

Longevity 751

Chapter 751 National Salvation Congress Clashes, Gathering 12 Vessels

In the Daoist Field outside the territory, an unwatchable shadow disappeared too quickly.

Tao Qian hadn't even had enough time to discern any of the Human Emperors' true forms. However, he didn't need to see clearly to know—they were definitely twisted and disgusting forms that could shatter souls upon sight.

Merely hearing the drunken ramblings of these Mutated Emperors made him aware of their condition.

Chaos!

Distortion!

They were once Human Emperors.

Most of them could have even been called enlightened rulers.

But now, they were no longer part of the Human Clan; instead, they had become man-eating and blood-sucking monsters.

Ironically, the ancestors of the Li Family and Liu Family both took an interest in Tao Qian—one wanted to adopt him as a sworn son, the other as a son-in-law.

Either option made Tao Qian shudder.

This was vastly different from the treatment received by Xiao Hua Daoist, who sponged off others. Should he ever fall into such a situation, Tao Qian would rather end himself.

The twelve old monsters, although they babbled nonsense due to their drunkenness, spoke sentences that were surprisingly accurate.

Tao Qian's status, the resources he commanded, his control over the Human Dao Destiny... Not to mention summoning all fragments of the Ancestor God Forbidden Techniques to rebuild the Barrier—just summoning the "Nine States' Twelve Artifacts" alone was still short of a final touch.

Now eleven artifacts had arrived, but the last one was still not forthcoming.

As time passed, not only the twelve old monsters but everyone in the world began to guess.

Master Tao!

Despite his great ambitions and numerous achievements, he was still far from reaching the Ancestor Dragon and probably incapable of gathering all the fragments to rebuild the Barrier.

Sighs were heard from all seventy-two provinces.

Tao Qian cared not for these, as he was currently trying to sense the whereabouts of the last treasure.

Beside him, Duobao's avatar, Qingjing Zen Master, frowned, clearly having made calculations and ready to transfer the results immediately.

"This is bad!"

"The last piece of the Nine States' Twelve Artifacts is the [Emperor Jade Seal]."

"This item, a Divine Treasure crucial for suppression and control of destiny, is a true treasure of Human Dao. Without it, your wave of momentum might fail to rise."

"With your possession of the Human Dao's destiny, this treasure should have been the first to come to you."

"The reason it hasn't, is because... it already has an owner."

As Duobao spoke, Tao Qian also sensed the outcome.

Having already controlled eleven of the Nine States' artifacts, he could easily discern the status of the last piece.

Upon realizing the truth, Tao Qian's expression turned peculiar.

"The Emperor Jade Seal has ended up in Yuu Yanshi's hands."

"Hmm, that's expected."

"The creation of this treasure wasn't primarily by the Ancestor Dragon—Primordial Sect was deeply involved, even to say that the Jade Seal was a gift from Primordial Sect to the Ancestor Dragon."

"Yuu Yanshi, being nurtured by Primordial Sect as the new Human Emperor, rightfully deserves this item."

After saying this, Tao Qian made no further comment.

On the other hand, Qingjing Old Monk displayed a look of resignation before saying, "No wonder my previous predictions always felt that something unexpected would happen with the [Emperor Jade Seal]. It turns out to be related to Primordial Sect. It must be those twelve old goods interfering with me; otherwise, it would have been impossible to deceive me."

Before Duobao's avatar could finish, Master Yuan could not hold back.

Suddenly, he transmitted a message and suggested:

"Kid, I've told you before, the people from Primordial Sect are extremely deceitful. Since that darned Emperor Jade Seal has fallen into their hands, it'll be difficult to get it back. The elders of Primordial Sect, whether old or young, don't care about the bigger picture or the well-being of people; they only consider what aligns with their interests as the real agenda."

"For now, the only way might be to have Duobao request the Spirit Treasure Sect Master to mediate and convince Primordial Sect to temporarily surrender the treasure."

Master Yuan's idea, though hardly ingenious,

was surprisingly supported by Duobao upon hearing it, nodding immediately in agreement:

"That old monkey isn't wrong this time, people from Primordial Sect are truly troublesome and shameless."

"To retrieve the [Emperor Jade Seal], we probably really need to have the Sect Master speak on this."

After discussing these matters, Duobao True Monarch in Penglai, ready to go find the Spirit Treasure Sect Master and talk.

Just then, Tao Qian shook his head in refusal.

In his mind, scenes from his time in Demon City suddenly emerged.

In this world, Tao Qian was not only unique in temperament but also his ideals vastly differed from most cultivators, finding no peer.

Yet after joining the world, he had indeed met a few similar individuals.

In a place called "Xianheng Hotel," he a

"Tao Qian had ambitions that could not be accomplished by a single person."

"I was merely initiating, if even the first hurdle cannot be overcome, and we have to ask the Sect Master for help with transactions in the background, then it indeed indicates that the tribulations of the Human Dao cannot be mitigated or shortened."

"Should the Emperor Jade Seal fall into others' hands, that would indeed be worrisome."

"Since it is in Yu Yanshi's hands... perhaps it's still a good thing."

Tao Qian rarely played coy in front of his master and, after speaking, did not offer an explanation.

He simply closed his eyes and continued to listen to the ensuing conversation.

The source was from the south, a series of quarrelsome dialogues.

Although the first few sentences did not reveal who was speaking, the fiery tone alone was enough for Tao Qian to know it must be "Li Wenyan."

"Yu Yanshi!"

"What are you dragging your feet for? You think I don't know the Emperor Jade Seal is inside you? Although Brother Tao has not consulted with us, his grand ambition has been clearly stated. Rebuilding the Longevity Barrier is indeed the crucial first step. Only by accomplishing this can we truly act freely and save billions of mortals."

"And you still haven't released the Emperor Jade Seal. Don't tell me you really want to become the Emperor?"

"If you rebel, I, Li Wenyan, will be the first to fight you to death, even if I cannot kill this Primordial Daoist Son, I'll splash you with blood."

...

"Li Wenyan, what nonsense are you spouting? When did I, Yu Yanshi, ever say I wanted to become the Emperor? You think I don't want to release the Emperor Jade Seal right away to aid Brother Tao? But the Sect Master has ordered us not to act rashly to avoid accelerating the tribulation and increasing casualties."

"You're talking crap. Do you think I can't sense the prayers of the people? Now is the best opportunity, just hand over the Jade Seal, let the Twelve Artifacts of the Nine Provinces assemble, it will surely trigger a resonance from all other Ancestor God Treasures, and once the reunion momentum rises, even those old monsters among the Alchemists have to comply."

"Brother Tao has sacrificed so much; he will surely be retaliated against by the Alchemists afterward. If you drag him down at this time, I, Li Wenyan, will never let you off."

"I, Shi Yingqiong, think the same. If Brother Yuu does not comply, beware of my lethal Sword Intent."

"I, as well."

"Yang Li, also please Brother Yuu, assist Brother Tao once."

"You all..."

Yu Yanshi, chided by the members of the National Salvation Congress, flushed red with urgency and anger.

However, he quickly calmed down.

He was a decisive person, and at that moment, he had not forgotten his own ambitions.

After pondering for a few moments, he was ready to act.

Just then, a majestic transmission from his own Sect Master echoed in his mind.

Instantly, Yu Yanshi's face lit up with joy, he stood up excitedly and said to his fellow Heroes, "I want to do more than just release the Emperor Jade Seal to aid Brother Tao, let's add more fuel and smoke out those old monsters from the Alchemists..."

After explaining the details, the members of the National Salvation Congress also became joyful.

Then, Yu Yanshi immediately began casting, connecting with the Divine Ear Sect and Ting Di Sect, making his figure and face appear on the Spirit Mirrors of the seventy-two provinces.

Naturally, he also appeared in front of Tao Qian.

Back in Demon City, Tao Qian had judged Yu Yanshi to be an extraordinary person.

Now viewing him again, his demeanor had undergone several transformations, seemingly possessing the qualities of a Human Emperor; no wonder the Primordial Sect had been keen to cultivate him.

As soon as Yu Yanshi appeared in front of the world, he pulled out an object.

Upon its appearance, Divine Light soared into the sky.

It was an ancient and plain Jade Seal, which, without any need for reminders, everyone immediately guessed the name and origin of this object.

The last component of the Twelve Artifacts of the Nine Provinces, the Emperor Jade Seal.

Indeed, the next moment, everyone heard Yu Yanshi claim loudly,

"This object, known as the 'Emperor Jade Seal', has recognized me, Yu Yanshi, as its master."

"But hearing of Tao Master's great vow, I am willing to offer this treasure to help fulfill his pledge."

"Also, I, on behalf of the Primordial Sect and all the southern provinces, lend all our strength to assist Tao Master in rebuilding the Forbidden Law Barrier."

As his words fell,

Regardless of north or south, the whole world watched as Yu Yanshi threw the treasured seal in his hand, which transformed instantly into a frightful beam of Divine Light, wrapped in endless fortune, shooting toward Qiantang Province.

When the eleven relics were sent before, Great Demons had attempted to intercept and steal the treasure along the way.

But this 'Emperor Jade Seal', whether Immortals, Demons, and Devils, no one dared to steal.

Why?

Anyone who wasn't blind could see the immense fortune contained within that Jade Seal.

It was well-known that attempting to steal the Jade Seal at this time would be tantamount to opposing the entire world, and the rebounding fortune's evil poison could cripple a Daoist Transformation Practitioner in an instant, and even lead to his death.

After Yu Yanshi finished speaking and acting, only a few moments had passed.

Tao Qian suddenly opened his eyes, the Void in front of him split apart, and the Emperor Jade Seal arrived as expected.

The Twelve Artifacts of the Nine Provinces!

This piece, comparable to the previously encountered Mountain and River Map, and perhaps even stronger, an Ancestor God Fragment, was finally complete.

When the twelve beams of Divine Light converged into a pillar reaching to the heavens, it began to expand, swiftly engulfing the provincial city, then the other cities, and even the entire Qiantang Province.

During this process, Tao Qian entered a mysterious state.

As the heavenly pillar spread, wherever it reached, every existence related to the transcendent, whether living beings or inanimate objects, seemed to be under his control.

As if with a single thought, he could utterly erase these existences.

Chapter 752 Forbidden Technique Divine Might, Human Dao Torrent

When the Nine States' Twelve Treasures were all gathered, a towering column of light erupted and instantly submerged the entire Qiantang Province.

As the "Divine Artifact Master," Tao Qian immediately possessed unimaginable authority and power.

At least in Qiantang Province, at that moment, he had no rivals.

Life and death were at his disposal!

He was omnipotent!

With a single thought, he could determine the life and death of thousands of Extraordinary Beings.

It was also at this moment that incredible Records began to surge in Tao Qian's mind.

"All Nine States' Twelve Treasures have been gathered... The artifacts have recognized their master!"

"This artifact was originally a core Fragment of the Ancestor God Forbidden Technique, possessing the power to annihilate all beings."

"The artifact is expanding, having already covered the whole territory of Qiantang Province and is now spreading to neighboring provinces."

"There is a price to pay for activating this artifact."

"But it is possible to disperse and mitigate the price by using other Fragments... Currently, no other Fragments are available..."

...

As the Records flooded in, Tao Qian also clearly understood what he could now do.

Slaughter!

The slaughter he had always wanted to conduct could now be accomplished.

At least within Qiantang Province, he could eradicate some specific targets, even if they were not present before him.

At this very moment, the people from the other Seventy-One Provinces were all watching Qiantang, watching the figure standing in the sky, like an "Innate Divine Spirit."

Everyone was curious about what changes had befallen Master Tao after gathering the Nine States' Twelve Treasures and what supernatural powers he possessed.

And Tao Qian himself, at this time, was also looking at a key Record in his mind, pondering his decision.

"All Nine States' Twelve Treasures have covered Qiantang; within this range, no Extraordinary Beings, whether alive or dead, can escape annihilation."

"If the restrictions are ignored and extinction is forcibly carried out, the price cannot be exempted—each kill must pay with a life."

"If the conditions of the Forbidden Technique are adhered to, part of the price was originally exempted... now it can be fully exempted."

Upon seeing the final sentence, Tao Qian felt there was nothing more to consider.

