators from the peculiar sects such as the Divine Ear Sect, Ten Thousand Miles Sect, and Ting Di Sect, all showed an expression of unease.

Leading the pack this time was a monk in plain clothes, with a copper bell in hand.

This monk hailed from the Ting Di Sect and was known by the Dharma name "Secret-knowing".

He had an odd appearance, with a large mouth and nose and a face full of pockmarks, but his eyes brimmed with exceptional wisdom.

Instead of looking at the battlefield, the monk gazed at a rift above in the sky.

From within, a dense yellow Evil Light was still spilling out.

Furrowing his brow, he shook his head and said,

"Ying Qingdi has shed his humanity and the Ancestor Dragon Bloodline; he is now a pure-blooded descendant of the Evil God."

"He was already favored, and by now, he must be thoroughly marked by those 'Outer Realm Yellow Robes'. Unless we can instantly eradicate all of the Yellow Robed flesh and blood, there's no way to harm him—not by beheading and dismembering him, not even with the lingering death penalty."

"He's hard to kill, really hard to kill."

No sooner had Secret-knowing finished than the other strange cultivators nodded in agreement.

At that moment in the field, the situation took an unexpected turn.

Deafening explosions echoed simultaneously from both battlefronts, and two clouds of dense yellow like towering mushrooms burst forth.

It was those bits of flesh chopped off by Zhong Ziyang and the crowd, as well as the Dharma Body chunks, that had all suddenly exploded.

Suddenly, the sky turned dark, forcing the cultivators to retreat.

Initially, it was believed that Ying Qingdi had resorted to such tactics out of desperation, in a self-destructive gambit.

Unexpectedly, after the nauseating yellow fog had dissipated, that sticky, cold Evil Lake of blood and flesh still hung in the sky.

Like the tide surging forth, a new "Ying Qingdi" slowly crawled out from the bottom of the lake.

The smooth, supple Yellow Robe, clung to his body as if it were part of his flesh.

Neither his vital force nor anything else seemed diminished in the slightest.

Upon witnessing this scene, the expressions of everyone, including Tao Qian, turned sour.

Mei Su, Sun Xiaosheng, and a few others were also astonished.

It was as if they were meeting such a formidable opponent for the first time. The Fangcun Golden Ape scratched its head, somewhat annoyed, and said,

"This fellow, could he have refined an Undying Body, much stronger than even my Golden Ape Body?"

"Had I known he would be this troublesome, I would have visited Master's Treasure Vault before leaving, and stolen ancient treasures like the Life-terminating Nails and the Life-breaking Hammer, and hammered and drilled into his head, ensuring he met his life's end."

The Golden Ape spoke fiercely and acted impulsively, but it seemed to understand a bit of Ying Qingdi's essence.

Meanwhile, in the field, the two individuals, Tao Qian—who had Spiritual Vision—and Mei Su—who had formed the Taiqing Dharma Eye—were looking at the top of Ying Qingdi's head.

The rift connected to it above, continuously transmitting the fundamental Divine Power of the Outer Realm Yellow Robes to him.

Although because of the world's barriers, Ying Qingdi couldn't break his limits, nor could additional projections or avatars be sent to him, ensuring the invincibility of their offspring was quite simple.

A fierce battle!

Tao Qian, Zhong Ziyang, and the others used all their skills and exhausted their Divine Skills, but they couldn't do anything to Ying Qingdi.

How could they fight this?

As everyone contemplated in shock and confusion, they then saw Ying Qingdi, who had just climbed out from the lake bottom, not immediately attacking again.

Instead, he opened his pair of cold and gloomy eyes, staring at everyone with a sinister smile.

Each person he made eye contact with felt waves of bone-chilling Evil Qi uncontrollably sprouting forth.

Everyone present had extremely high Cultivation and were quick-witted and discerning.

At this moment, as they made eye contact with Ying Qingdi,

All of them felt their hearts sink, a foreboding doom they couldn't imagine rose within them.

Tao Qian reacted the most violently, thoughts raging in his mind:

"This is bad, have we overlooked some crucial matter?"

"What is it? Although Ying Qingdi can be considered Undying by now, he can at most be in the Ultimate Happiness Realm, so he shouldn't be able to kill us all at once. Devil Gods, Taiping, Heavenly Corpse, these Evil Demons are handled by Pei Hong and hundreds of other cultivators, while a few juniors cooperate with Beichan inside the Evil Cave, and the Xuan Dao Sect... As long as we hold on, we should be secure."

"Damn it, what have we overlooked?"

"It must be the influence of the Yellow Robe's Extraordinary Power!"

"This power which deliberately makes one overlook glaringly obvious signs and matters, after Ying Qingdi cut off his humanity, the emergence and Power of this Extraordinary Force will probably become more and more exaggerated..."

As these thoughts surged, Tao Qian almost went mad with urgency.

He was aware that he had neglected something crucial, which was an enhancement given by his Spirit Treasure Sublime Body.

But what exactly was it?

In the moment, it was hard to think it through.

Yet, regarding his own life and the fate of the New Moon People, he had to think of a solution even if it seemed impossible.

The more he furrowed his brow, the more frantic he became, and just as he was about to give up,

The tremendously vast Human Dao Destiny within him suddenly sprang into action, driven by Fate. The Yu Ding and the Valley God Gui transformed into two beams of Spirit Light and shot towards him.

With the flashing of the Spirit Light, Tao Qian was suddenly jolted awake.

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Immediately, a pair of eyes furiously locked onto the depths of the pus-yellow Evil Lake.

There should have been nothing, only the water of the lake.

But at that moment, reflected in Tao Qian's eyes was an immensely huge figure that everyone should have been able to see and identify.

Yang Longxi!

To be precise, it was the Evil Dragon transformed from Yang Longxi's birthing infant body.

It was nearly the Dharma Body of a monstrous dragon from the Ultimate Happiness Realm, which not long ago had almost defeated the combined attack of the Ancestor Dragon Society.

But later, Ying Qingdi revealed his true colors, using the Outer Realm treasure, Yellow Heaven Evil Mirror, to ambush Yang Longxi, borrowing his foster father's Divine Power to suppress and subjugate him.

Such an existence, so enormous.

And yet, it had been overlooked by everyone.

Now reminded by the Human Dao Fortune, when Tao Qian saw through the yellow mist barrier and finally saw the current state of the Evil Dragon Dharma Body, he understood what everyone, including himself, had ignored?

At the bottom of the lake, Yang Longxi was howling miserably, screaming in agony.

His Evil Dragon Dharma Body was hoisted up by an irresistible Extraordinary Power, with all its orifices forcibly opened, including the rear and mouth orifices.

A tremendously thick, hollow meat pillar extended from the gaping hole atop Ying Qingdi's head, forcibly filling that dragon mouth and, accompanied by gurgling sounds, seemed to be pouring some unknown pus-like liquid into that Dharma Body... Additionally, Yellow Robed Attendants wielding steel needles were busily encircling the body, tending to it.

The cold, slimy pus eroded the Evil Dragon Dharma Body, solidifying into countless Yellow Robed Evil Seals.

