

Longevity 871

Chapter 871: Red Scale Lord's Solar Secret Art, All Gods Within the Mountain and Sea Realm

The moment the Red-scaled Daoist, with a dragon's body and human face, appeared, Tao Qian immediately felt something was amiss.

The "Records of Strange Compilations" in his arms flew out, stopping on a page, indeed revealing the drawing of the Red-scaled Daoist along with a series of annotated descriptions:

Just the first line's initial four characters made Tao Qian's expression solemn, as he instantly moved over.

"Red Day Daoist!"

"Originating from the Source Sea Secret Realm of Zhong Mountain, a disciple of Zhong Mountain God Zhu Jiuyin, his true form is an ancient alien species, the Red Day Python. Born with the ability of Day Transformation and the rare Divine Skills like spewing True Sun Fire, relying solely on his powerful body, he crossed the Source Sea before even achieving Dao. After achieving Dao, he compiled the 'Zhong Mountain Great Sun Secret Transmission Scripture'."

"Throughout the realms, this Daoist Lord has left behind magic veins like the Great Sun Sect and Red Day Cave."

"This Daoist Lord, including his master Zhong Mountain God, belongs to the Chaos Camp, and cannot be judged by moral virtue."

"If you encounter disciples or clan members of Zhong Mountain God, you may interact due to some karma with the Spirit Treasure Camp."

...

The True Dragon Clan Leader, Hai Tu, was not surprising at all to summon a Daoist Lord's incarnation upon his deathbed.

What was unexpected was the speed at which he arrived.

Clearly, secret techniques had been used early, hiding within his blood and marrow, only appearing at the moment of life and death.

"The Zhong Mountain Camp has certain karmic ties with our Spirit Treasure, yet now it has added a grudge."

"But it doesn't matter, it's his own fault."

Tao Qian's thought aligned with what the Jintong Master said.

Do not be deceived by Hai Tu's menacing approach seeking vengeance. In reality, who among them, or the Spirit Treasure Ten Thousand Immortals in the Penglai Sea is not perceptive, able to discern right from wrong at a glance?

Before the thought could fully form, Tao Qian appeared between Red-scaled Daoist and Jintong Master.

Ma Yi Immortal, Xuan Yuan True Monarch, Wulinn Immortal, and other strong individuals were all prepared to intervene but the distance between their Daoist Fields on Immortal Islands and Qingping Island left them slower than Tao Qian.

Being there, the one facing Red-scaled Daoist's outstretched palm naturally turned into Tao Qian.

In that instant, celestial phenomena surged in Tao Qian's eyes.

Penglai below transformed into a sea of blood.

The sky overhead, filled with crimson scales.

In a trance, Tao Qian felt his body stiffen. Upon a closer look, he found himself being bitten by an enormous python with a human face and a snake body, an embodiment of wicked divinity capable of wrapping around the entire Penglai Sea.

Skin, flesh, heart soul... all got poisoned, swiftly dissolved, turning into red pus.

In his mind, a record:

[Currently suffering from the Outer Realm Divine Skill "Nine Yin Red Muddy Great Method"...]

[This method originates from the Innate God Demon Zhu Jiuyin, capable of summoning the red pus of a corrupted world upon a single thought. This illusion is filled with filth, capable of corrupting one's flesh, heart soul, divine artifacts or treasures, none exempt including immortals or Daoists of Buddhism.]

[His disciple, "Red-scaled Daoist" is most skilled in this art, having once used this method in a small world of a secret realm within the Source Sea, annihilating all life in that realm... The cost was merely being imprisoned by Zhong Mountain God beneath Zhong Mountain to repent and rigorously cultivate for five hundred years, yet was released under a pretext before the sentence was complete.]

...

"So it's a Daoist Lord, no wonder he dares to speak with such arrogance."

"Zhong Mountain's clan members having Zhong Mountain God's disciples' protection is quite normal."