The so-called annihilation conditions, set by the Ancestor Dragon, were imprinted within all Fragments of the Forbidden Technique.

Only those Extraordinary Beings committing evils such as "wrongdoing," "amassing on a large scale," "committing genocide against the Human Clan," "cannibalism," etc., could minimize the price of their eradication.

If not met, annihilation could still be forced.

The price would then be to take a life for every life taken.

Brutal and straightforward, this was exactly what Tao Qian desired.

He also knew that the whole world was watching him, including those powerful forces stirring with anticipation.

A demonstration was necessary; otherwise, it would be impossible to rally those Great Sects or to fully stir the deep desires of billions of mortals.

To truly make an impact, the ironclad facts had to be displayed.

Moreover, Master Tao had been enduring for far too long.

Without any further ado, Tao Qian, like a divine being at that moment, raised his hand and invoked with the Round Light Technique a vast scenario of annihilation across Qiantang that met the criteria.

Using methods from the Sects such as the Divine Ear and Ting Di, it was broadcast in front of all the people of the world.

Such supernatural powers that could observe the entire province's movements with a single thought were naturally also a feature of the Nine States' Twelve Treasures.

"In Wuyu County, on Yellow Water Mountain, there were eight beasts—a tiger, a cow, a deer, a pig, a snake, a sheep, a fox, and a mouse—who had become spirits and sworn brotherhood, collectively cultivating the Cannibal Scripture which required devouring humans. These beasts demanded the county supply them with people, initially being picky wanting boys and girls, but as their appetites grew, they required adults... The once populous city of 300,000 had been reduced by these eight beasts to mere hundreds, with nearly empty homes."

"Several months ago, a Ghost Clan infiltrated Qiantang. This clan's members, all Painted Skin Ghosts numbering two hundred, would consume the flesh of a person they chose, wear their skin and replace their lives. This clan, always craving novelty, would change skins periodically—shortest being three days and longest a week... In just three months, this clan wandered around the cities of Qiantang and devoured at least several thousand people."

"Outside Tong County, there was a river called Fuchun River, originally a beautiful spirited river, but half a year ago a group of ferocious Water Clan moved in, led by a Three-eyed Blood Flood Dragon claiming to be the Fuchun River God. Violent by nature and fond of eating humans, it frequently used spells to disrupt the river and destroy boats, often coming ashore to feed... In just half a year, nearly ten thousand people had perished."

"This person, an Evil Cultivator named Zhang Zian self-styled 'One-legged Immortal,' was born of a human man and a female mountain demon. Naturally lascivious, in his youth he found a scroll of 'Lustful Immortal Scripture' in a cave, thus attaining his method. If it were only thus, he would have merely been

a Heterodox lecher. However, his nature was vicious: not only did he use Secret Techniques to harm women, but he also tortured them terribly afterwards, cutting out hearts and gouging breasts, truly more beast than man."

"Yangfo Temple, this temple is a Demon Sect, its abbot having old ties with the Lian Sha Arhat from the Demon Buddha Temple, using Lian Sha's influence to establish sub-temples in several cities and counties of Qiantang, treating believers like pigs and dogs. Once their money was extorted, they began to extract their souls, Essence Blood, etc., regardless of age or gender... Since their arrival, tens of thousands have suffered."

...

One after another, one incident after another.

Unfolded densely before Tao Qian.

Simultaneously, they were also revealed to the people of the world.

At this very moment!

Including the people of Qiantang itself, the Mortals and half of the Cultivators from the Seventy-two Provinces were engulfed in rage.

That scene, though occurring far away in Qiantang,

such misdeeds and tragedies were happening in every corner of their world, similar in nature, unbearable and intolerable to witness.

When the first person, unable to bear it, flushed red with anger, roared out "Kill them," "Exterminate them,"

it seemed as if everyone was ignited.

In an instant, Tao Qian's mind roared, and he could hear nothing but the shouts for killing.

He then thought, and surprisingly the Nine States' Twelve Treasures still offered several options.

"Great Extinction Killing Life Divine Light, Human Dao Soul Refining Array, True Spirit Annihilation Divine Thunder... among other Divine Skills, all available to choose from, with varying consequences."

"Since all targets meet the annihilation conditions, the consequences can all be exempted."

Upon seeing these Records appear, Tao Qian immediately took action.

If the Forbidden Law Barrier formed by the Nine States' Twelve Treasures were to automatically choose, it might bring forth Divine Skills like the Great Extinction Killing Life Divine Light — swift and urgent, without any pain.

Unfortunately, such a function does not exist; it requires the controller to make a choice.

Therefore, the one chosen by Tao Qian was the most intense and direct — the "Human Dao Soul Refining Array."

It was in the next moment!

Accompanied by an incredibly vast Array, it emerged across various cities, counties, and even villages within Qiantang Province.

A terribly miserable wail, without any forewarning, rang through the air.

Many oddly shaped, ferociously brutal Evil Cultivators, whether willingly or not, all revealed their true forms.

Pervading the entire province was the Human Dao's fortune.

Instantly, it turned into torrential currents carrying infinite resentment from the Mortals, poisonous flames of retribution that penetrated the bodies of these Evil Cultivators.

In the first moment, it burned their bodies.

Then, their souls.

The following process was even longer.

Initially, the Mortals of Qiantang Province were frightened, but soon, the voice of Tao Qian echoed throughout the province.

"From today onwards, Qiantang Province will once again be under the protection of the Ancestor God Forbidden Technique and the Longevity Barrier."

"Any Demon and Alien Species, human or non-human, that gathers in great numbers to commit evil, or commits egregious acts like cannibalism, will be exterminated."

When these words resounded in everyone's ears,

The whole of Qiantang Province first fell silent, a dreadful silence.

Then, all the people of Qiantang realized what was happening, the stunned expressions on their faces gradually turned animated.

They watched with their own eyes as the past terrifying Evil Cultivators, who treated the Human Clan like pigs and dogs, felt despair. Were they being tortured? Soul refined?

And from now on, wouldn't they, the Mortals of the Human Clan without any extraordinary power, need not fear being treated as mere fodder?

Elation!

Cheers!

In an instant, all of Qiantang erupted into a festive atmosphere.

Regardless of age or gender, everyone cried and laughed like mad, cheering and jumping, overwhelmed by their emotions.

Many areas and cities saw hundreds of thousands, even millions, kneeling towards the provincial capital, roaring praises like "Long live Master Tao!" and so forth.

Everyone saw clearly, following Tao Qian's intervention,

There were indeed no more scenes of Evil Cultivators ravaging and consuming humans within Qiantang Province.

Those patch-like stains of corruption were erased by Tao Qian.

Qiantang had become tranquil like never before.

This dream-come-true imagery also made the people of neighboring provinces like Tiannan Province incredibly envious. Unfortunately, the Forbidden Law Barrier, formed from the Nine States' Twelve Treasures, slowed down after leaving Qiantang.

It would likely take a considerable amount of time to cover Tiannan.

Even so, many Evil Beings previously rampaging in Tiannan began to flee.

Originally, these Devils thought that with the fall of the Gao Family at the hands of Master Tao, they would be ecstatic, assuming they no longer had the Gao Family suppressing them, and Tiannan Province would be theirs.

Who would have expected?

This Master Tao was much more terrifying than the Gao Family.

The Gao Family, at most, subdued them and made them servants.

But Master Tao, he would take their lives.

In no time, not just Tiannan Province, but all neighboring provinces of Qiantang began witnessing a phenomenon of "Devils fleeing."

...

Tao Qian also felt some regret watching the slowly expanding Barrier, but he couldn't do anything, as the Nine States' Twelve Treasures was merely a fragment, far from the complete "Ancestor God Forbidden Technique."

Being able to form a Barrier that enveloped Qiantang was somewhat beyond Tao Qian's expectations.

"It seems, this will suffice."

"With the Primordial Sect initiating talks, coupled with the scenes just now, the momentum should start building."

With that thought, Tao Qian turned around.

His eyes, filled with Divine Light, seemed to gaze at everyone in the Seventy-Two Provinces.

Without waiting for him to speak, a torrent of never-before-seen Human Dao, overwhelmed by countless prayers and wishes, surged toward Tao Qian—and towards everyone in this realm.

Tao Qian, standing amid it, originally intended to go along and guide it.

But he quickly realized, with such a momentum, no guidance was necessary.

Any Cultivator connected to this world, be it Daoist, Buddhist, Demon, Devil, or from any Great Sect or minor sect, felt this moment deeply.

Billions of people!

Each one harbored an immense desire for the Ancestor God Forbidden Technique Longevity Barrier.

Anyone who could contribute would reap great benefits.

Human Dao fortune, merits, and blessings were all up for grabs.

...

As this torrent swept across the world, inside Gao Huan's cancerous Daoist Field in the Outer Realm.

Twelve Mutated Emperors!

At this moment, all were jolted awake.

Chapter 753 Xuandu Mage Presents the God List, Devil Concubine Personally Goes to Request the Imperial Edict

Opponents who had previously clashed with Tao Qian all mistakenly believed that Master Tao was adept at cunning schemes.

In fact, it was not so; Tao Qian lacked significant wisdom and simply tended to exploit information asymmetries to gradually brew up unstoppable overt strategies.

Just like this moment, the Seventy-Two Provinces, any that had even the slightest ties with the mundane, were facing immense pressure and temptation.

"Compared to life forms with extraordinary power, ordinary members of the Human Clan are indeed too frail, without the slightest refuge."

"It's like two worlds, one high and one low, where no matter how one struggles, it seems meaningless."

"Fortunately, it hasn't really come to that point yet."

"All cultivators, including many divine beings of Alien Species, actually originated from the world of the Human Clan... Born from the Human Clan, they must be influenced by the Human Dao Torrent, and as long as the numbers are large and the momentum is strong enough, even the Taishang Dao, Primordial Sect, and the Spirit Treasure Sect of such rank must make a statement."

As if to prove what was in Tao Qian's heart,

just as the other Seventy-One Provinces envied and were jealous of the people of Qiantang Province,

following the Primordial Sect, an old man with an air of an Immortal, riding a large blue cow, suddenly appeared within those Spirit Mirrors.

His identity and the words he uttered once again plunged the provinces of the north and south and the entire Cultivation World into a frenzy.

"I am Xuandu."

"Having heard about the great vow made by the young friend Tao Qian from the Spirit Treasure Sect, I too, am willing to represent Taishang Dao to lend a hand."

"This object, called the 'Investiture of the Gods,' was personally requested by the Ancestor Dragon from the Dao Master in the Doushuai Temple back in the day. Since the collapse of the Forbidden Law Barrier, it has flown back to the temple."

"Now that there is a Blessing, it shall be gifted to the young friend, which is indeed more useful than the Ten Thousand Gods Banner."

After saying this, the old man took out an item that looked like a list of names.

He threw it through space towards Qiantang, where the item revealed itself in the world and willingly merged with the Heavenly Track. Shortly after, it appeared in Qiantang, falling into the hands of Tao Qian.

Almost instantly, the previously slowly expanding Forbidden Law Barrier,

as if it had swallowed a 'Great Replenishing Pill,' suddenly accelerated.

Half of the territory of Tiannan Province was instantly under Tao Qian's control.

This abrupt change happened too quickly, some Demons thought Master Tao had temporarily no way to deal with them.

Not only were their moving actions sluggish, but before fleeing, they even intensified their evil deeds, attempting to gather more resources.

Little did they expect, calamity was about to strike.

Tao Qian wasn't one to stand on ceremony; as soon as the new territory consolidated, the 'Human Dao Soul Refining Array' seamlessly released.

The Demons and Evil Cultivators within Tiannan Province immediately began wailing in agony.

Meanwhile, the many powers were still immersed in the shocking news, just realizing another significant event had happened.

"Master Xuandu? The one from Taishang Dao?"

"Indeed, and he even transferred the 'Investiture of the Gods,' which was originally given to the Ancestor Dragon, to Master Tao Qian."

"Madness, madness, could it be that the Spirit Treasure Sect is making a move? There is no other explanation, otherwise, who else could mobilize both the Primordial Sect and Taishang Dao for support?"

...

In the Cultivation World, other major forces, numerous cultivators, were merely shocked.

But the twelve Mutated Emperors, alchemists, were frightened.