The already ugly Evil Dragon, tortured in such a manner, changed its appearance yet again.

Its abdomen swelled, and its skin and flesh burst open.

The filthy secret chamber used for excretion was gradually modified for birthing...

Originally subdued, Yang Longxi had accepted his fate.

Handled by Ying Qingdi, there should have been no movements.

But at this moment, the laments and roars of this Daoist Transformation Realm old monster, an alchemist, were continuously transmitted from the Outer Realm Secret Realm.

"No! Don't even think about it! I swear I will not submit."

"I am Dragon God Ancestor, I've already compensated you with one infant body for harming your Descendant, what more do you want?"

"One is not enough, I can at most give you another one, how can you demand, I compensate you with a hundred?"

"I won't compensate, not even if it kills me."

"Ahhhhhh..."

"It tortures me so!"

"No more, I'll compensate, I'll compensate indeed."

The last sentence of Yang Longxi's conceded plea for mercy came from the Outer Realm.

Tao Qian's expression suddenly changed, and he urgently shouted to everyone:

"This is bad!"

"Ying Qingdi is buying time, the will of the Yellow Robed Evil God is forcing Yang Longxi to birth more infants..."

Hearing Tao Qian's warning, the cultivators were also shocked.

But when they widened their eyes to look, they couldn't find anything, even Mei Su who had cultivated the Taiqing Dharma Eye, and Sun Xiaosheng who possessed Golden Eyes, were completely baffled.

Seeing this, Tao Qian grew even more anxious.

The Yellow Robed Will of the Outer Realm was too sly; even though Tao Qian had mentioned the name Yang Longxi, the cultivators had already forgotten and could see nothing.

Fortunately, Tao Qian quickly reached for Yu Ding.

He fiercely slapped his palms on this treasure that reacted to "Human Dao Fortune," and with the sound of a great bell, the fortune was urged, and the yellow mist barrier dissipated instantly.

The bizarre scene at the bottom of the lake penetrated everyone's eyes.

All the cultivators subconsciously rushed to stop it.

Unfortunately, it was too late.

The body of Yang Longxi, now forcibly transformed into a "Mother Dragon," let out a painful cry.

The secret chamber opened wide, and the infants wrapped in flesh membranes slid out smoothly, pattering down.

They floated and settled at the bottom of the lake.

Each infant embodied immense Mana.

Above the Cavernous Mystery, beneath Ultimate Happiness.

In that instant, Yang Longxi birthed dozens of them into the lake's depths.

Even the strange cultivators from the Divine Ear Sect and Ting Di Sect, who had seen countless bizarre and wondrous things, were stunned at the sight.

The colorful-robed, long-eared cultivator with a flag exclaimed with widened eyes:

"Has Yang Longxi gone mad?"

"Even as a Daoist Transformation old monster, those infants stem from the essence of his very origin, birthing so many at once, even he must be grievously harmed. Heard that Yang Longxi is at a critical

juncture, suddenly being exploited like this, let alone facing a Cultivation Tribulation Immortal, he might even lose his very life."

Having said that, another peculiar cultivator chimed in.

An elder from the Ten Thousand Miles Sect, dressed in a Red Robe, completely bald and smooth as jade, yet with a body covered in mouths, which was quite eerie.

One of the mouths spoke:

"He has no choice!"

"Previously when his Dharma Body was ambushed by Ying Qingdi, the Yellow Robed Will used the Evil Mirror as a medium to infiltrate the Dragon Rhino Ancestor's Ten Thousand Dragon Secret Realm."

"The difference in cultivation was too great, even if it was just a will, Dragon Rhino Ancestor could not resist."

"If he submits, he might have a sliver of survival."

"Before, I was wondering why, despite being of Pure Blood, Ying Qingdi could easily call upon his father's will. Although we couldn't borrow a projection clone, Divine Power Treasures and the like should be readily available to him. Why would he be driven into such a state by the Talents surrounding him?"

"Now I understand, he didn't call because there was no need."

"The gift from his father, it's already arrived."

As if to prove the words of this cultivator.

The Talents who rushed out halfway, those Yellow Robed Attendants at the lake bottom had already taken action.

At this moment, they were no longer hypocritically calling out "Ancestor Dragon."

From beneath the Blood Flesh Yellow Robes, there came the rustling whispers, and one after another, they shed their tattered Yellow Robes, revealing their ugly true bodies, transforming into soft-bodied evil entities, tearing open the flesh membranes and burrowing into the infant bodies.

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Accompanied by a series of primal screams, each infant burst into an evil light.

Inside the halo, the grotesque Evil Dragon Infant began to transform.

Visible to the naked eye, they turned into incredibly sacred figures with extraordinary charm.

Had they become human? Monks? Buddha?

They were clad in soft, dull yellow robes.

Behind their heads, hung round after round of sacred halos, like the afterglow of a setting sun.

Anyone who saw them would think first: Great Sage! Great Divine Power!

"Yellow Robed Lamas!"

Tao Qian exclaimed somewhat unsteadily.

At this moment, he suddenly recalled from Wei Ziyuan about the Yellow Robed Seductive Spirit, the many secrets she knew.

One of which, the man called the Outer Realm Yellow Robe by Ying Qingdi, seemed to have once been a Yellow Robed Lama walking through Zhao Family Village.

And now, at the bottom of the lake, how many could there be?

Feeling as if the situation was already decided, above the Evil Lake, Ying Qingdi, who had formerly viewed all cultivators with hostility and murderous intent,

his expression bizarrely transformed into one of sacred compassion.

Then, he said something that made everyone want to vomit.

He looked down at Shangyang City, at New Moon Province, at Longevity Heavenly Dynasty, full of pity, he said,

"Green Emperor's last wish, all people of this world, spared from illness, spared from calamity."

"I beseech my father, and father agrees, to grant one hundred Divine Communication Lamas, who will patrol day and night, chanting 'Yellow Robed Secret Scroll·Ascension Volume.'"

"Rather than everyone transforming into dragons, let everyone chant my father's name, understand destiny through Ascension, hear the Dao and achieve Divine Communication, enjoy Longevity."

When Ying Qingdi finished speaking,

Tao Qian and others all felt a sense of apocalyptic despair.

The next moment, that premonition seemed to become reality.

Yang Longxi continued to wail miserably and give birth to infants,

and those earlier born Yellow Robed Lamas uniformly rose, the Evil Lake parted, guarding this group of monks emerging like great sages, with an intimidating aura.

They stood on the lake's surface, surrounding Ying Qingdi.

With sacred radiance and under their yellow robes, suddenly appeared pairs of eyes full of wisdom, like dim suns.

They bowed to everyone present and chanted,

"Everyone can Ascend! Know destiny! Hear the Dao! Achieve Divine Communication! Enjoy Longevity..."

As their words fell, those dozens of lamas each transformed into a rainbow, about to head to various towns and counties of New Moon Province.

Seeing this, Tao Qian immediately shouted,

"Quick, stop them."

"These lamas will mutate the entire province."

Even without Tao Qian's reminder, everyone instinctively started to intercept.

Even Shi Yingqiong, who had been waiting for an invitation from the Ancestor Dragon Society.