"However, my master's Treasure Wheel was personally gifted by the Sect Master, a wonderful treasure meant to persuade people toward goodness, to resolve disasters and eliminate sin."

"The Daoist Lord's thought summoned such a thick filthy illusion, it should undergo purification, yet has no virtue to claim treasures."

Upon saying this, all immortals were shocked.

Inwardly, they all thought: Indeed, the disciple of the Master Brother is impressive. Though not practiced in the Ten Thousand Treasure Secret, his Yin Yang Tongue Technique, as venomous as it is, has been so well cultivated that there's no shortage of successors.

And the disciples at Qingping Island, after their initial surprise, cheered one after another.

What a figure!

An enemy with such a big background, an incarnation of a Daoist Lord, yet a direct disciple of Innate God Demon [Zhu Jiuyin].

Tao Da True Monarch not only lacked reverence, but immediately began to mock contemptuously, showing immense courage.

But very soon everyone understood where his confidence lay.

As Tao Qian issued a low shout, immense Immortal Qi erupted, impressively strengthening his heart to break through the opponent's divine skills.

Additionally, he extended a hand to meet the blow.

Tao Qian's body remained unmoved.

Whereas the Red-scaled Daoist was hit by Tao Qian and sent flying ten miles away.

This result naturally does not mean Tao Qian possesses the power to fight beings of "Daoist Lord Level".

It was merely Tao Qian deliberately using his true form to fight the other's incarnation, now at least he was a Fuyu True Monarch known throughout the Outer Realm Abyss.

Practicing all Three Teachings, achieving Perfect Ultimate Happiness, fighting a Daoist Lord's incarnation, though it crosses levels, upon close inspection isn't extremely rare.

However, this exchange undoubtedly tore away all pretenses.

The Red-scaled Daoist instantly returned, standing above Hai Tu, staring directly at Tao Qian.

As if already aware and familiar with Tao Qian, his gaze brimmed with malice, sending shivers, before he began in lengthy discourse:

"What a Spirit Treasure Suppressing Evil True Monarch!"

"What a Boundless Horsetail Whisk Big Handprint!"

"Three years ago, at the Star Aperture outer gate, you gained fame with a fight. Upon meeting your Spirit Treasure Sect's patriarchs, many Daoists in Source Sea would unanimously praise. Congratulating your Spirit Treasure Sect for not taking too many years to produce another Daoist Lord, or even Tribulation Immortal."

"Witnessing it today, indeed, doesn't disappoint."

"Good divine skills, good silver tongue, truly worthy of Duobao Daoist's true inheritance."

"But you, having acquired such a good Dao Foundation, do not cherish it, protecting your faults blindly. The victim seeks justice, yet you use ridiculous virtues to mock me."

"Good and evil, truth and lies... hahahaha, laughable, truly laughable."

"In the Longevity Realm, this warm room prison, you may speak these words to suppress others, but once you go to the Great Abyss Origin Sea, no matter who you speak these to, I fear you'll only be ridiculed."

"Why not first use your Spiritual Response to sense what's at stake? If because of you and your daughter, the alliance between the Spirit Treasure Camp and my Mountain and Sea Gods Camp is broken, can you and your daughter withstand the backlash of the karmic price?"

With that, the Daoist Lord did not wait for Tao Qian's reply.

He then looked towards Ma Yi Immortal, who was casting spells, and with a gender-indistinguishable voice said:

"Ma Yi Daoist, long time no see. I hope all is well with you."

"I am here because my master's vassal prince was brutally killed by a disciple's daughter of your sect."

"Though this child Hai Kun's cultivation is lacking, he was a destined Red Dragon Envoy under my master, yet was killed for no reason. I hope Daoist you will handle this according to our alliance to prevent a rift between our camps."

...

Lord Red Scale's words were filled with significant secrets.

For example, the Spirit Treasure Camp and the so-called Mountain and Sea Gods are allies, suggesting a more formidable enemy that necessitates such a union... .