They could never have imagined such reversals and transformations.

Originally, they thought it was just Gao Huan, that fool, being trapped by the cunning trick of the Spirit Treasure Sect, being utterly destroyed.

It was just right, allowing them twelve to have a full meal and replenish themselves.

As for passing out after too much rotten meat, that was also a pleasure.

But these changes came right after they had gotten drunk.

When the twelve reawakened and simultaneously fell into rage, their huge bloated, indescribable filthy bodies immediately began to wriggle, and the already drained cancerous Daoist Field burst open.

From the Outer Realm, the roars of the twelve thundered forth.

"Good rascal, could all this have been calculated from the start, killing Gao Huan just to lure us to indulge, so he could make his move while we were drunk."

"It must be so, in the world only that scoundrel could simultaneously summon the 'Nine Provinces' Twelve Treasures,' and only he would bother with such trivial matters."

"This is the second time, last time too, this child used the 'Mountain and River Map' to trap me once."

"Stop howling, we absolutely cannot let this scoundrel succeed, even if we really need to rebuild the Forbidden Law Barrier early, it should be someone we support who's in charge, definitely not this little thief from the Spirit Treasure Sect, otherwise neither you nor I can live."

"No! We cannot rebuild early, all twelve of us are still not healed, we need a large amount of flesh and blood to supplement, without decades of extraordinary wars, let alone breaking through to the Tribulation Immortal Realm, it's a big problem whether we can live another thousand years."

"If we don't rush to rebuild, we'll be making it cheap for that little thief."

"Don't panic, he can't do it unless the entire Spirit Treasure Sect is mobilized, which is impossible, not to mention the Primordial Sect is also around, the Primordial Sect won't possibly allow a Spirit Treasure Daoist to ascend to the Human Emperor's position."

...

The twelve emperors, alchemists, regardless of alive or dead, were all extremely smart people.

Although their brains were also burned by mutated pollution, their intellect and humanity were severely damaged, they were still twelve Transcendent Demons not to be provoked.

However, it was unfortunate that they were once emperors who had absolute authority.

Getting them to agree on something was also difficult.

Even though the overt strategies of Tao Qian had started effect, even provoking the Taishang Dao, the twelve were still arguing.

On the other hand, as Tao Qian was eradicating the Demons in Tiannan Province,

with the Human Dao Torrent becoming more intense, following Taishang Dao, more Sects started appearing, expressing their support for Tao Qian.

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Among them, there were the Twelve Daoist Sects, major Buddhist Temples, and even significant heterodox forces.

Some sects only offered verbal support, while others, like the Primordial Supreme, cast forth divine treasures as tokens to Tao Qian.

For instance, at this moment, the Heavenly Talisman Sect, Shexiao Sect, and Shaoqing Sect, which all had old ties with Tao Qian, stepped forward almost simultaneously.

"I am the Sect Master of the Heavenly Talisman Sect. Hearing of the great oath Tao Qian, my young friend, made, I too wish to offer my help. This object is called the 'Yin Yang Life and Death Talisman,' once bestowed by our sect upon the Ancestor Dragon. After the Ancestor God Forbidden Technique shattered, this treasure returned to our mountain gate. Now, it is time for it to reemerge. I present it to my young friend to shelter all living beings."

"I am the Sect Master of the Shexiao Sect. Today, I gift my young friend with a treasure named the 'Nine Heavens Divine Thunder Tower.' This item was also one the Ancestor Dragon personally sought from Shexiao Mountain. After the Forbidden Techniques collapsed, it returned to the mountain, and now, in accordance with Heaven's will, I bestow it upon my young friend. I hope it can use divine thunder as punishment to cleanse the world of demons and evildoers."

"And the Shaoqing Sect, today bestows upon Tao Qian, my young friend, an 'Ancient Demon-Slaying Sword Tomb,' which is also..."

And again, three influential figures, from major sects, appeared.

With the arrival of these three substantial gifts, the Forbidden Law Barrier under Tao Qian's control once again expanded wildly.

This time it not only covered the remaining half of the Tiannan Province but also engulfed the New Moon Province, as well as a dozen cities and counties in two neighboring provinces.

People cheered and leapt for joy as they watched countless demons and evil cultivators who had wreaked havoc perish between the lands and cities, and their numbers skyrocketed.

At the same time, a stream of Records burst forth in Tao Qian's mind, revealing to him a not so small secret:

"It turns out that the Ancestor God Forbidden Technique created by the Ancestor Dragon was essentially a pile of divine materials and treasures. Most of them were likely forged by the Ancestor Dragon from the treasures and divine materials he collected from all over the world, while the rest were provided by the Cultivation World, mostly from major sects of Daoists, Buddhists, demons, devils, heresy, and heterodoxy."

"After the collapse of the Forbidden Technique, the Barrier shattered, scattering many unclaimed pieces of divine treasures everywhere."

"Those with owners flew back to their respective sects."

"Now, seduced by the overt scheme I initiated, which started a torrent flow in the Human Dao, these sects are showing support, and they are readily sending out their treasures again..."

"No wonder these great sects can survive for so long. They are always the first to go with the flow at the slightest sign."

"Regardless of whether I accomplish my mission, not only have these sects not suffered any loss, but they have also gained immense benefits. Merit and fortune – these invisible objects – are the key to preserving Dao and ensuring its longevity."

His thoughts settled.

Now that things looked favorable, Tao Qian finally had the leisure to ask his Master and Master Yuan.

"Master, Master Yuan."

"Sects like Primordial Supreme sent people and treasures in the past to assist the Ancestor Dragon in sweeping across the wastelands and establishing the Forbidden Law Barrier. Why then did our Spirit Treasure Sect and Secret Demon Sect not make a move?"

"And if we did help, why did no treasures fly back to the mountain gate after the Barrier collapsed?"

Tao Qian would have been better off not asking.

Upon asking, he immediately received disdainful looks from both.

First was Master Yuan, who roared in annoyance:

"You little blabbermouth, always bringing up the most inconvenient topics."

"My Secret Demon Sect's mountain gate in this realm was dug up by others, even if there had been treasures left, where could they have flown to?"

"But there probably weren't any to begin with. Back then, our Secret Demon Sect did not really like that Ancestor Dragon, and if it hadn't been for the peace of the Human Clan in this realm, we would not have assisted him. Later, when establishing the Forbidden Law Barrier, we only contributed common items, which likely didn't survive the dissolution."

After he finished, the Duobao Avatar, in the guise of the Qingjing Old Monk, pursed his lips and followed up:

"Who says there weren't any? Although the Ancestor Dragon was an outstanding talent, how could he accomplish such a feat and bring over two millenniums of peace to this realm's Human Clan with just him and his frosty subordinates?"

"Almost everyone from the Cultivation World, regardless of morality, has lent a hand. A lot of blood was shed to mess with that Forbidden Law Barrier... But such things depend on fortune. Once the Barrier shattered, many treasures were destroyed. Our Spirit Treasure Sect once gave the Ancestor Dragon dozens of good treasures, and not a single one flew back."

"The Primordial and Taishang Sects had slightly better luck – the Investiture of the Gods and Emperor Jade Seal remained intact."

"But what use is good fortune now? Both of these treasures have fallen into the hands of my Duobao Disciple anyway."

"Come now, my good disciple, let me see that Investiture of the Gods. I always felt this object has some karmic connection with me."

...

Lured by the Human Dao Torrent, more and more sects stepped up to express their support for Tao Qian.

And continually, great sects contributed their reclaimed divine treasures to Tao Qian.

His Forbidden Law Barrier had not only completely enveloped the provinces of Qiantang, Tiannan, and New Moon, but it also began to expand towards the nearby Hanxi, Sanjin, and East E provinces.

At this rate, it seemed the entire Northern Land Provinces might fall into Tao Qian's hands.

The situation looked extremely positive, but as time went by.

Tao Qian, Qingjing Zen Master, and Yuann Mingzhen beside him all displayed solemn expressions in their eyes.

The people on the inside knew the situation – this scenario was already Tao Qian's limit.

He couldn't do more.

The most crucial point was that his "targeted" objective had never taken the bait.

Alchemists!

To genuinely rebuild the Forbidden Law Barrier, there were only two options:

First, to retrace the path of the Ancestor Dragon, taking a century's time, continually waging wars, unifying the seventy-two provinces, and scouring for resources and treasures.

Second, to borrow the power of alchemists.

Alchemists had been leeching off the Longevity Heavenly Dynasty for over two thousand years, and the treasures in the secret realms of those dozen or so old monsters were practically inexhaustible.

Only this "treasure trove" could reconstruct the Forbidden Technique in a short period.

Chapter 755 - Xuandu Mage Presents the God List, Devil Concubine Personally Goes to Request the Imperial Edict_3

Tao Qian's open strategy was to use the Human Dao Torrent to rally support from the Cultivation World for himself, crafting his image as the new Ancestor Dragon.

Everyone understood that once Master Tao came into power, the Alchemists would undoubtedly perish.

Under such immense pressure!

Whether the Alchemists chose to support Si Xixin or Zhang Jinluan, they still had to open the Treasure Vault and establish a Barrier.

As long as the Barrier's Forbidden Technique returned, the many wars bound to erupt would shift from the Mortal World to the Cultivation World.

Thus, Tao Qian's goal would be achieved.

But at that moment, there seemed to be no key progress.

...

Just as Tao Qian was pondering whether something had gone wrong, Yuann Mingzhen, who had been silent for a long time, suddenly transmitted a message:

"Brother Tao, Mingzhen has received a secret message from an Alchemist spy."

"The twelve old monsters have now split into two factions and are arguing; it's still the ancestors of the Li Family and the Liu Family who disagree."

"Li Wanshou said he knows your prowess and wants to immediately open the Treasure Vault to support Si Xixin as the new Ancestor Dragon and help him establish a new Forbidden Law Barrier. Once accomplished, it won't take long before they can overturn the Nine Provinces Barrier you currently possess."

"Liu Pei, on the other hand, opposes the reconstruction of the Barrier, and even if it's really necessary, he would choose Zhang Jinluan over Si Xixin."

After Yuann Mingzhen finished, Tao Qian's expression immediately grew more grave.

It's irrelevant which side the Emperor of the two Alchemist factions supports.

What's truly crucial is to coerce these old monsters into reconstructing the Barrier.

Should they continue their dispute, once the Human Dao Torrent weakens, Tao Qian's reality will immediately be exposed.

By then, all would be lost.

The few people in the room all understood this point.

The Qingjing Old Monk seemed to have anticipated this, and at that moment he solemnly sighed:

"It seems there is no other way."

"My child, I know what worries you. The Spirit Treasure Sect indeed has a taboo against not getting involved in the turbid qi of the Human World, the poison of fortune, thus it never partakes in supporting the Human Emperor."

"You fear that because of you, causing the Spirit Treasure Ten Thousand Immortals to descend the mountain might lead to a tragic outcome, just like what happened to the Primordial Sect in the past."

"Such an outcome is indeed possible."

"But we have not yet reached that stage, so how about this, let me issue an invitation on your behalf, asking the Spirit Treasure Ten Thousand Immortals to come down from the mountains to stroll around Qiantang. There are no shortages of Uncle-Masters and Aunt-Masters within the mountain gate who owe you small karmic debts; putting together a grand show shouldn't be difficult."

"Those dozen or so old monsters from the Alchemists, their brains already corrupted and addled, will definitely think that our Spirit Treasure Sect intends to support your ascent."

"Panicked, they will surely open the Treasure Vault and do all they can to rebuild the Barrier for self-preservation."

Hearing this, Tao Qian opened his mouth, intending to refuse his Master.

But glancing over, he suddenly saw the old monk wink at him, and while he was still puzzled, he first heard his Master's transmitted message:

"Be quiet, boy, don't speak recklessly."

"You're also squandering heavenly gifts; knowing full well that the little lady beside you has powerful backing, instead of sweet-talking her into helping, you only know to avoid suspicion, how could you accomplish great things like this."

Outwardly, Duobao's tone then shifted.

This time, it seemed like he was talking to Yunrong.

"Actually, performing the play for real is also possible."

"Our Spirit Treasure Sect does not like to assist in Human Emperor affairs, but that doesn't mean you, Tao Qian, can't become the Human Emperor."