She didn't care about anything else, directly summoning her Magic Sword, Shaoqing Sword Evil filling the sky, intending to block the five lamas in her vicinity.

Those different cultivators, who thought they knew everything,

were still left feeling terrified by these developments, these Yellow Robed Lamas chanting "Yellow Heaven Secret Scroll·Ascension Volume," and felt utterly defeated.

"Abnormal, so abnormal."

"What was supposed to be a revolutionary rebellion of good versus evil, how did it turn into this?"

"There's going to be trouble, this time it really might be a big problem."

"I had previously heard that it was the Old Monster Yang Longxi using plots here, wanting to spread his Dragon Rhino Dao Power and turn the millions of people in New Moon into Dragon Beast infants, to be his Dragon Sons and Grandsons... This could still be controlled, at worst it would be a disaster for New Moon Province, and such mutation might be reversible."

"But now called the spread of contamination by Outer Realm Evil Gods, it's completely different."

"Those Yellow Robed Lamas, each with a terrifying cultivation, if they go to any city, just chanting 'Yellow Heaven Secret Scroll·Ascension Volume' once, can mutate everyone into the servants of evil gods within a short time, such a huge number, unless Taishang Dao, Spirit Treasure Sect sends out true powerful cultivators, it will never be reversed."

"That Ying Qingdi, probably highly favored by his father, clearly trying to create an Earthly Divine Kingdom for him."

Chapter 556 - Ziyang Becomes a Fallen Demon, Yuanzhen Restores Life

The miasma broke away, and the situation changed abruptly.

The matter overlooked by everyone emerged, yet it was fundamentally unstoppable, and in a moment, the evil consequences were brewed.

Yang Longxi's compensation was fast and satisfactory.

Dozens of Yellow Robed Lamas!

Setting aside the part that had yet to be born, just these were enough to annihilate all the cultivators present.

Yet they did not take action to kill, they all headed to various parts of New Moon Province.

The cultivators made moves to intercept, but each of the lama group was both strong and slippery, and they did not linger in battle.

Save for a few who managed to stop a number of lamas, the rest all escaped.

This outcome immediately caused everyone present to be dumbfounded with shock.

The Mei Su Daoist, who had successfully apprehended a lama, now wore no joy on his face, frowning deeply.

He had previously thought that his trip to New Moon Province was just a routine call for assistance from his junior brother, and he had not anticipated it being this troublesome.

He threw out a cover-shaped treasure, trapping the Yellow Robed Lama, then expelled mana, inciting the Dao Fire Divine Flame to burst forth from within.

But the lama was strong, sat down cross-legged, and directly chanted the Ascending Mysterious Evil Scripture.

A ring of yellow light actually kept all the divine flames completely blocked outside.

Seeing this, the Mei Su Daoist was not surprised, and he spoke loudly to everyone,

"Fellow Daoists, Junior Brother Zhong, don't be too hard on yourselves and damage your Dao Heart without reason."

"This matter is not your fault; those Outer Realm Yellow Robes are powerful evil gods from the Great Abyss, beings of the same tier as our sect's Taishang Dao Ancestor."

"They have billions of offspring, and no one could have expected they would cherish Ying Qingdi's son to this degree."

"These pure blooded descendants of evil gods are difficult to kill by nature, and if there was an expert in Daoist Transformation from the Daoist and Buddhist Major Sects present, perhaps one could have utilized sublime dharma to kill it beforehand."

"But for the likes of us who have yet to achieve the Dao, throughout ancient and modern times, the common practice has been 'expulsion'."

"I see that this wretch, borrowing the will of his original form and the merits of New Moon's reformation, has already obtained immense fortune in this province and is beloved by the people; hence, even the method of expulsion may be difficult to carry out... our only option now is to retreat first and then call for reinforcements."

"Here we have Taishang Dao, Fangcun Mountain, Canxuan Sect, Spirit Treasure Sect, Shaoqing Sect, and many other Daoist friends; send your Cloud Scrolls back to your sects, and if you can call upon powerful sect leaders, this disaster can surely be resolved."

"If not, we will have done our utmost."

What Mei Su said was not without reason.

Anyone with a bit of sense knew that this was all they could do now.

Otherwise, they could only die here, all of them.

Others see them as prodigies of great sects, as if they should not die, as if death were not an option.

But does the world truly operate on such principles?

If sects like Taishang Dao truly had such omnipotence, why would the Longevity Heavenly Dynasty have fallen to such a state?

In this world, earth-shattering events are unfolding at every moment.

Even the Outer Realm Evil Gods can perish, turning into corpses that fall from the sky.

These young cultivators, why should they not meet death?

Divine Ear Sect, Ting Di Sect, and Ten Thousand Miles Sect's strange cultivators also nodded in agreement upon hearing this,

"Pure blood descendants of evil gods are indeed difficult to kill, and if they are favored, they are nearly impossible to kill."

"Everyone should retreat quickly, and call for your masters to dispel the disaster."

"As for the millions of mortals here... alas, that is simply fate, beyond anyone's control."

"After the barrier collapses, the calamities that each province will face are more terrifying than the last; without anyone to turn the tide, the nearly one hundred billion population of the Longevity Heavenly Dynasty may lose half or even more, and it wouldn't be impossible for us to revert to the ancient times of ignorance and ferocity."

"We heard that a reincarnated Ancestor Dragon emerged in New Moon Province and came especially to see, but unexpectedly, not only is it a fraud, but it's even contributing to a disaster."

As these words spread, although the cultivators were reluctant at heart, indeed some began to waver.

Even the Yuan Gong in Tao Qian's arms transmitted a message to him at this moment,

"Lad, listen to this junior from Taishang Dao."

"Even Old Ape misjudged, no, I was deceived by the foundational Qi power of that Yellow Robe."

"Most evil gods from the Great Abyss have billions of offspring, and their most cherished special offspring receive exceptional care."

"How could you young ones possibly contend? Being able to coincidentally overcome the first level of the Outer Realm Yellow Robe's wishes was already a testament to your extraordinary methods."

"Now that the Outer Realm Yellow Robe has shed its pride and, though not personally making a move, forced a Daoist Transformation cultivator to make compensation, it has provided enough benefits for its offspring to use their fierce evil techniques."

"I know you are kind-hearted, but you also must not blame yourself too much. Long ago, I wanted to remind you that this realm has never been a place of peace and beauty, not even during the two thousand years when the Ancestor Dragon created the Ancestor God Forbidden Techniques, the lives of the mortal people didn't actually improve much."

"Now that the forbidden technique is broken, the world is bound to become worse; do you think sects like Taishang Dao, Spirit Treasure Sect, and Great Freedom will be able to hold on for long... cough cough, in short, if you continue to harbor thoughts of 'saving suffering mortals' and 'exterminating evil demons', you may not be far from obsession leading to madness and the collapse of your Dao Heart."

"Although you cultivate the Scripture of Salvation, you can't even save yourself now, so who can you save?"

...

Indeed!

Whether it was Mei Su, those strange cultivators who knew many secrets, or Yuan Gong in his arms.

What they said was sound and made perfect sense.