Lord Red Scale implied that if Tao Qian and his daughter ruined things, the resulting chain reaction would be horrifying, an unbearable karmic price for the father and daughter.

Tao Qian vaguely understood and immediately frowned.

At the next moment, Aunt Ma Yi, along with Xuan Yuan True Monarch, Wulinn Immortal, and other uncles and aunts appeared.

Ma Yi Immortal stood at the forefront, hearing the heavily threatening words from Lord Red Scale, yet her expression remained unchanged, only a slight chill in her gaze.

She didn't reply, but first transmitted a message to Tao Qian:

"Zhong Mountain God Zhu Jiuyin, an Innate God Demon, belongs to one of the great camps of the Great Abyss known as the 'Mountain and Sea Gods'."

"This camp is extremely powerful, with members like 'Emperor Mother', 'Golden Crow', 'White Emperor', 'Youxiong Clan', all having some alliances with our Spirit Treasure Sect."

"However, nothing special, just a clearer rule of 'no killing'."

"It's not a problem, you and your daughter haven't violated the agreement."

When the message ended,

Ma Yi Immortal's cold gaze fell on Lord Red Scale, and she replied faintly:

"Destined Red Dragon Envoy, yet not a Red Dragon Envoy, dead is dead."

"Since this Dragon Clan migrated to the Longevity Realm, they should obey this realm's rules."

"Pretending to be benevolent dragons, deceiving the Human Clan, stealing flesh... shouldn't they be killed?"

Even Tao Qian didn't expect Aunt Ma Yi to have such a firm attitude.

After all, this Lord Red Scale in front of her was not only powerful himself but had a significant background. The fact that the Mountain and Sea Gods could ally with the Spirit Treasure Camp naturally meant their strengths were equivalent.

Her reply indeed thoroughly enraged the other party.

Lord Red Scale's originally eerie face instantly turned crimson, pointing at Ma Yi Immortal and saying:

"Ah, Ma Yi, you think just because you are a few years older than me, you can bully me like this."

"I care not what 'rules' you speak of, I only know your Spirit Treasure disciples cruelly killed my master's Red Dragon Envoy, even if this case reaches the Spirit Treasure God, you're in the wrong."

As he shouted, a transformation occurred on Lord Red Scale's face.

On his forehead, the top of his skull, and the back of his head, strange eyes began to form.

Row by row, they covered his face.

Initially all open, they began to close slowly.

A terrifying phenomenon appeared, visible across almost the entire Longevity Realm.

What should have been broad daylight suddenly plunged into darkness.

Tao Qian and the Spirit Treasure Ten Thousand Immortals, momentarily dazed, all saw a peculiar scene:

Outside the Longevity Realm, an enormous red-scaled python appeared, large enough to encircle a star.

This monster slowly closed its eyes, blocking out the brilliance of the Sun Star.

Then it opened its mouth, spewing biting cold winds that swept over part of the Longevity Realm.

"Is this the grand power of a Daoist Lord level entity exerting its full strength?"

As Tao Qian's mind rose with this thought, his consciousness was echoed with the words:

"Currently enduring the outer realm divine skill 'Candle Dragon Brightness and Darkness Great Method'... This method is created by the Innate God Demon Zhu Jiuyin, said to dim the eyes when it closes, to illuminate when it sees, needing neither food nor rest, signifying wind and rain, and being the Zhong Mountain God."

"In other realms, this method could extinguish the beings of a realm in mere years, but the Longevity Realm holds its principles. Even if Lord Red Scale recklessly uses Exotic Treasures to inject his Dao Qi from afar, he can only maintain it for less than three breaths."

"Lord Red Scale is aware; his real purpose for casting the 'Brightness and Darkness Great Method' is to leverage its operation to obliterate past divine might and eliminate evidence of the world's markings, so he can complain to the Zhong Mountain God, causing discord between the two camps and bringing forth karmic entanglement."

...

"How despicable!"

As Tao Qian read the record, he realized suddenly.