"In fact, you have a considerable karmic affinity with the imperial throne."

"Didn't Yunrong's master, Grandma Taizhen, say she fully supports you? If she would go to the Outer Realm to beseech that Tribulation Immortal, you would easily ascend to that position, knowing that the Ancient Three Saint Emperors managed to claim their thrones with that being's support."

Unintentionally said, the listener had intentions.

Yunrong, already worried about her husband, immediately showed a moved expression upon hearing this.

Without concerning herself with anything else, she promptly responded, "Brother, wait here for me, I'll return to the mountains right away to implore Grandma to ask the Ancestor Master..."

Yunrong moved swiftly, fortunately, Tao Qian was prepared.

The moment his Master spoke, he knew his naive sister would take it seriously and immediately intercepted her first.

Are you kidding?

Having married her disciple, yet still asking her to go to the Outer Realm to request the Ancestor Master's help in elevating him to the Human Emperor's throne?

Even while sponging off someone, there was no way like this.

Tao Qian was arguing with Yunrong, while glancing towards another young woman by his side.

Indeed!

He then realized it as well.

Master didn't want him to coax Yunrong for help, but Yuann Mingzhen.

This Devil Concubine, for so long lacked presence.

But Tao Qian remembered then, she was also a major support.

The reason was simple, her backing was the Ancient Three Saint Emperors.

If truly compared, among all contemporary talents competing for the throne of the Human Emperor, she was the strongest.

Yuann Mingzhen, who once was known as "Empress", was naturally among the smartest in the world.

With just one look at the performance of this master and disciple, she immediately understood their intentions.

Inevitably, she gave Master Tao a stern glance.

After carefully pondering for a while, she spoke earnestly to Tao Qian,

"Mingzhen can go to the Outer Realm and request a 'Three Saint Emperors Divine Decree'. It cannot directly support you to become Human Emperor, and I think you wouldn't want it directly either."

"But it can make everyone develop the wrong impression, such kind of forceful pressure, those old monsters among the Alchemists certainly can't withstand it."

"However, once this happens, you will certainly become the target of public criticism."

"Be it Zhang Jinluan, Si Xixin, or even Yu Yanshi... all will harbor undeniable hostility towards you."

"Because you schemed against the Alchemists and took charge of such a major event, you naturally have a deadly tribulation waiting ahead for you."

"After you receive the Three Saint Emperors Divine Decree, the intensity of your deadly tribulation will be even greater, I'm afraid you really might end up dead and vanished in cultivation."

"Master Tao, do you still want me to go...?"

After Yuann Mingzhen finished speaking, she thought that Tao Qian in front of her would ponder for a bit.

But unexpectedly, he didn't hesitate at all; he even nudged her from behind.

At the same time, he urged repeatedly, "If only you said you had this method earlier, go quickly and return quickly."

Having gotten her answer, Yuann Mingzhen looked deeply at Tao Qian for another moment.

Then, she turned around and immediately transformed into the ancient Heavenly Phoenix Dharma Form, a figure with the head of a person and the body of a bird.

She somehow used a Magic Skill and really broke through the Void, heading to the Outer Realm.

...

After Yuann Mingzhen left, the torrent of the Human Dao continued, with major forces continuously emerging to support Master Tao.

However, contributions of divine treasures gradually ceased.

The expansion speed of the Forbidden Law Barrier controlled by Tao Qian slowed down once again.

In total, it now covered around the size of four provinces.

By present outcomes, it was enough to satisfy anyone.

Within the range of the Forbidden Technique, Tao Qian had the power to grant life and death over evil cultivators committing crimes; in a few more days, Sui Chaozi would also deliver the "Governance Divine Machine," along with an army of mechanical troops.

Although it did not eliminate or shorten the Human Dao tribulation, there still would be a hundred years of chaotic war, and over a billion people would die.

But Tao Qian's contribution had been significant.

Others would have been satisfied.

But Tao Qian did not feel that way, his eyes fixed deadly on the Sea of Fortune, scattered across seventy-two provinces, a vast number as immense as the stars in the sky called "Forbidden Technique Fragments," each fragment being a treasure.

Tao Qian had now obtained many treasures, including fragments from the "Nine States' Twelve Treasures" that could immediately transform into a barrier core of the Forbidden Technique.

But compared to the complete Forbidden Technique, it still fell far short.

"Just a bit more!"

"Just forcing the Alchemists to bleed profusely, to piece these fragments back together, forming a new Longevity Barrier, a net of Ancestor God that will scoop out all those demonic remnants."

On the surface, Tao Qian maintained his composure.

Deep down, however, signs of boiling were gradually emerging.

Chapter 756 - Phoenix Call in Qiantang, Holy Emperor's Decree

Longevity Heavenly Dynasty, initiated by Tao Qian, was still sweeping through the seventy-two provinces.

The duration unexpectedly persisted, mixed with the prayers and fortune of All People, and rather than diminishing, the torrent grew more violent and concentrated.

In Qiantang Province, Tao Qian remained submerged in the Sea of Fortune, resonating with all Mortals of the Human Clan.

Maintaining such a state was indeed a great burden, demanding a heavy price.

One misstep, and he could be tormented into madness, spawning endless obsessions.

Fortunately, Tao Qian was somewhat special, holding a large number of Ancestor God Treasures and ruling over four provinces, supported by all Mortals, thus he could temporarily resist.

One day!

Two days!

Three days!

Nobody expected that the terrifying torrent would last a full three days.

Even Tao Qian, whose body and soul were both exhausted, was now in shock.

During these three days, numerous Sect forces starting with Primordial Sect, followed by Taishang Dao, Heavenly Talisman Sect, Shenxiao Sect, Shaoqing Sect, Pure Yang Sect, Canxuan Sect, Infant Sect, Heavenly Mechanism Building, Toad Sect... including Great Buddhist Sects like Free Temple, Dharma Cakra Temple, had declared their support or even sent Divine Treasures and Magical Treasures.

Compelled by the might of the Human Dao Torrent, they all had stood out.

And these forces, they all received rewards.

Even some Demon Sects, whose methods of cultivation were extremely cruel, as long as they declared their support for Master Tao in rebuilding the Forbidden Law Barrier at this time.

They also shared in plenty of fortune and received great blessings.

A large number of forces in the Mortal World, governing bodies, or some neutral warlords, for various reasons, expressed their support in a "nationwide broadcast" manner.

During these days, broadcasts filled the skies, each hour famous powers or people across the nation stood out, shouting their support for Master Tao, creating a tremendous momentum.

And the prayers of billions of the nation's people did not enter the state of "initial vigor depleting and weakening," but became even more tumultuous and magnificent.

Almost every province, every city, erupted in various marches and rebellious activities.

Be it Cultivators!

Or Mortals!

All became active, supporting Master Tao in Qiantang in various ways.

A magnificent collective force was churning, seemingly ready to crush any obstacles ahead.

"Hope!"

"By doing this, I have given all Mortals of the seventy-two provinces a hope."

"It might even be said to be the only hope, although they haven't embarked on the path of cultivation, under the resonance of fortune, they probably all have a vague feeling."

"The overt momentum I've created is the last chance."

"Once shattered, a century of warlord chaos and the ravages of God Demons will be unavoidable. It would require at least a dozen billion lives lost to select a new Human Emperor and establish a new dynasty, returning to peace."

"Nobody wishes to become expendable, so they all try to prevent it."

"This, is the unity of wills, a strong fortress of collective determination."

Tao Qian looked over the entire world, observing those still flashing Ancestor God Fragments, with a profound realization throbbing within him.

If he were alone, he would have fallen three days ago.

The current situation was the self-rescue of billions of people.

But what was quite ominous, was that they had indeed reached the limit.

If the Alchemists did not fall into the trap, the achievements obtained by Tao Qian would be the final outcome.

And after the doom was unleashed, it would be slowly consumed.

After all, on the Ancestor God Forbidden Technique, since the Alchemists inherited all of Ancestor Dragon's legacies, even though Tao Qian controlled the Nine Provinces' Twelve Treasures, as well as the Investiture of the Gods and other treasures, ultimately, it would be futile.

Nevertheless, even though he knew he was edging closer to failure, Tao Qian did not show the slightest panic.

During the process, he also received secret messages from the spies placed among the Alchemists, delivered by Qin Wuxiang:

"For three days, there have been countless disputes among the Alchemists."

"The twelve Emperors, along with their descendants, all due to being scorched and swept by the Human Dao Torrent, entered irritable states, often losing rationality, attacking each other, cannibalizing each other."

"If there could be one strong medicine, might the big plan succeed?"

...

It was knowing these that Tao Qian could hold on.

Although his own state wasn't much better, everything had a price.

He stirred up the Human Dao Torrent to roast that group of old monsters among the Alchemists, and he too was affected by the endless obsessions and prayers.

Additionally, when he obliterated the evil spirits and Demons within the four provinces, initially no price was needed.

Yet, pursuing absolute peace, once an evil spirit revived, or unexplainable strange phenomena reappeared, he immediately used Divine Skills to eliminate them.

As the occurrences increased, gradually a price was needed.

Within these three days, his mind incessantly roared with records.

From the initial "price can be exempted," to later "partially exempted," to recently "cannot be exempted"

Were it not for his peculiar Dharma Body, the Spirit Treasure Sublime Body, alongside his Abnormal Soul, he could have been utterly devoured, ending no better than Uncle Qin Jiao in the past.

Even so, Tao Qian still waited, waiting for the looming change.

He was certain, among them, there was one that could crush the Alchemists.

The fourth day finally arrived.

As the dark sky was melted by the morning's early sun, the first ray of Taiyang light fell on Tao Qian.

Now, Master Tao no longer looked like the "innate divine spirit" of the first day.

His hair was withered, his figure emaciated, his mana frail... anyone seeing him now would form a judgment.

Master Tao was exhausted!

Indeed, it was so.

Every pursuit of cultivation comes at a price!

This is an iron-clad law, inviolable.

Tao Qian's actions in these past few days have not only failed to distance him from cultivation; instead, they have drawn him deeper into it.

Even though Yunrong by his side tirelessly fed him various treasure medicines and spiritual drugs, it was like trying to extinguish a cartload of burning wood with a cup of water—entirely futile.

The two shared a mutual understanding, and she knew she couldn't stop her beloved husband and brother.

Duobao's avatar and the hidden Master Yuan were also aware and could only constantly sigh, "Foolish child, stupid disciple, dumb brother..."

His appearance before the people only intensified the indignation of the mortals across the Seventy-two provinces, yet they also vaguely guessed, "Could this be coming to an end?"

"It's over, even Master Tao has failed, it's been a long time since any Ancestor God Treasure has responded to him to aid him."

"One man's power can never defy a great calamity; Master Tao is indeed a prodigy ordained by heaven, but alone, he could never restore the Ancestor God Forbidden Technique and the Longevity Barrier."

"Is it really going to end like this? Aren't those Divine Treasures supposed to protect the Human Clan? Everyone says Divine Treasures have spirits, so why are they indifferent when the Human Clan calls for help?"

"Master Tao is likely to perish along with his Dao."

"If even such an immortal being can't save the world, who else can?"

"Alas, should the true master perish, we must erect a Longevity Tablet for him and worship for a hundred years."

...

Apart from inciting pity and fury among the people of the Seventy-two provinces with his pitiful state,

Tao Qian's situation also attracted mockery from numerous Demon warlords and the twelve old monsters among the alchemists.

Especially the twelve Emperors, who, amidst their disputes, still had the leisure to insert whispers that polluted the body and soul into Tao Qian's mind.

It seemed an attempt to eliminate this troublesome Spirit Treasure Daoist from afar.

"Little thing... since you came from the Spirit Treasure Sect, how have you not heard of Qin Jiao? He too was like a mantis trying to stop a chariot, quickly defeated and met a miserable end."

"Tao Qian, you do have more courage and means than Qin Jiao, at least you knew to coerce us with the momentum... but unfortunately, not only can you not afford the price, it is impossible for one person to gain the recognition of all Ancestor God Treasures. You cannot rebuild the Forbidden Law Barrier, you will only exhaust yourself to death."

"What a pitiful little thief, too deep in his obsession. Just a fool, doomed to throw away his life for nothing."