Even the steadfast Daoists like Chen Xiyi and Qi Daozhen, though deeply despondent after hearing it, had already planned to retreat first and then come back to resolve the calamity.

However, the so-called uninterested speaker may provoke deep thoughts in the listener.

There were two people who, after hearing and seeing all this, reacted differently.

One was Zhong Ziyang!

At this moment, he knew that the catastrophe had occurred, not only would the Ancestor Dragon Society be finished, but New Moon Province would follow suit.

Listening to the words like "original will", "New Moon innovation", "beloved by the people", "deceiving the world", "fated so", every word seemed like a blade, piercing into his body, gouging at his heart.

His face had already become twisted, staring intently at Ying Qingdi wrapped in a Yellow Robe.

Muttering,

"How could this happen? How could this be?"

"Without my full support, would New Moon Province have fallen to this state?"

"No!"

"It's my fault, it's Ying Qingdi's fault, it's both of our faults."

Saying this, in Zhong Ziyang's mind, vividly were the imagined scenes within each city in New Moon Province at this moment.

Those city-dwelling mortals, they knew nothing at all.

Millions of them were all immersed in the joy that the Ancestor Dragon Society's Immortals' rebellion had succeeded, and good days were coming.

They were all looking forward to the future, perhaps everyone had already set up a Longevity Tablet for Zhong Ziyang, Ying Qingdi, and others in their own homes.

They had no food or treasure to offer as Tribute, but a small offering, night and day incense, sincere blessings would not be lacking.

In such an atmosphere!

Those who pretended to be saints, the Yellow Robed Lamas, descended one after another, chanting the so-called "Yellow Heaven Secret Scroll·Ascension Volume," and within one day, perhaps they could turn the entire population of New Moon Province, millions of people, into those ugly, nauseating, mindless servants.

And the mastermind behind all this, the chief culprit, was him, Zhong Ziyang.

Earlier, Zhong Ziyang's Dao Heart had been damaged upon learning of Ying Qingdi's true nature and remained unhealed.

At this moment, as his thoughts reached this point, this disciple of Taishang Dao who was originally a medical practitioner and had saved countless lives, could no longer hold on.

He mutated and became a Fallen Demon in an instant.

On the surface of his Taoist Body, visible to the naked eye, ominous white hair wildly sprouted.

In a flash, it seemed as though another white-haired Ghost Zombie had emerged in the arena.

As Zhong Ziyang's senior brother, Daoist Mei Su naturally noticed first, his face abruptly changing, showing a rare loss of composure.

"Not good, Ziyang has mutated."

"How can this be? This is impossible, Junior Brother Ziyang, a Taoist Doctor of dual cultivation, is the least likely to become a Fallen Demon..."

Despite his disbelief, Mei Su still moved with the fastest speed to appear in front of Zhong Ziyang.

One hand formed a Dao Seal, ready to strike at Zhong Ziyang's brow center.

The other hand simply snatched away the Demon Suppressing Immortal Sword, the blade turning, ready to pierce Zhong Ziyang's Taoist Body.

This Immortal Sword, not only could suppress demons, but also had the remarkable effect of saving Fallen Demon Practitioners.

But in the next moment!

Both his actions were obstructed.

Zhong Ziyang's white hair fiercely converged, with a clang blocking the Demon Suppressing Immortal Sword; these white hairs were not only a sign of mutation but also possessed power similar to the "Yin-Yang Micro Dust Needle."

And Mei Su's Dao Seal was blocked by another entity.

That thing!

It overflowed from Zhong Ziyang's brow center, appearing to be an ancient and faint Daoist Heart Lamp.

Only the lamp flame was scarlet.

Flickering Flashing, infinitely sinister.

When this Heart Lamp appeared, Zhong Ziyang, originally at the Perfection of Cavernous Mystery with severe injuries, completely transformed.

Not only were his injuries fully healed, but the Qi within his body also crazily surged.

In a moment, he completely transcended the threshold of "Ultimate Happiness Realm."

A breakthrough on the spot?

This should have been a joyful event, but looking at Daoist Mei Su's expression now.

How could it be just ugly?

It seemed he saw a prospect that even he found desperate, with anger, self-blame, and confusion all rising in his eyes.

He stared blankly at the Heart Lamp, lamenting,

"Junior brother, why must you do this?"

"You have mutated into a Fallen Demon, but your senior brother still has a Magic Skill to save you."

"But now that you have summoned the 'Taishang Primordial Life Returning Lamp,' not even the Sect Master can save you. How should I explain this to our master, how to our Sect?"

As Mei Su spoke, he still wanted to do something.

Sadly, at this moment, he was no match for his junior brother.

Zhong Ziyang with a mere wave of his hand, White Needles burst forth in the tens of thousands, instantly setting up an enormous and fierce "Yin-Yang Micro Dust Array," directly pushing Mei Su away.

At the same time, a hoarse, sinister voice rose:

"Senior brother, do you know that the great disaster of sin here should not have happened."

"It was I, Zhong Ziyang, who was blind, not seeing through Brother Green Emperor's bloodline origin."

"There were so many signs earlier, all of which I neglected."

"I am the chief culprit with Ying Qingdi."

"I have made a vow to kill him."

"You can leave, but I, Zhong Ziyang, cannot."

"Let's die, let's die together."

...

Muttering, Zhong Ziyang, who had become exceedingly sinister, did not wait for Mei Su to reply.

He reached out to hold the Heart Lamp, turned around to face Ying Qingdi in the pus-yellow Evil Lake.

Step by step he walked over, white hair wildly sprouting from his body, then falling off, turning into "Yin-Yang Micro Dust Needles," merging into the Big Array.

In just a couple of breaths, the number of white micro dust needles climbed to a million.

The power of this Array was unimaginable.

When Zhong Ziyang stepped into the Evil Lake without any regard,

The Linglong Gourd in his other hand suddenly exploded, and sixteen thousand White Needles he refined with his Essence Blood swarmed out, then each slowly, piercing into Zhong Ziyang's body.

During this process, a scream chilling enough to make anyone's blood run cold echoed.

This was torture!

It was the punishment torture Zhong Ziyang imposed on himself.

The White Needles were originally snow-white.

At this moment, they were stained with blood.

When the sixteen thousand White Needles pierced through Zhong Ziyang's body, broke through, and carried the mutated Essence Blood into the massive Array,

The Yin-Yang Micro Dust Array instantly became a blood Array.

An unimaginable scarlet Qi directly tinted the three thousand miles around Shangyang City crimson.

Zhong Ziyang, grinning madly, carried the Array and charged at Ying Qingdi.

"Brother Green Emperor!"

"Come, let's die together, let this life be returned."

Chapter 557 - Yuan Gong Reveals the Heavenly Mechanism, Tao Qian Advances to Cavernous Mystery

As a true practitioner of the Taishang Dao, one cultivates the life-bound True Method and refines the powers to prove Divine Abilities. One should be untouchable by evil demons, and falling to demonhood should be difficult.

Yet once one truly falls and mutates, it becomes very hard to stop.

Zhong Ziyang had entered such a state.

His Dao heart suffered continuous damage and completely shattered, vowing to slay Ying Qingdi.