"I must say, you truly deserve to be the first Talent of the Daoist Sects, considering the price you've paid, you should have died long ago, it really is strange and astonishing."

"Tao Qian, my offer still stands; as long as you submit to me, not only will I grant you marriage, but I will also support you to sit on the Dragon Court throne. If you dislike the imperial system, you can change it as you wish."

These voices, when he was by their side, could not harm him at all as he could exempt himself from all pollutions.

But just now, these filthy imperial tones seemed to transform into millions of tiny ants burrowing into Tao Qian's brain, gnawing wildly.

In a daze, he even vaguely saw parts of these twelve monsters' true forms, greatly intensifying the pollution.

Under Tao Qian's clothes, scales, pustules, rotten flesh, gills, tentacles, bloody mouths, Demon Eyes... appeared in various abnormalities.

Duobao, Master Yuan, and even Yunrong sensed something.

Unfortunately, they couldn't help.

The reason is simple; these voices and pollution were conveyed from within the Human Dao Torrent by the twelve old monsters.

Tao Qian had to endure them, and nobody else could help.

When the twelve monsters saw Tao Qian begin to mutate, knowing he was about to die, they all increased their efforts.

But just at that moment, Tao Qian, now extremely old, suddenly displayed a brilliant smile on his face.

The whole world witnessed this moment.

Then the next moment, they all saw the heavens split open above Master Tao's head.

Accompanied by an incredibly clear cry of the Heavenly Phoenix, a cascade of rosy light spilled across the sky, and countless auspicious clouds drifted by, fully manifesting as the Primordial Heavenly Phoenix personified by Yuann Mingzhen.

From the Outer Realm, she reentered the world.

And revolved around Tao Qian, beginning to dance and cry.

At first, the people of the world thought it was the Devil Concubine, unable to bear seeing her dear brother about to die, artificially creating a "miraculous" Immortal Land.

But soon, each of the spirit mirror crystal balls reflected the book carried in Yuann Mingzhen's mouth.

That book!

Or rather, that ancient Imperial Edict when it appeared.

There was no need for the Divine Ear Sect or the Ting Di Sect to relay it.

Whether it was the mortals from the Seventy-two provinces or the monsters of the Outer Realm.

At that moment, a set of grand divine voices, as if coming from the Ancient Era, echoed in their minds.

They all realized what was happening.

"Phoenix Call in Qiantang! Virtue throughout the world!"

"Master Tao... has he received recognition from the Ancient Three Saint Emperors?"

Without corroborating evidence, the old monsters might have thought it was an illusion.

But soon, they realized it might be true.

Before this, Tao Qian had received artifacts like the Nine State's Twelve Treasures and fragments of the Investiture of the Gods.

But what was truly important, scattered across the Seventy-two provinces, the countless "Star Dust Fragments," had no_NOTICE.htm to Tao Qian.

Obviously because his foundation and strength were insufficient.

But at this moment, as the Heavenly Phoenix carrying the book arrived, and the will of the Three Saint Emperors resounded,

In various provinces, divine lights shone brightly, generating a pulling sensation from each other, and the fragmented forbidden net that Tao Qian had long observed finally showed signs of reassembly.

And the previously triumphant alchemist old monsters were at last completely panicked.

It was also at this time that the second crucially important oppression arrived.

On another side, the Void also suddenly split open a portal.

Missing for several days, "Sui Chaozi," carrying a Divine Mechanism, came from the Outer Realm.

Chapter 757 - Achieving Victory Over a Province in 15 Minutes, Master Tao's Plan Finally Succeeds

The Human Dao Torrent that swept through the seventy-two provinces lasted for three days, leaving no place in peace.

The cries and roars of billions of the Human Clan could not be ignored by anyone.

Yet, even torrents have their ending day, and as it neared its limit, it appeared to end with the phrase "Master Tao Oil Extinguished, Lamp Burned Out."

Suddenly, a Heavenly Phoenix carrying a book arrived from the Outer Realm.

The book contained the imperial edicts of the Ancient Three Saint Emperors, suggesting that Master Tao was the Heir of Heavenly Destiny.

Such treatment!

No one in this world had ever received such.

Even Yu Yanshi, backed by the support of the Primordial Sect, could not temporarily summon the backing of the Three Saint Emperors.

At that moment, those treasures of the Ancestor God scattered across the seventy-two provinces suddenly stirred, seemingly ready to respond to Tao Qian and the billions of people's call, to re-form the Ancestor God Forbidden Technique Longevity Barrier that once enveloped the nation.

The twelve emperors, who were initially enjoying the spectacle and expecting to see that petty thief of the Spirit Treasure Sect exhausted to death, were suddenly anxious.

It so happened that, at this time, a generous gift from the lineage of Heaven Venerable arrived.

Eating Book Elder, accompanied by Chaozi, was the first to breach the Void.

Behind him, the entire sky seemed to transform into water ripples, propelling a divine mechanical behemoth into this realm.

This monstrous contraption was even larger than the previous Mechanical Demon Buddha.

After Nirvana Demon Buddha lost to Heaven Venerable, he took away all the Buddhist Law within the divine machine, leaving only a pile of "rubbish."

However, the divine mechanical creature appearing at this time seemed to have undergone countless transformations, turning into an immense humanoid fortress, a mighty divine machine.

It emitted a faint blue glow, and behind its head was a massive creation wheel.

And its face looked exactly like Tao Qian's.

Even Tao Qian himself, upon seeing it, couldn't help but be momentarily bewildered.

But quickly, he realized he had developed a profoundly mysterious connection with this "Governance Divine Machine."

In his mind, a series of detailed records spontaneously formed.

[Record Type: Governance Divine Machine.]

[Record Type: Mechanical Creation.]

[Record: This is a divine mechanical creation forged by the lineage of Outer Realm Heaven Venerable. Its design nearly exhausts sophistication, transformable into various weapons, from one to billions, capable of daunting a land and ruling over provinces. Its energy is boundlessly majestic, engraved with countless secret techniques and divine talismans from this realm and the Outer Realm, capable of handling karma-debt and everything under heaven, hence named 'Governance,' a supreme divine mechanism.]

[Note one: This object possesses combat power above the Daoist Transformation Realm, and due to special reasons, it can ignore various restrictions and move within this realm.]

[Note two: This object possesses potential for growth, capable of ingesting various treasures and spiritual materials to strengthen itself, or imbue various secret techniques to transform its own Intelligence.]

[Note three: Using this object can make one an almost perfect 'ruler,' but over time, emotions will gradually fade. The cultivation path will lean towards the mechanical, the heart will become indifferent and devoid of compassion, absolutely rational, and in the end, choose to merge with the divine machine, achieving a form of immortality, also signifying the loss of the original self.]

[Note four: This object has acknowledged its master... all costs are waived!]

...

Upon seeing the initial records, Tao Qian was somewhat nervous.

But as that familiar last note surfaced, his spirit relaxed and joy emerged.

"In some way, is this an emotionless, accidentally undisturbed version of me, possessing infinite wisdom and mechanical might?"

"A mechanical divine machine version of Master Tao, stripped of temperament, trivial matters, karma, and enhanced with plenty of capabilities?"

Tao Qian made his judgment, just about to ponder further.

Suddenly, another major gift accompanied by Chaozi was delivered, and the sky split again.

In a surge of divine light, the scene of what seemed to be another world was projected.

The territory was clearly a vast underground mausoleum. The tomb was filled with palaces, streets, and many ancient buildings, also populated with hundreds of thousands of terracotta warriors, bronze God Generals, and white bone colossal beasts... This spectacle also needed no reminder, as everyone knew to whom this tomb belonged.

Accompanying Chaozi stated: The Ancestor Dragon established numerous tombs, scattering the once dominant army across the world for burial.

It seemed this was one of them.

And at this moment, the "Mechanical Divine Army" that had been buried and sealed off for over two thousand years woke up at the call of a majestic and wondrous Bronze God General in the forefront.

The tomb stirred, the army revived.

With numerous portals of the Void being opened, this Mechanical Divine Army from the "Ancestor Dragon Tomb" boldly entered Qiantang Province's territory.

Instantly, this province, like fireworks of prosperity, had its aura reversed.

A seemingly unstoppable and unmatched iron-blooded momentum swept nearly every corner of the province.

Watching the scene, people from the remaining seventy-one provinces, regardless of north or south, momentarily forgot to breathe.

In a trance, they seemed to traverse over two thousand years of history, witnessing the establishment process of the Longevity Heavenly Dynasty.

Seeing this scene, Tao Qian, who seemed to have exhausted his oil and lamp, had an unprecedented captivating divine light in his eyes.

Without a hint of hesitation, Master Tao made a decision that shocked the entire world the next moment.

He lifted his head, looking straight towards Qiantang's neighboring province: East E Province.

Then, under everyone's gaze.

He directly issued an imperial decree towards the "Governance Divine Machine" and "Lian Jing'er."

"Take down this province!"

When this command echoed,

even Yu Yanshi, who regarded himself as highly knowledgeable about Master Tao, fell into doubt.

The same was true for other talents of the time and other warlords.

The reason?

Many people had the same doubts as reflected in numerous Spirit Mirror Crystal Balls.

"War? Master Tao, is he actually initiating a war?"

"Is this still Master Tao? Although he drove significant events like the Demon City Incident, the Yang Sui Uprising, the New Moon Rebellion, etc., he was more of a unique participant guiding the course of affairs. Post-event records all prove that Master Tao only wanted to protect the civilians of the Human Clan from slaughter. He never seemed to harbor any intention of ruling a place, let alone waging war."

"A war of conquest to seize territories is indeed not Master Tao's style."

"Could it be that Master Tao has now truly harbored the intent to compete for the throne of the Human Emperor?"

"It must be so. The Imperial Edict of the Ancient Three Saint Emperors is clear evidence... Master Tao must have had that thought for the Three Saint Emperors to have the Heavenly Phoenix bring the Imperial Edict."

With the discussion among the people of the world,

there seemed to gradually emerge an accepted logical conclusion.

At this moment, Yu Yanshi, who had previously feigned support, thinking that Tao Qian posed no threat, along with Zhang Jinluan, Si Xixin, and other contemporary talents, all grew solemn in their expression.

They were confident they could defeat other competitors,

but it was a different matter if it was Master Tao coming.

Not to mention Tao Qian's terrifying talents and methods, just his influential backing alone was enough to cause shivers.

Consequently, the rankings of the Talent Hidden Dragon would directly change; the first position would no longer be Si Xixin but inevitably Tao Qian.

Even though, as of now, he controls only about four provinces.

The most panicked, naturally, were the twelve old monsters of the Alchemist Circle.

They too initially thought Tao Qian was just bluffing to swindle them into opening their Treasure Vault, and thus sternly refused to be deceived.

But now, it was completely different.

If Tao Qian truly made that decision to conquer the throne of the Human Emperor, with his methods, wisdom, and the backing of billions of recognized civilians, along with terrifying supporters, who could still contest him?

"Don't panic, look at this man's past actions. Although very bizarre by nature, he is ultimately a person who yearns for Longevity and freedom. He definitely won't compete..."

Inside an Outer Realm Secret Realm, the roar of an Emperor of Alchemists hadn't yet ended.

Suddenly, the war that erupted abruptly within the realm also concluded very swiftly and unexpectedly, shocking everyone with its speed and outcome.

In just 15 minutes,

the war was over.

Using those numerous Spirit Mirrors, a brief yet astonishing report of the battle instantly spread to every province and city.

"Dong'e Province, the ruler of this province was the warlord 'Poisonous Insect Demon Pang Xun,' who possessed part of the Ancient Gu Scripture and specialized in various Gu Poisoning Demon Techniques.

He ruthlessly created a Poisonous Insect Army and sadistically spread various Gu Worms, transforming at least several million people into Gu Slaves to torment and enslave them."

"Just 15 minutes ago, Tao Qian, Master Tao, commanded his Mechanical Divine Army and the Governance Divine Machine to enter this province."

"Pang Xun ordered the Poisonous Insect Army to meet them in battle. The gu techniques, which had previously troubled even the Devil God Army, were totally ineffective against the Mechanical Divine Army and were quickly annihilated."