Daoist Mei Su had intended to forcibly take Zhong Ziyang away, but the latter suddenly employed a secret technique, erupting in power without regard for the cost, and in a single effort stepped into the Ultimate Happiness Realm. Daoist Mei Su, his senior brother, was no longer his match.

Especially that lamp with leaping scarlet flames, the "Heart Lamp" that had not yet unleashed its power, had already turned three thousand miles of territory bright red.

The few strange cultivators exclaimed in shock,

"Taishang Primordial Life Returning Lamp!"

"This lamp condenses the cultivator's Dao Body Dharma Body, primal essence, True Spirit and true nature... Once invoked, mana surges and Divine Skills become invincible. Cultivators below the Daoist Transformation Realm who used this method could even instantly cross a major boundary, but after using this method, one would eventually reach the point where the oil is exhausted and the lamp withered, then true death of the body and vanishing of the Dao ensues, with reincarnation becoming difficult."

"It is said that if a cultivator in the Daoist Transformation Realm uses this method, they could directly channel mana from their past life to enhance themselves. Although they cannot contend with a Tribulation Immortal, they should be invincible among their peers."

"This is a secret technique of the Taishang Dao, I've heard of it but never seen anyone use it."

"Alas, Daoist Zhong's Dao heart has collapsed, leaving only a single vow. Unless he dies, no one can stop him."

...

While they divulged these secrets,

inside that scarlet sky, an unprecedented battleground unfolded.

These two were once like close confidants who understood each other as mountains and rivers do.

But now, they gambled with each other's lives.

On one side, Ziyang wielded his lamp, his body sprouting White Needles, and the already incomparable "Yin - Yang Micro Dust Array" rapidly expanded, grinding everything it passed into powder, scattering into the void.

On the other side, Ying Qingdi shed his clothes, revealing the true form of an Evil God's offspring. His body of Chaos flesh larger than mountains, with suppurating yellow eyes and meat pillar tentacles, was surrounded by a vast Evil Lake ocean, whose icy tides surged violently, brazenly crashing against the notorious aggressive array of the Taishang Dao.

For a moment, scarlet blood mist spread, needles flew chaotically, and flesh soared through the air.

No matter who it was or which side they were on, they could not get close.

Entering their midst was no different from seeking death.

Even Daoist Mei Su and the Fangcun Golden Ape had to retreat.

The little monkey loved to fight and was itching to join, but he was keenly aware that the two figures entangled in battle had feelings and resentments that did not allow for outsiders' interference.

Holding a dark gold staff, he scratched his head and said,

"What a pity, such a good opportunity for refining, yet I cannot participate."

"If I rashly interfere, I might end up being targeted by both of them. It's easy to fight that stinking pus-filled scab of a fish, but Brother Ziyang is now too fierce. If I get ground by his array, I might have all my golden fur stripped off. Not worth it, definitely not worth it."

Seeing how tense the situation was, everyone knew of the monkey's unruly nature and so left him alone.

While the two were fighting fiercely, Yuan Gong, who had watched the entire process from Tao Qian's embrace, sighed and once again transmitted his thoughts:

"Evil Gods are all disasters."

"That Zhong Ziyang, a cultivator and Daoist Doctor, was a talent of the Daoist sect and would surely step into the Ultimate Happiness, even having great hope for the Daoist Transformation Realm. Now it is truly a waste to perish here, despite the grandeur of the Taishang Daoist sect, this would surely bring them great grief."

"Young fellow, you should also leave quickly. Find a territory to make your breakthrough into the Cavernous Mystery first..."

Perhaps distracted by the shocking battle, Yuan Gong suddenly realized halfway through his statement.

His precious disciple had also undergone a major change.

Previously, two people had reacted very differently, one was Zhong Ziyang.

The other was Tao Qian.

Just Yuan Gong's phrase "If you can't save yourself, how can you save others?" was like a spark falling into an oil pan.

Completely igniting Tao Qian's spirit.

He, like Zhong Ziyang, couldn't accept it and instantly fell into demonhood, muttering to himself,

"It's too late, much too late."

"What am I cultivating, this 'Scripture of Salvation'? Stubborn and indecisive, if I cannot save myself, how can I think to save the people of this world?"

"Perhaps I should return to the mountains. Living in this mundane world only brings pain to myself and misfortune to the people. If I return to the mountains to participate in the ultimate battles, perhaps there's still a glimmer of hope..."

If there were anyone familiar with Tao Qian's experience here,

seeing his state, they would be shocked.

Usually thick-skinned and shameless,

he should not have fallen into demonhood due to self-blame.

Yet it happened to Tao Qian.

At this moment, the commotion inside his body was also quite strange.

It seemed like a transformation as well as a breakthrough.

Hideous mutations constantly sprouted on his body's surface, and although these signs of mutation were being extinguished by the Spirit Treasure Sublime Body, the source continued inexhaustibly. Especially as he seemed to have fallen into deep self-reproach, his features twisted and ferocious.

And within him, the immense human Dao fortune was like a flame in a furnace, generating the karma of all people, baking Tao Qian's spirit and soul.

The situation worsened as those Hundred Yellow Robed Lamas recited evil scriptures, transforming servants and followers, causing more and more human Dao fortune to pour into the Ancestor Dragon Society, especially Tao Qian's.

Different from the past, the fortune now was toxic; the fire of karma had become an all-consuming blaze, scorching Tao Qian's body and soul.

Such a punishment!

Seemingly casually mentioned with no alarming signs, in reality, the pain was not the slightest bit less than the torture Zhong Ziyang had inflicted upon himself by inserting one hundred and sixty thousand White Needles into his body to draw blood.

Chapter 558 - Yuan Gong Reveals the Heavenly Mechanism, Tao Qian Advances to Cavernous Mystery

How very strange it was that, just as Tao Qian's soul wailed under the roasting of karmic fire, the mana within his body wildly surged, as if sensing the crisis. It continued to batter against the threshold of the realm, attempting to propel Tao Qian into the Cavernous Mystery Realm.

Yuan Gong, halfway through speaking, finally sensed Tao Qian's condition through the Spirit Treasure Sublime Body, exclaiming in shock and anger:

"Dao Body Transformation, karma steams and bakes."

"How could this lad be so foolish?"

As a senior elder of the Secret Demon Sect, Yuan Gong naturally had insights that Tao Qian could not match.

He had been closely following the events, reviewing the causes and consequences, and suddenly understood the reason.

Yuan Gong instinctively thought to use Sword Intent, to directly rid Tao Qian of his Heart Demon and mutated impurities, but soon realized that Tao Qian's situation differed from that of Zhong Ziyang.

The latter had suffered a collapse of the Dao Heart, completely becoming a Fallen Demon.

Yet within Tao Qian, there ensued a peculiar tug-of-war, a stalemate.

"Tormented by self-blame for failing to prevent the disaster, doubting the path he cultivated, compounded by the backlash of Human Dao Destiny, thus mutated into a demon. However, the Spirit Treasure Sublime Body is the paramount Demon Extinguishing Dao Body in the world, coupled with the lad's uncanny talent that seems to exempt him from consequences, has indeed formed a situation of tangled negation."