"Realizing the inevitable defeat, Pang Xun initially wanted to drag the tens of millions of people in the province down with him as his funeral. However, he was struck by a Karma Divine Light from the Governance Divine Machine from thousands of miles away."

"Despite Pang Xun's Cultivation reaching the Cavernous Mystery Profound and having the support of over a dozen Heterodox and Devil Major Sects, he was compelled in that instant to pay all his Karmic debts, dying instantly."

"Dong'e Province, fell into the hands of Master Tao."

"Even though the Forbidden Law Barrier controlled by Master Tao has not yet expanded to include this province, the Governance Divine Machine suddenly divided into millions of Divine Mechanism Avatars. In a short period, these filled the province and began to eradicate all the Evil Cultivators, God and Demons, and Alien Species...Though this effect is not exactly like the Barrier, it is almost similar."

"As of now, Master Tao controls five provinces and each one is free from any rampaging Evil Cultivators and is incredibly Peaceful."

...

These shockwaves of battle reports,

while dropping the jaws of everyone,

also immediately brought about a drastic change that the twelve Emperors of Alchemists could hardly bear anymore.

The already furious Human Dao Torrent surged once again, this time much more violently than before.

Master Tao's prestige reached an unimaginable zenith.

Billions of people, including those in Yu Yanshi's territories in the South, all the civilians of the Human Clan were shouting Master Tao's name.

They all longed for the day when Master Tao's army would also arrive in their provinces soon.

How could such a reputation not be beneficial?

It must be, and unimaginably so.

While others might not see it clearly, from their position in the Outer Realm, they saw everything crystal clear.

The enormous Human Dao destiny, virtues, and blessings were secondary; what was truly unbearable for the twelve was that all the Ancestor God Treasures scattered across the provinces started to stir.

They all burst forth Divine Radiance, ready to move.

It seemed that at the command of Master Tao, these treasures would all fly towards him and, under his decree, reconfigure into a new Longevity Barrier.

This scene, indeed, became the last straw that broke the camels' back for those mutant Emperors.

Chapter 758: Purifying Heart, Transforming into Dragon, Ascension to Golden Throne

Tao Qian, who always sought carefree and longevity, suddenly launched a campaign of conquest. Bolstered by the divine decree of the Ancient Three Saint Emperors and the stirrings of all Ancestor God Treasures,

it ultimately crushed the Founding Emperors within the Alchemists who had mutated over the years.

They all knew that if Tao Qian were to take control of the seventy-two provinces, each of their deaths would be utterly tragic—a lesson drawn from the fates of the two "Daoist friends" before them.

Even though Zhu Rizhao and Gao Huan were indeed devoured by them,

there was no denying that Tao Qian was the lead culprit.

The fear of dying and vanishing from the Dao!

Even if one has undergone Daoist Transformation, how can it be dispelled?

Even at this juncture, Ancestor Emperor Liu still cried out:

"Hold back, all of you hold back for me."

"This man could never rebuild the Forbidden Law Barrier by himself, even with the support of his billions of foolish subjects. He doesn't have the resources, nor does he have the full inheritance of the Ancestor Dragon's legacy like us..."

The logic was sound, without any flaws.

Unfortunately, all twelve of them were Emperors, all accustomed to being decisive and authoritative.

How could they possibly heed the advice of others at such a critical moment of life and death?

The first to betray him was none other than his mortal enemy, Li Wanshou.

"This rat is mad! Once he's made up his mind, he's bound to carry it through. If he comes to power later, we surely will live worse than death. As the Eternal Emperor, how could I allow another to control my fate?"

"When it comes to conquering the world, whom have I, Li Wanshou, ever feared?"

Before he could finish speaking, he paid no mind to what Liu Pei might think and took action immediately.

A thunderous "boom" erupted, starting from the Imperial City and spreading to the rest of the country's provinces.

In an instant, it captured the attention of the whole world.

Fortunately, Sects like Divine Ear Sect and Ting Di Sect had experts behind them who understood that this battle, being between the First Heavenly Pride of Daoism and the Alchemists, was bound to affect the whole country.

So they had made arrangements in advance and instantly broadcast the scene of the Imperial City to the eyes of the world.

Before seeing anything, the people of the seventy-two provinces first heard an imperial edict, grand and authoritative:

"I am Li Wanshou."

"I once founded the Li Dynasty in this realm, with unparalleled martial achievements, expanding territories and ensuring peace and security for the people; all over the Ten Directions and Nine Realms, I was acknowledged as the Sky Khan."

"I have heard of the shattering of the Ancestor God Forbidden Technique Longevity Barrier and have returned from the Outer Realm. For the sake of all people, I wish to establish Si Xixin as the new ruler."

"Bestow the Ancestor Dragon Bloodline!"

"Bestow the treasures of the Li Dynasty!"

"I hope the new monarch will understand the principle that the monarch is the boat and the people are the water; the water can carry the boat but can also capsize it. Employ civil governance and martial valor to initiate a new era, rebuild the Barrier, and protect all people."

...

It has to be said, once the Imperial Edict resounded,

much of the shock brought by Tao Qian was instantly diminished.

Billions of people from the seventy-two provinces, whether they had been educated or not, were all staring wide-eyed with disbelief.

Who was Li Wanshou?

Just as the imperial edict stated, he was a figure who stepped right out of the history books.

The founder of the Li Dynasty, he had tremendous achievements and was indeed called the Sky Khan.

Among the myriad of Emperors in the Longevity Heavenly Dynasty, he was one of the few entitled to be called the Eternal Emperor.

When such a figure proclaimed himself to have returned from the Outer Realm to appoint a new ruler and save people from calamity, who could remain calm?

Especially following the imperial edict, what was unfolding was a scene of the Immortals that could only be seen in ancient mythological paintings:

Above the sky, sudden sounds of water were heard,

followed by melodious Immortal music, drifting auspicious clouds, and swirling auspicious qi.

It was as if the Tianhe was reversing its flow, turning the territory of the Imperial City into a vast ocean in an instant.

What was amazing was that the citizens within it felt no sense of suffocation, let alone drowned.

On the contrary, in that moment, everyone could see the joy on the faces of the citizens of the Imperial City, hear their exclamations, as if they were soaking in "Jadescent Nectar," benefiting immensely without harm, prolonging life, and eradicating all illnesses.

What was even more astounding was that fish of all sizes, each with distinct spiritual essences and colorful stripes, swam in from treasures of the Heavenly Palace of the Outer Realm into this world.

These unbelievable sights immediately rekindled the people's beautiful hopes for Li Wanshou.

After all, the history books, which wrote of him in no uncertain terms,

presented him as a monarch who loved his people,

a naturally trustworthy figure, stirring cheers from the crowd:

"We are saved, we are finally saved!"

"To witness such a scene of Immortals, it is evident the Grand and Filially Pious Emperor of Civil and Martial Virtues did not meet his end. Instead, he attained the way of the Immortal and left for the Outer Realm, now hurrying back from afar to save the world upon hearing of the calamity befalling his people."

"Si Xixin is indeed one of the rare figures amongst the Northern Land's various warlords who love the people, and also possesses extraordinary bloodline and great wisdom. Having him as the new Human Emperor... indeed seems more suitable than Master Tao."

"Look, Si Xixin is transforming into a True Dragon."

With the exclamations, everyone then saw a never-before-seen enormity, a Big Fish with surging Divine Light and boundless colors leap out.

This fish suddenly spoke up, saying:

"Si Xixin abides by the sage's teachings!"

"Hereby I swear, even if my body and Dao perish, and my brains and blood are dashed to the ground, I shall employ this body and life to rebuild that Ancestor God Forbidden Technique and ensure the safety of all people."

Nobody could have expected that, immediately after taking the stage, Si Xixin, transformed into a Big Fish, repeated Master Tao's great vow.

Right after he finished speaking, a formidable and unimaginable portal appeared above his head.

Behind that door stood a figure that seemed eternally present and shocked those familiar with history—Ancestor Dragon!

The very founder of the Longevity Heavenly Dynasty, Ancestor Emperor Liu stood there, leaning on his sword, with a Heavenly Palace Treasure Vault opening behind him, as if gathering all the treasures under the sky.

Upon witnessing such a scene, even a fool would know what was about to happen.

Si Xixin was about to leap over the Dragon Gate, obtain the Ancestor Dragon Bloodline, gain access to the Heavenly Palace Treasure Vault, and use it to rebuild the Forbidden Law Barrier.

Without a doubt, this was another great new hope for All People.

And it seemed, even more reliable than Master Tao.

After all, Si Xixin had the endorsement of Li Wanshou, the "Saint Emperor who loved his people."

Instantly at that moment, the Human Dao Fortune and Blessing that had originally surged towards Tao Qian were now being diverted, a large portion now flowing towards Si Xixin.

The combined force, which formed in an instant, truly pushed this new ruler over the Dragon Gate.

"The will of the people!"

"The new emperor ascends to the throne!"

Accompanying this Imperial Edict, billions of rainbow lights burst forth.

Si Xixin, within them, officially commenced Transforming into Dragon.

...

Such a mythic spectacle set tens of billions of hearts racing with excitement.

Yet at Tao Qian's place, while there was joy, a cold smile also emerged.

A false illusion could deceive the entire world, but naturally, it could not deceive the Spiritual Resonance Eye of Tao Qian.

What he now saw was this:

Si Xixin revealed his true form, a grotesque creature that was half-fish, half-dragon, splendidly colorful, with a body covered in fish hooks and rotting sores, being fed by a swarm of decaying strange fish in the midst of the Human Dao Torrent leaping over the Dragon Gate.

His food was none other than the "Ancestor Dragon Dead Fetus" that Yuann Mingzhen had mentioned before.

Its form was that of a grotesque infantile flesh, as large as mountains, skinless, drenched in blood, bloated and decaying with countless bizarre wounds.

Had it not been for the dense imperial majesty exuding from each corpse, even Tao Qian would not dare to imagine that these ghastly things were stripped from the body of the Ancestor Emperor himself.

To others, Si Xixin in the midst of Transforming into Dragon was letting out pleasurable Dragon Roars.

But to Tao Qian, the man was actually screaming in agony.

It made sense, considering that each of the Ancestor Dragon Dead Fetuses was larger than Si Xixin's original form; cramming one after another into his stomach, on top of guzzling pus water from the Immortal Fish Pond to aid digestion, caused his mouth to tear with every bite, eventually splitting open to the back of his head.

With such tremendous suffering came equally immense benefits.

Tao Qian, present in the Human Dao Torrent, could clearly feel the impact of "Si Xixin's Transforming into Dragon and ascending to the throne" on himself, as the ample benefits that should have been his flowed towards the other.

Not only were they healing his injuries and offsetting his costs, but they also established a tight connection between him and the Ancestor God Treasures scattered across the provinces.

Combined with his newly inherited Heavenly Palace Treasure Vault, his presence suddenly rose to be on par with Tao Qian.

"Not enough, not enough!"

"Just Li Wanshou alone is not sufficient."

"Keep them coming, just one more will do."

Tao Qian murmured joyfully to himself.

With his wisdom, how could he not know that his Great Plan had succeeded?

Yuann Mingzhen once said: Twelve Emperors of Alchemist, divided into two factions, led by Li Wanshou and Liu Pei respectively.

Now that Li Wanshou had fallen for the trap and entered the fray, Liu Pei wouldn't want to die and would have to follow suit.

As if to confirm the thought in Tao Qian's heart, just as Si Xixin continued to wail,

Outside the realm, a vast shadow cursed:

"Li Wanshou, what a fool."

"If this causes me harm, I won't let you off."

"Gentlemen, place your bets with me."

What mortals heard as a terrifying delirium was thus shouted out.

Within the realm, another Imperial Edict resounded.

Sects like Divine Ear and Ting Di, had already dutifully started broadcasting.

"I am Liu Pei."

"Who once established the Liu Family dynasty in this territory, with glorious military achievements, expanding borders, and bringing peace and prosperity to people, was hailed by Shifang and nine realms as the Eternal Emperor."

"Now hearing the Ancestor God Forbidden Technique Longevity Barrier is broken... seeking to appoint Zhang Jinluan as the new emperor."

"Grant an Ancestor Dragon incarnation!"

"Grant the Liu Family's Treasure Vault!"