"If I unsheath my sword, I fear I might disrupt the deadlock, and the outcome of misfortune or fortune is uncertain."

This thought plunged Yuan Gong into helplessness.

Unable to rashly strike with his sword, he resorted to casting a Magic Skill, shouting into the soul:

"Foolish child, quickly awaken."

"What has this calamity to do with you? Do not flatter yourself. Having contributed some earlier, you think the world cannot do without you, thinking you can solve all the disasters and suffering you see?"

"Tsk, look at yourself in the Round Light Illusion Mirror, are you worthy?"

"I've heard you boast about the affairs in Southern Yue, thinking you're quick-witted enough to counter-kill Bai Qin, not realizing it was Bai Qin who chose his death knowingly, first creating karma then refining it to clear a separate path. In this world, nothing comes so cheaply. without you, Tao Qian, someone else like Li Qian or Zhu Qian would emerge to take those Buddha Bird Relics."

"And about those matters in Penglai Sea, your fellow sect members praising you, your aunts and sisters adoring you, are merely because of Duobao."

"That upheaval in Demon City, the Yang Sui Uprising, do you think the primary credit should be yours? Wrong, the primary credit belongs to the 'Mountain and River Map', the Ancestor Spirit sacrificed its life for this success, the honors inadvertently fell upon you and you assumed yourself truly to be the First Heavenly Pride of the Daoist sect? When has there ever been a First Heavenly Pride in the Transcend Mortality Realm?"

"Do not wear an undeserved high hat, come to your senses, recognize your own Cultivation Realm, finding a quiet place to cultivate is the proper course..."

In an attempt to awaken Tao Qian, Yuan Gong couldn't help but rant and scold extensively.

Sadly, it proved futile.

These words seemed false and utterly failed to awaken his own disciple.

Yuan Gong's statue trembled slightly, cursing inwardly: "Is this boy so narcissistic?"

Quickly realizing it wasn't because Tao Qian was narcissistic.

Rather, these achievements had indeed been recognized by Human Dao Destiny, indisputable by anyone.

With no other choice, Yuan Gong could only silently appeal to a majestic figure amidst the obscurity:

"Lingbao Tianzun above, it is not that Old Ape wishes to spoil your arrangements, nor do I disbelieve your predictive planning."

"You have seen it yourself, this lad, though his talent and qualifications are indeed top-notch, the backlash from Human Dao Destiny is not easily defied. The Primordial Sect, those devious bastards, have botched it many times. I heard that in your Penglai Sea, a certain Qin Jiao also botched it, which shows this stuff, despite its many benefits, can easily burn oneself."

"If we allow the karma to continue baking him, even if this lad recovers, his mental state will be damaged, too big of a loss."

"I, Old Ape, we of the Secret Demon Sect, it's not easy finding a suitable Secret Demon Child, and it shouldn't be wasted here, forgive, forgive."

Having prattled on, Yuan Gong purposely waited for a moment, and encountering no anomalies.

He then immediately addressed Tao Qian, sending a message into his soul, shouting:

"Foolish child, awaken swiftly."

"Do not overly blame yourself, the calamity here results from the actions of those from the Outer Realm in Yellow Robes, fate decreed as such, even the True Inheritors of the Taishang Dao would be damaged here, nothing you do can avoid it."

"Did you think by calling ahead for Ma Yi, Duobao, Bai Yin, it would mitigate this disaster?"

"It's merely delusional talk; not to mention even I am influenced by the deception of the Yellow Robed Origin Divine Qi, can you, a mere Transcend Mortality Cultivator, exempt yourself? It's not that you didn't want to call, it's that you were invisibly influenced, subconsciously delaying and resisting... not even possessing this tactic, how could those from the Outer Realm in Yellow Robes stand equal to the Taishang Dao Ancestor?"

"It's not bad that you didn't call people here. Although this New Moon Province has suffered, as long as you escape to spread the message, the great sects like Taishang Dao, Primordial Sect, Fangcun Mountain acting together, there's still a glimmer of hope for the survival of Everyone."

"Had you actually called those few, given how much Ying Qingdi is favored, your Spirit Treasure Sect might face a catastrophe... advancing things by decades, calling people to help or to kill Evil God's Descendants would not matter."

"But right now, you must not. Once the Ancestor God Forbidden Techniques are broken, all the Evil Gods from Outer Realms will invade crazily, I reckon Duobao, Ma Yi, and those people each have critical responsibilities; even if you want to call them, they probably cannot come, and if they truly come, it might give those from the Outer Realm in Yellow Robes an opportunity to find a vulnerability in your Spirit Treasure Mountain Gate, play tricks and destroy your Dao Heritage."

"Don't be skeptical, the reason why the Primordial Sect fell apart in the past was precisely because an old cultivator who sought to use the Human Dao Fortune for cultivation hastily sought help after facing a

catastrophe, which triggered a chain reaction. Within a few years, it implicated and led to the death of tens of true cultivators of the Primordial Sect, eventually forcing the sect to dissolve and retreat from the world."

"Your master Lingbao Tianzun passed on the 'Scripture of Salvation' to you and threw you into the mortal world, hoping that you would temper your Dao Heart and come to understand that even the movements of heaven and earth, the sun, the moon, and the five stars, also have their end and their fluctuations."

"Not only does cultivation have a price, but everything in this mundane world also has its cost."

"Still unable to comprehend? Wake up quickly."

To awaken Tao Qian, Yuan Gong nagged for the first time.

Changing his approach, he tried to relieve Tao Qian of his guilt by divulging the Heavenly Mechanism and speculating on Lingbao Tianzun's arrangement.

Alas, it was still in vain.

He even doubted whether his telepathic message could penetrate the defense passively activated by Tao Qian's Spirit Treasure Sublime Body at this moment.

This Dao Body, could be described as invulnerable to all evils.

After Tao Qian had fallen into demonhood, his Dao Body was stimulated—apart from neutralizing many abnormalities, it simply blocked all "foreign objects" trying to invade.

Yuan Gong's telepathic message was also killed off in the process.

Just as he became anxious from this situation and couldn't care for anything else, preparing to draw his sword and cut down Tao Qian,

suddenly, a change occurred within Tao Qian.

The gridlock, the tugging, was broken.

The breakthrough point was his Cultivation Realm.

The backlash from the Human Dao Fortune generated Karma that scorched.

Ordinary people simply couldn't bear this torture; they'd immediately mutate into demons, turning into madmen.

Even Master Wuxiang Qin Jiao met his downfall here in the past.

But Tao Qian, thanks to his Spirit Treasure Sublime Body, his own Dao Heart's will, and that abnormal soul, time after time gained exemptions and withstood that terrifying pain.

Moreover, at this moment, the New Moon Province was on the verge of a catastrophe.

As the Karma grew even more majestic, more Human Dao Fortune surged into Tao Qian.

He had still needed time to naturally step into the Cavernous Mystery, but at this moment, the mana inflating crazily from the roasting and exploding, finally broke through that boundary barrier.

A loud "boom" echoed within his body, as if a thick membrane was burst open.

Before him, the world seemed broad.