"May you... rebuild the Barrier, and protect All People."

With this series of grand sacred proclamations, the Seventy-two provinces were once again ignited.

Everyone's faces couldn't help but flush with excitement.

No one can be blamed for such a turn of events that no one could have imagined.

Li Wanshou emerging from the history books was one thing, but now, unexpectedly, there came Liu Pei.

Even though this "Ancestor Emperor Liu" had not yet displayed Great Divine Power, not a single person doubted his identity.

The reason?

Simply hearing him brazenly plagiarize Li Wanshou's Imperial Edict was proof enough of the characteristic of that Eternal Sovereign.

The only surprise was that these two emperors, who both enjoyed nearly the highest regard in the history books, had chosen different candidates as the new Human Emperor.

And as Liu Pei issued his Imperial Edict, as everyone watched the Great Divine Power he was about to unleash, they all began to anticipate:

"If Ancestor Emperor Li and Emperor Liu have returned from the Outer Realm, what about the other Founding Emperors?"

"Back then, Tao Master revealed that each generation of emperors lay prostrate under the Longevity Heavenly Dynasty, leeching blood for survival, but it appears now that the emperors have turned into Immortals and left for the Outer Realm."

"Whom do you believe? I only believe in Tao Master."

"Come place your bets quickly, who will be the third Ancestor Emperor to appear in the world? And whom will he support?"

Chapter 759: Miracle in the Human World, Descent of the Seven Emperors

Li Wanshou assisted Si Xixin in ascending to the throne. To put on a saintly display for all to see, he purposely conjured the illusion of a celestial event as magnificent as the Immortal Fish Heavenly Palace.

As his sworn enemy, Liu Pei had copied the imperial edict word for word, so how could he forget this?

Indeed, likewise accompanied by thunderous booming sounds.

Within Fengtian Province, suddenly there was a noise like the sky was falling and the earth was splitting.

The entire province was instantly filled with endless, multicolored auspicious clouds of virtue, turning the mundane lands below into a Nine Heavens Immortal Cloud Sea.

Within the sea of clouds, the sound of Dragon Roars echoed.

Then countless True Dragons of various shapes and hues appeared, weaving through the clouds, displaying their Divine Skills and instantly transforming Fengtian Province into a Daoist Secret Realm fit for heavenly divine beings.

Compared to this, Li Wanshou's Miracle "Immortal Fish Ocean" seemed even more shocking.

Of course, it was also more cunning.

Li Wanshou had arranged for Si Xixin to become a Seven-colored Immortal Fish, cross the Dragon Gate, and ascend to the Human Emperor's esteemed position.

Liu Pei went even further, directly producing these countless True Dragons, guarding the Zhang Jinluan, who had become unspeakably noble, already draped in the Human Emperor's robes, step by step ascending to heaven.

What was even more astonishing was the next scene:

Roar!

This unprecedented Dragon Roar appeared as if it could be heard across all Seventy-two provinces.

As the heavens and the earth trembled, a vast portal tore open, leading to the Outer Realm; at this moment, another Mechanical Divine Machine beyond mortal imagination passed through this portal, slowly emerging from the Outer Realm Abyss.

This Divine Mechanism was dragon-shaped, entirely black, even larger than the Governance Divine Machine possessed by Tao Qian.

Despite being constructed of machinery, whether it was the scales, whiskers, or the dragon's eyes, they all seemed crafted from Black Jade glazing, flashing with an aura of divine inviolability.

This corner of the world, the Seventy-two provinces, and billions of All People appeared to be reflected in its eyes and body, under its control.

Anyone who looked upon this Divine Mechanism would subconsciously think of terms like "Supreme" and "Master of Heaven and Earth", an unfathomable thought indeed.

Thanks to prior revelations of secrets by Yuann Mingzhen, Tao Qian naturally knew that this dragon was actually a mechanical avatar left by the Ancestor Dragon, known as the Ancestor Dragon Divine Machine.

However, like his beloved sister, he only knew the name and some of the history of the Divine Mechanism, not the specifics of its Power.

Fortunately, at this time, Sui Chaozi had not yet departed.

Seeing the confusion on Tao Qian's face, he spoke directly to clarify:

"That Divine Mechanism is an authentic relic of the Ancestor Dragon, it's the relic of its Corpse Immortal."

"Its Power and authority indeed surpass your own Governance Divine Machine, especially now that the Forbidden Law Barrier is being reconstructed, the Ancestor Dragon Divine Machine holds part of the Great Forbidden Technique's privileges."

"It's hard for Liu Pei to let go, actually willing to gift this object to that junior."

"With Li Wanshou and Liu Pei both making their move, the other Fallen Demon Emperors are likely to follow suit soon."

"If so, not only will you be unable to ascend to the Human Emperor's esteemed position, but there is also the risk of a great calamity threatening your life and Dao Path."

"What do you think, young man, any regrets?"

No sooner had Sui Chaozi finished speaking.

Than Tao Qian immediately broke into a bright smile, joyfully responding, "To the elder, not only do I have no regrets, but my heart is also full of joy."

Sui Chaozi appeared to have known Tao Qian would say this, nodding his head like a big pumpkin and laughing again, "Good, a good temperament. If you can escape this calamity, when you are free, you may visit the Tianzhi Public Arena. My Master also favors juniors with your disposition. When the time comes, you may find a fortunate opportunity waiting for you."

"By the way, you may worry about other matters, but you can rest assured about that Mechanical Species called 'Lian Jing'er'."

"He is destined to be my disciple. No matter how great the calamities of this realm are, they will not reach him."

After those last words, Sui Chaozi did not wait for Tao Qian's response and directly vanished into the Void without a trace.

Tao Qian stood in place, happy for Lian Jing'er for finding a good mentor and stronghold, meanwhile contemplating whether Sui Chaozi's words had hidden implications.

And just at that moment!

Inside Fengtian Province, Zhang Jinluan, protected by countless True Dragons, ascended step by step, finally stepping onto the black dragon.

Just like Si Xixin before, Zhang Jinluan also made a Great Vow:

"Zhang Jinluan solemnly follows the Saint's teachings!"

"I swear here that even if I should perish on the Dao... to rebuild the Ancestor God Forbidden Technique, to protect the safety of All People."

"After inheriting the Ancestor Dragon's relic, I will use it for the good of the people, to ensure peace and security, food and clothing without worry, free from disasters and diseases."

Zhang Jinluan proved to be a promising Hidden Dragon Heavenly Pride among the candidates for the new Human Emperor.

His skill at Drawing Pie was truly divine.

And the commoners, they were particularly susceptible to this.

Especially those Miracles manifested in Fengtian Province, which were undeniably corroborating that Zhang Jinluan was the true legal inheritor of the Ancestor Dragon's lineage.

Otherwise, how could he control the mechanical relic of the Ancestor Dragon?

At this moment, the Human Dao Torrent was once again diverted.

Those who flocked to Zhang Jinluan instantly became the biggest faction among the three.

And the Ancestor God Fragments that had already shown Divine Radiance and movement, now stirred even more fiercely, as if ready to respond to Zhang Jinluan's call at any moment.

This ascension was indeed a signal.

Yuann Mingzhen said: Though the Twelve Emperors of Alchemist are independent from one another and often engage in savage battles, when it comes to supporting a Human Emperor, they are divided into two factions, each led by Li Wanshou and Liu Pei, who have chosen Si Xixin and Zhang Jinluan.

Now that the faction leaders had made their move, the rest of the Emperors would not hesitate.

Sides began to be chosen.

In both the Imperial City and Fengtian, one "Miracle" after another crazily unfolded.

Each Miracle indicated that one of the Emperors who had founded a new dynasty from the Outer Realm had returned and indicated their support for either Si Xixin or Zhang Jinluan.

Billions of people watched, their eyes dazzled and hearts surging with emotion.

Especially those emperors at the back, who were obviously even more shameless. Aside from the miracles that accompanied their Daoist Transformation Realm, they used their authority from the Longevity Heavenly Dynasty to manifest all sorts of historical achievements from their reigns as emperors.

It was as if they forcibly took those billions of people through a history review, recalling their own past accomplishments.

Even if Tao Qian could see through these emperors' true nature now, he could not deny these manifestations.

Such scenes directly counteracted the shock brought by the "Heavenly Phoenix Carrying a Book."

And with the reappearance of these emperors, the crumbling Forbidden Law Barrier began to resonate with its scattered fragments, gradually revealing traces of an immense net covering all seventy-two provinces, resembling the heavens strewn with stars.

There was no need for these emperors to boast; the Forbidden Technique seemed to possess descriptive functions itself.

Normally,

Such descriptions and evaluations should include both praise and criticism.

But at this moment, the various "historical evaluations" echoing throughout the Imperial City and Fengtian were selected by these Fallen Demon Emperors.

There was only praise, no disparagement.

First, in the Imperial City, when the third Ancestor Emperor appeared to express support for Si Xixin, a grand Daoist proclamation resounded:

"Zhao Xuanglang!"

"He is the Zhao Family Ancestor. With diligent effort, he stabilized the world, accumulated military achievements, cleansed all lands, benevolently founded the nation, revered the Saintly Dao, and embodied regal virtues. He carefully administered justice and cared for the people, punished extravagance, and stemmed corruption. His essence was pure, and his royal words profound..."

Before everyone could digest this, another Daoist proclamation rang out in Fengtian.

This time it was someone well-known to Tao Qian and the members of the Ancestor Dragon Society.

"Yang Longxi!"

"He is the Yang Family Ancestor. Throughout his imperial life, his sole excessive severity was in his use of punishments; his diligent administration and love for the people, however, were truly in his nature. His Thrifty Virtue was unparalleled in both past and present. Hence, the state's finances during his reign were also exceedingly prosperous. He dealt with foreign tribes with the ambition to expel them for the peace of the people... for the welfare of All People, I desire to establish Zhang Jinluan as the new Human Emperor."

"Grant the Ancestor Dragon Talisman!"

"Grant the Yang Family's Treasure Vault!"

...

"Sima Zhongda!"

"He is the Sima Family Ancestor. With a distinguishing appearance, he was fated to assist the mandate, governing through culture, and daunting through martial prowess. He treated people as his own, and his search for the wise was relentless; his deep emotions were obstructed and unfathomable, his nature was generously accommodating, shining with the common dust, adjusting with the times, restraining his scales and hiding his wings, ready to join the wind and clouds."

"I, who have already attained the Dao Fruit of an immortal, now return from the Outer Realm upon hearing of the Longevity Barrier's breaking, wishing to establish Si Xixin as the new Human Emperor."

"Grant the Ancestor Dragon Holy Robe!"

"Grant Sima's Treasure Vault!"

...

"Xue Chanhhan!"

"He is the Xue Family Ancestor who unfolded a grand vision, united within and beyond, his virtue and authority reached far and wide, established his rule as a model for generations, revered scholars, and discerned the treacherous, swiftly employing and dismissing, was clear-sighted and decisive, and had no regrets in his governance."

"For the welfare of All People, I desire to establish Zhang Jinluan as the new Human Emperor."

"Grant the Ancestor Dragon Treasure Blade!"

"Grant Xue's Treasure Vault!"

...

"Yuwen Heitai!"

"He is the Yuwen Family Ancestor, who knew people's strengths and aptly employed them, accepted admonitions as if following the flow. He revered Confucianism, was astute in governance, and his grace and fidelity encompassed all. He could control the valiant; all who met him desired to dedicate their service."

"I, having already achieved immortality, now return from the Outer Realm, wishing to establish Si Xixin as the new sovereign."

"Grant the Ancestor Dragon Battle Halberd!"

"Grant Yuwen's Treasure Vault!"

...

Boiling, all seventy-two provinces were boiling.

Even the small vendors rushing through the streets knew.

This day was bound to be recorded in the annals of history.

Even though the real dramatic changes had not yet come, within the short span of a few dozen breaths, there were already seven historical figures reincarnating.

It was as if the past millennium of history was unfolding before people in another form.

What was particularly exciting and heart-throbbing was that these "great emperors" seemed to have returned from the Outer Realm to save the common folk.

Their purpose, apart from establishing a new Human Emperor, was clearly to reconstruct the Forbidden Law Barrier.