In his mind, two Records erupted simultaneously:

[Undergoing demonic mutation... Exempted!]

[Breaking through a realm... Successful!]

Tao Qian had no time to examine closely; accompanying the Records was an immense, profound insight into cultivation.

In a trance, as if a grand bell tolling a heavenly resonance kept reciting the Spirit Treasure Savior Scripture in Tao Qian's mind, again and again.

In a flash, Tao Qian underwent a remarkable transformation.

Where he stood, jade radiance gleamed, purple smoke surged, immortal aura soared to the heavens, rainbow lights spanned thousands of miles, appearing as if someone was about to ascend to immortality, instantly drawing everyone's gaze.

Even the Evil Lake Ocean and the Yin-Yang Micro Dust Array, which were still entangled in battle, were overshadowed by the Spirit Treasure sublime aura emanating from Tao Qian at that moment.

Within the rosy clouds, Tao Qian felt the Cultivation Power of having broken through.

Yet his gaze turned toward the bottom of the Evil Lake, watching the last Yellow Robed Lama being produced, about to fly out.

Simultaneously murmuring to himself, he also took the initiative to admit his mistake:

"Previously, it was indeed my mistake."

"Thinking of collecting all the Ancestor God Treasures, fostering good intents, saving the nation and the world, yet also wanting to return to the mountains to live leisurely and refine my practice."

"Reaping benefits without paying the price."

"After frequent attempts to freeload, it's only fitting to endure this burning by Karmic Fire."

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Similarly in the midst of an on-site breakthrough, Tao Qian and Zhong Ziyang were starkly different.

The latter had fallen demon, turning the sky a blazing red.

Tao Qian, however, seemed to have become an immortal, as if he was about to ascend amidst the rosy glow of the dawn.

Cavernous Mystery Realm!

This realm was indeed the most crucial among the Nine Cultivation Realms, distinguishing ordinary cultivators from powerful ones.

Loose Cultivators stepping into this realm could be called experts, possessing divine powers almost capable of moving mountains and shifting peaks.

For disciples of the Great Sects, it was even beyond imagination.

Especially for an "outlier" like Tao Qian, who could fight with cultivators of the Cavernous Mystery Realm even when he was at the Perfect Transcend Mortality stage and even triumph.

Now that he had truly ascended to Cavernous Mystery, he was naturally different from before.

Most crucially, as a Spirit Treasure Cultivator, every breakthrough brought benefits, and Master Tao had often reaped significant gains.

At the moment, he could sense the depth of his mana, which he could not measure momentarily, and the world around him appeared distinctly broader, clearer, and more lucid. All secrets and mysteries were unveiled in Tao Qian's eyes.

Under normal circumstances, Tao Qian would have explored slowly during his spare time.

But in this moment, he was unwilling to delay even for an instant.

Of course, there was another matter that would have been significant, but now it seemed irrelevant.

That was the dropping of his disguise, fully exposing his identity.

Every cultivator stepping into the Cave Realm underwent a transformation, their divine soul, spirit mind, and essential spirit all experiencing changes, and during this process, all physical alterations, disguises, and covers were forcibly removed.

The [Secret Demon Transformation Technique] that Tao Qian cast on himself was no exception.

Thus, both the righteous and the evil watched as within the glow of the dawn, a figure renowned as "Master Skull Smashing Lin Runiu" of the Secret Toad Sect, instantly transformed into a youthful Daoist glowing with immortal light, handsome and clear, as if an immortal.

That Spirit Treasure Immortal Radiance, with a rainbow light spanning thousands of miles, instantly revealed his true origins.

Undoubtedly a Spirit Treasure Cultivator!

And on the side of the evil demons, among those five incomparably seductive daughters of the Devil God, the Red Robed Demoness Yin Susu, watched Tao Qian, dumbfounded.

Across the battlefield, despite the distance, she screamed hysterically:

"Tao Qian!"

"Little thief."

Even the dullest person could hear the obsessive resentment in her scream.

This woman, she probably wanted to eat Tao Qian's flesh?

As other cultivators thought this, Tao Qian did not pay any attention to Yin Susu. He did not even have time to count the gains from his breakthrough, let alone deal with the Devil God Princess who almost tainted his innocence.

Muttering to himself, Tao Qian wore no expression of either sorrow or joy on his face; he simply watched Zhong Ziyang and Ying Qingdi, who were still fighting, and the last group of Yellow Robed Lamas emerging from the Evil Lake.

He turned to Lin Bujue, Chen Xiyi, and Qi Daozhen, apologizing:

"Brothers, as you can see, I am both Lin Runiu and the Spirit Treasure True Inheritor Tao Qian."

"Forced to assume a false identity to join the society, now that I've revealed my roots, I must leave soon to prevent bringing disaster upon the Ancestor Dragon Society."

"But before I go, I must refine these Hundred Yellow Robed Lamas."

After saying this, Tao Qian didn't wait for his fellow Daoist brothers to respond.

Suddenly, he raised his hand to summon the Yu Ding and the Valley God Gui, looked at them seriously, and finally showed a smile, saying:

"Not long ago, I was suspicious of these two treasures, their power and mana seemed incomparable to the [Mountain and River Map]; how dare they claim to be among the Nine Provinces' Twelve Artifacts?"

"It was because of my mindset. To cultivate the immortal Dao, one must first cultivate the Human Dao. Saving others also means saving oneself; I only thought of gathering treasures and saving myself, no wonder the Divine Treasures were only willing to show a single layer of power, which probably was given considering the Human Dao Fortune I accumulated."

"Immortal Dao values life, boundlessly saving people; Tao Qian has learned his lesson."

As he spoke, Tao Qian already started to act.

Regardless of right or wrong, everyone was still dazed at this moment.

Only when Tao Qian took action did they start to comprehend, what exactly had happened?

Inside Shangyang City, amidst the battleground of immortals and demons, right and wrong, the most notable person was indeed one of three.

The first two, Ying Qingdi showed his true nature as Evil God's Offspring, and Zhong Ziyang mutated due to his Dao Heart crumbling, while the third, Master Skull Smashing, publicly revealed his true identity after his breakthrough. Unexpectedly, behaving as a descendant of the Toad Sect while actually being a Spirit Treasure Daoist.

Tao Qian!

Anyone who was not ignorant knew the weight this name held.

The title of "First Heavenly Pride of the Daoist" might be somewhat exaggerated, but if one were to tally his achievements, the major incidents caused by him, and the great calamities he solved, the shock would be even more intense than hearing the title "First Heavenly Pride of the Daoist."

Not to mention Southern Yue, not to discuss Demon City.

Just the event of "Yang Sui Uprising" alone was enough to make this name be recorded in history books.

Note that even Li Wanshou, the old monster who acted as a stepping stone in this grand event, was nothing significant; what truly shook people's hearts was Tao Qian's destruction of the hard-acquired Mountain and River Map, thereby sending the over two-thousand-year-long Longevity Heavenly Dynasty's reign and ancestral system into the grave.

Even though there are many restoration turmoils in the northern provinces currently, confronting the south.

But, Tao Qian's accomplishments could not be erased by anyone.

Now that he had appeared, and in such a grand manner, naturally, no one could overlook him.

One of Tao Qian's old acquaintances, the Shaoqing Witch Shi Yingqiong, immediately showed a delighted expression upon seeing him, shouting:

"Brother Tao is actually here, good, truly good."

"Since parting in Demon City, Ying Qiong has missed Brother Tao terribly."

"Being able to fight side by side again is indeed Ying Qiong's fortune."

Shi Yingqiong was cold and unmatched in killing, showing a cold face to everyone.

Only towards those Daoists she recognized did she show considerable warmth.

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Yu Yanshi and others had naturally calculated this.

Tao Qian had calculated even more.

Hearing her shout, Tao Qian, while casting, also looked over at her with a smile and nodded his head.

Beside Shi Ying Qiong, those strange cultivators from Divine Ear Sect, Ten Thousand Miles Sect, and Ting Di Sect, who cultivated secrets such as Secret Knowing, Wide Knowledge, and Peeping Truth, of course knew who Tao Qian was.

They knew much more than almost anyone else present.

For example, while others were still wondering about the grudges between Yin Susu, the daughter of Devil God, and the renowned Spirit Treasure Daoist, these few were well aware that another famous female cultivator was involved in this matter—the overlord of Daughter Country in Fumin Province, the Queen herself.

Back in the day in Fumin Province, when the Queen of Daughter Country flooded Bie Fu, it was to snatch the then not-so-powerful Spirit Treasure Daoist from Yin Susu.

It was said that had they been a moment later, the latter would have lost all his Primordial Yang Essence Blood.

Many devils were forced to drink Daughter Spring Water at the time, suffering much, yet many survived, so this secret naturally could not be contained and spread out.

Seeing Tao Qian reveal his true body amidst rosy clouds and fairy aura spreading for ten thousand miles, the few strange cultivators exchanged glances.

While everyone else was still astonished, before Tao Qian made his move, they quickly spoke up:

"If it's him, perhaps there's still a chance for survival here?"

"Not necessarily, the previous miracle accomplished by the Spirit Treasure Daoist relied mainly on his master Duobao and the Mountain and River Map... Now, with only two Ancestor God treasures and far from gathering the Nine Provinces' Twelve Artifacts, and facing an opponent like the pure-blooded descendant of the Outer Realm Yellow Robe who is not affected by fortune, nor afraid of Duobao's methods, I'm afraid Tao Qian is doomed to defeat."

"Unless he can summon Lingbao Tianzun or a group of second-generation ancestors, naturally, the disaster could be resolved easily but doing so could create further trouble in the future."

"True, the Outer Realm Yellow Robe is outwardly on par with Taishang Dao Ancestor and Lingbao Tianzun, but our ancient sect records state that in terms of killing power, several Outer Realm Yellow Robes combined are not a match for Heavenly Venerate or Daoist Ancestor. That Yellow Robe, remembering grudges well due to small conflicts, could bear a grudge against Spirit Treasure Sect for hundreds of millions of years, often striking in secret, which wouldn't be worth it."

"It's no use, this Spirit Treasure Daoist, no matter how favored he is in Penglai Sea, cannot summon the Heavenly Venerate, Sect Master, or a group of second-generation ancestors. Have you all forgotten the current moment?"

"The Great Abyss battle, Spirit Treasure decisive struggle, who has the luxury of time?"

"Hush, look quickly, the Spirit Treasure Daoist has made a move."

Just as the few strange cultivators were about to argue,

Tao Qian already said, "I'll take your advice," and then patted the Yu Tripod, which had somehow shrunk to the size of a palm and was spinning round and round.

With a clang, Tao Qian said in a loud voice,

"The Nine Provinces Yu Tripod can stabilize heaven and earth."

As the words fell, a towering and majestic Divine Light burst through the rosy clouds and fairy aura.

Within it was the Yu Tripod, which swiftly swelled up and displayed its true power.

This treasure had transformed from an Ancestor God Forbidden Technique Fragment, ranking among the Nine Provinces' Twelve Artifacts.

Its power was far greater than when Tao Qian had previously used it as a hammer to smash the Ancestor God Tablet and break the Seven Saints Mysterious God Sealing Heaven Prohibition.

However, at that time Tao Qian had not yet comprehended the Scripture of Salvation, he harbored selfish desires and was indecisive. Out of regard for Human Dao Destiny, the Yu Tripod had only shown the first level until this moment when Tao Qian simultaneously made a breakthrough and realized the Daoist Scripture, clarifying his heart's intent and receiving the boon of fortune, finally gaining the approval of this treasure.

The tripod finally reverted to its original form,

a Treasure and Divine Treasure alike.

Mountainous and huge, engraved with the Nine Provinces Mountain and River, sun, moon, and stars, wind, rain, thunder and lightning, Evil Spirits, Divine Strange Beasts.

Tao Qian, upon seeing this, was overjoyed and immediately leapt up, flying into the tripod.

At this moment, everyone could see his expression, fully aware that his opponent was a pure-blooded descendant of the Outer Realm Yellow Robe, exceedingly cherished and practically undying, not to mention the demon-like Evil God of a wild father who would continuously aid Ying Qingdi with Evil Techniques like the Hundred Yellow Robed Lamas. Who could defeat it? Who would confront it and not be seeking death?

Yet this Spirit Treasure Daoist, with no trace of fear in his eyes or face, seemed as if he had a well-thought-out plan, or as if he were nobly facing death.

Until the next moment, a shocking change that surprised everyone suddenly occurred.

After Tao Qian entered the tripod, he did not head towards the Evil Lake to assist Zhong Ziyang in a two-against-one but instead abruptly flew above the Evil Lake, forcefully using the massive tripod to block the rift above the head of Ying Qingdi.

This scene!

Made everyone's eyes widen, disbelieving.

The widely knowledgeable Mei Su Daoist, for the moment, could not care for his own junior brother, and hastily shouted,

"Daoist Tao, do not take such risks."

"I know you want to sever the blood connection between the Outer Realm Yellow Robe and Ying Qingdi, to stop its support... This approach seems feasible, yet it is actually a trap."

"Never mind that you are currently only at the Cavernous Mystery level, even if one, even ten Ultimate Happiness Cultivators were to fill it up, they couldn't escape the fate of being mutated by the Yellow Robed God's Divine Qi and instead become another powerful servant to aid Ying Qingdi."

Tao Qian, of course, heard Mei Su's shout.

But he had already made up his mind and paid no heed.

His Spirit Treasure Sublime Body, still bursting with rosy light and purple smoke, now sat in the tripod, surrounded by a mist of blue and white light, chaotic and indistinct, representing a universe yet to be separated into clear and turbid, with separation showing all things under heaven, incredibly marvelous.

But soon, this wondrous sight was to be disrupted.

The tripod forcefully lay across the crack and Ying Qingdi below, first smashing the already useless Meat Pillar Evil Tube to pieces, then spinning and erupting, beginning to sever this intangible blood connection between father and son.

Below, in the Evil Lake, Ying Qingdi who was gradually overpowering the Fallen Demon Zhong Ziyang, felt a little slip away in his vital energy, and was immediately seized by Zhong Ziyang to counterattack.