Ever since the Cultivation World became visible, at first, billions of common people envied the prospect of Longevity.

But as the "Cultivation Truth" gradually got exposed, and Evil Cultivators wreaked havoc,

Billions of people longed even more for a return to the past, to days when the Human Clan was not considered mere blood food or fodder.

These Ancestor Emperors, it seemed, were now the greatest hope.

Although in the eyes of Tao Qian, whether it was Zhao Xuanglang or Yang Longxi, or the five that followed, their brought miracles and Emperor's Aura were fake, their true forms, essences, and Source Qi were filthy and horrifying, making one nauseous.

But now he was also extremely delighted because as these four Ancestor Emperors bestowed opportunities and unlocked their treasure vaults, the breaking Barrier finally began to reconnect.

In the heavens and the earth, it was as if an invisible giant hand had started gathering the scattered Star Dust.

With each Imperial Edict resonating, the gathering speed increased even more.

Tao Qian could sense his own "benefits" rapidly diminishing.

But he did not struggle, only waiting with full joy...

Chapter 760 - Liu Family Infighting, Xuande Mengde

Within the Alchemist ranks, there originally existed fourteen Emperors.

However, Zhu Rizhao and Gao Huan were both betrayed by Tao Qian and devoured by the remaining twelve Emperors.

Now, seven Emperors had successively made their appearances, not in the chronologically historical order of dynasties but rather in a disordered and random manner.

Tao Qian himself was well-versed in history, and so far, these seven Emperors had not gone beyond his expectations.

Yet at this moment, he couldn't help but be curious about the upcoming five, wondering who they all were.

The answer quickly became clear.

Still in the Imperial City and Fengtian, another Founding Emperor appeared in each locale, displaying miracles and issuing Imperial Edicts.

This occurrence, however, was quite unlike the previous seven Emperors.

The voices of the newly appeared Emperors in both locales were layered heavily, with one place having more layers than the other.

And the "historical evaluation" selected seemed not only to evaluate one individual but to concatenate the words appraising several people.

Most crucially, the Divine Treasures and Treasure Vaults bestowed upon Zhang Jinluan and Si Xixin were also more than one.

Imperial City contained up to ten.

Fengtian, five.

What truly surprised Tao Qian was the true appearance of these "Two Emperors" that captured his eyes.

Although it was just a fleeting glimpse of a shadow from the Outer Realm, it was still caught by the Spiritual Eyes of Tao Qian.

The Emperors among the Alchemists were all mutated monsters, a fact known to Tao Qian for a long time.

Yet people like Li Wanshou and Yang Longxi were, at the very least, recognizable as extremely powerful human cultivators who had slowly mutated and fallen.

But now, Tao Qian saw two colossal shadows that were clearly not a single individual.

The two Emperors were each a huge mass of tumor-like flesh, with countless "nauseating organs" attached, releasing millions of writhing, twitching tendrils that penetrated this world and constantly consumed nutrition. Any cultivator below Cavernous Mystery who concentrated on looking too long would suffer contamination of their Heart Soul and perish.

Even Tao Qian, after having seen it, couldn't help but feel swelling in his head, drowsy and nearly asleep.

In this negative state, Tao Qian saw clearly:

The Emperor monster of Imperial City that had descended had, on its Mutated Dharma Body, alongside countless limbs and tendrils, a total of ten different faces, each cursing, fighting, and mingling chaotically.

The one in the Fengtian Province had five Emperor faces on its Dharma Body, also in a state of chaotic bloodshed that was revolting.

"Could it be..."

A guess formed immediately in the heart of Tao Qian.

Just at that moment, Yuann Mingzhen at his side discerned the confusion in Tao Qian's heart and promptly transmitted a sound to clear it:

"The Longevity Heavenly Dynasty once had a relatively unique history."

"Back then, the great dynasty established by Li Wanshou had fallen, and thereafter, the Alchemists were supposed to guide from the shadows, swiftly ending the chaos, giving birth to a new Emperor, and starting another dynasty."

"But during that period, many unexpected events occurred, producing numerous tribulations and disasters in both the Mortal World and the Cultivation World. Daoist and Buddhist fought, demons waged war, and heresy and heterodoxy saw thousands of Magic Veins in endless combat. Even disputes

arose within the Alchemists themselves; Li Wanshou, a prodigy blessed by heaven, after entering the Alchemists, was not content with Liu Pei controlling all power, thus actively instigated a war."

"Even though in the end, it was Liu Pei who had a slight advantage, Li Wanshou's status also greatly increased, sharing a good portion of benefits."

"By the time various chaos was quelled, the Alchemists realized that during that period, the Longevity Heavenly Dynasty had produced a large number of short-lived dynasties, thus also giving rise to over a dozen Founding Emperors."

"If suddenly absorbing so many Emperors into the Alchemists, it would have been necessary to distribute a large amount of resources, which no one within the Alchemists wished to do."

"Just at that time, these Emperors were nearly all innately deficient, with massive defects, each carrying a cost they fundamentally couldn't afford. Not to mention competing with Liu Pei or Li Wanshou, even Gao Huan and Yuwen Heitai couldn't compare."

"In the end, the Two Emperors reached a consensus and used some kind of Secret Technique, dividing the dozen Emperors into two parts, each fused together, occupying a throne within the Alchemists."

"The 'Five Emperors' led by Zhu Wen were refined by Liu Pei. Given the latter's methods, naturally, underhanded tactics were employed during the fusion process, thus those Five Emperors had no power to resist before Liu Pei and could only obey."

"The 'Ten Emperors' led by Wang Jian were refined by Li Wanshou. He, too, employed some underhanded tactics, adding elements to control the Heart Soul, so the Ten Emperors could only fully obey Li Wanshou too."

"Although there's some difference in the number between the Five Emperors and the Ten Emperors, their actual strength is comparable."

Even the Divine Ear Sect and the Ting Di Sect, who could not know this secret, Yuann Mingzhen revealed it casually.

While Tao Qian had guessed the origins of those monstrous masses, how could he have known these details?

After listening, he could only sigh: Liu Pei and Li Wanshou, in dealing with their successors, were indeed in perfect dark harmony.

Yuann Mingzhen, having shared this secret, seemed not yet satisfied and wanted to divulge more, but before speaking, he teased Tao Qian with a question.

"Brother Tao, now that you know there are factions within the Alchemists, who do you think is stronger between Liu and Li?"

"If it truly came down to a struggle, between Zhang Jinluan and Si Xixin, who would gain the upper hand?"

This question had indeed been on Tao Qian's mind earlier.

The Twelve Emperors of Alchemist had split into two groups, each supporting a new Human Emperor.

At this point, it seemed that Si Xixin, supported by Li Wanshou's faction, had the upper hand. After all, not only did this scoundrel control over ten provinces, but he also held the most flourishing and crucial Capital Cities, the Imperial City and the Demon City, within his territory.

And in terms of strategic methods and wisdom Talent, Si Xixin was regarded as a prodigy among prodigies, overwhelmingly surpassing Zhang Jinluan.

If no accidents occurred, such as interference from a figure like Great Master Tao, it wouldn't be long before Si Xixin would ascend the throne.

However, since Yuann Mingzhen asked deliberately, the answer ought not to be so simple.

Indeed, seeing Tao Qian hesitant, Yuann Mingzhen didn't tease any further and directly said:

"Among these two factions, if we solely consider the foundational strength, Liu Pei is stronger than Li Wanshou."

"It's not because Liu Pei entered the alchemist circle first, but because there are more powerful descendants born in the Liu Family than in the Li Family."

"Among the Liu Family's younger generation, some possess talents, qualifications, blessings, and fortunes that are not weaker than Liu Pei himself. They just lacked the crucial title of 'Founding Emperor,' which prevented them from overcoming the Daoist Transformation Tribulation."

"Even so, the power of those individuals is extremely terrifying. Below the Daoist Transformation, they have almost no rivals... If they unite to launch a joint attack, even when facing a true Daoist Realm powerhouse, they would not be at a disadvantage."

"Because the descendants are quite powerful, Liu Pei has always been able to suppress Li Wanshou."

"Hence, although Si Xixin appears to have the upper hand now, it doesn't mean that Zhang Jinluan can't turn the tables if a conflict arises."

Another big secret seeped into Tao Qian's ears.

Tao Qian didn't need Yuann Mingzhen to elaborate too much; by briefly comparing historical records, he inferred who the terrifying Liu Family descendants Yuann Mingzhen mentioned were.

After guessing, Tao Qian seemed to think of something and subconsciously asked:

"Most of these Emperors were enlightened rulers in their lifetimes, but their temperaments greatly changed after becoming alchemists. This must be a heavy price of their bloodthirsty longing for longevity."

"The fierce Liu Family descendants must have changed as well. If so, would they still respect Liu Pei, the old ancestor?"

"They might think the old ancestor used the 'Founding Emperor' rule to rob them of their fortune, preventing them from reaching the Daoist Realm."

"Being mutated cultivators striving for the Daoist Realm, they surely wouldn't mind slaughtering or assassinating their ancestral forebear, right?"

"Even if they don't kill him, they would at least turn against him, wouldn't they?"

Yuann Mingzhen seemed to have predicted that Tao Qian would ask such questions.

After hearing this, he immediately smiled and responded:

"Indeed, that's what those individuals think, and indeed that is the case."

"Liu Pei precisely uses that rule to continuously suppress and extract the powerful fortunes and strength from his descendants, thus maintaining his suppression over Li Wanshou."

"Regrettably, although these individuals know this, they can't retaliate."

"Due to bloodline reasons, they are all under Liu Pei's control, with their lives and deaths in the hands of the old ancestor, so how could they attack?"

"As for whether there are any covert schemes, outsiders wouldn't know."

"However, there are exceptions..."

At this point, Yuann Mingzhen paused.

Then, seemingly sensing something, he pointed in the direction of the Imperial City, and continued:

"Given that the Liu Family has produced so many Emperors, having an exception isn't strange."

"Now among the Twelve Emperors, nine have already emerged, leaving three, among whom one also bears the surname Liu. This person has an extraordinary fortune and before even becoming Emperor, allied with an exceptional talent who used a cunning method to evade Liu Pei's bloodline control and even secured an alchemist emperor position."

"Perhaps for this reason, although he is a descendant of the Liu Family, after becoming an alchemist, he turned against Liu Pei and even stooped to support Li Wanshou."

"Oh, which Emperor from the history books is this? And what method did he use?"

Hearing more secret gossip, Tao Qian's eyes lit up as he asked.

Just as Yuann Mingzhen was about to speak, a familiar noise and an imperial edict resounded again from the direction of the Imperial City:

"Liu Xuande!"

"He is also a new ancestor of the Liu Family, his governance and rituals used in unison, his dignity and virtue run parallel, his merits to the people are immense, and his legacy shall be worshipped for a thousand years."

"I have heard that the Longevity Forbidden Technique in this realm has shattered, and my heart worries for all people. I have specially returned, wishing to establish Si Xixin as the new Human Emperor."

"Grant Ancestral Dragon Jade Pendant!"

"Grant Liu Family's Treasure Vault!"

...

When this imperial edict echoed, the observers from seventy-two provinces, watching the excitement and focusing on the big event, were initially stunned.

Then, they also began to sense some gossip and secrets within.

A group of Founding Emperors, split into two factions supporting two different Human Emperors, is now a well-known fact to the world.

And you, Liu Xuande, being an Emperor of the Liu Family, why not support your ancestral forebear but instead support Li Wanshou, this junior?

Could it be that the Liu Family has internal conflicts?

Just as everyone was curious about this, unexpectedly to everyone.

The next echoing imperial edict was still in the Imperial City.

Not only followed right after Liu Xuande's descent but also the words in the imperial edict indicated a close relationship between the two:

"Cao Mengde!"

"He is the founder of the Cao Family too. Observing Lord Cao's keen and strategic acumen, his divine unpredictability, his perseverance in adversity, his unshaken resolve in dangerous situations, his decisive action in critical moments, without regrets, such has not been seen since ancient times."

"I and Xuande were traveling abroad when suddenly hearing of the disaster in this realm, we returned together, wishing to establish Si Xixin as the new Human Emperor."

"Grant Ancestral Dragon Secret Book!"

"Grant Cao Family's Treasure Vault!"