He immediately communicated with Ancestor Spirit Daoist using his mind, employing the "Longevity Barrier" to perform a time reversal, and indeed observed the scene of his beloved daughter slaying the alleged True Dragon Clan Third Prince.

Simultaneously, he watched as those scenes were permanently erased.

Chapter 872: Ma Yi's Longevity Ritual, Father and Daughter Both File a Complaint

Tao Qian could see, but that didn't mean he could stop it.

The record in his mind had already stated: The divine skill used by Lord Red Scale originates from an innate god and demon, able to operate the most essential pure and turbid Qi of heaven and earth, coming and going, extinguishing the past.

He couldn't stop such a powerful divine skill from destroying evidence, nor could Ancestor Spirit.

Three breaths passed in circulation, and then Lord Red Scale opened his eyes again.

The piercing cold wind ceased instantly, restoring the daylight scenery to the disaster-stricken territory.

This Daoist Lord, obliterating evidence right in front of Tao Qian and Ma Yi Immortal, was indeed rampant.

Meanwhile, Tao Qian was still operating spiritual response, trying to get a reply from Lingbao Tianzun, thus having no time to deal with him.

As for Ma Yi, she was thoroughly enraged.

The eyes that had seen all worldly affairs without change now showed anger and said calmly:

"Red Scale, I heard long ago that you often fooled the Zhong Mountain God during his slumber after battling another innate demon god, borrowing his divine might to satisfy your private desires. Previously, I thought it was a rumor, but seeing now, it's truly real."

"Using such despicable means, aren't you afraid that a single dao sound from our sect's heavenly venerate will awaken the Zhong Mountain God, only to have him swallow you instead?"

"For these cruel and ignorant dragon clan, is it worth sacrificing your Dao path?"

Ma Yi Immortal spoke in an instant, and she took action.

From the words of Lord Red Scale earlier, it could be seen that Ma Yi Immortal was not only of a high seniority within Spirit Treasure Sect but likely held a not low status in the Outer Realm.

At least in terms of lifespan, she was older than Lord Red Scale.

Such a being, when provoked, how could she not respond?

Just see the immortal silently, without a sound, lightly waved her sleeve, yet it was not the legendary "Universe in the Sleeve," but instead spread out a large area of formless and intangible immortal light, covering the entire Penglai Sea, causing the thousands of Mountain and Sea Realm True Dragons in the scene already subjected to massacre to instantly start to age.

Skin drying up!

Flesh rotting!

Oil extinguished!

Even the "Hai Tu" under Lord Red Scale could not escape, visibly transforming from a mighty human-faced dragon immortal into a dry and haggard, feeble old dragon, with white whiskers and hair, ready to perish at any moment.

This scene, seen right by Tao Qian who had awoken.

He couldn't help but inwardly marvel: "What a divine skill, this must be Aunt Ma Yi's 'Spirit Treasure Longevity Demanding Technique'. All living beings afflicted by this technique, their lifespan is either taken away by the caster or returned to heaven and earth. Given Aunt's disposition, this time is likely the latter. The accumulated lifespan of these thousands of dragons could indeed reach up to one hundred thousand years."

"Hui Ming Great Method... Longevity Demanding... it's hard to tell for the moment which one is more astonishing."

While Tao Qian sighed.

Lord Red Scale took action again, this guardian Daoist Lord of the Mountain and Sea Realm True Dragon Clan, at this moment did not even glance at those forcibly aged dragon clan.

Instead, deep within his eyes, there was no sorrow but happiness.

He just picked up that Hai Tu and sneered coldly:

"My lord is wise and benevolent, that is why he trusts me."

"Although Ma Yi Daoist holds high status, she rarely sees the Spirit Treasure God."

"Even if she can convey some spiritual response, so what? Spirit Treasure God is now surrounded by strong enemies, busy with himself, his dao sound cannot possibly cross mountains and seas and enter my lord's ears."

"Do not panic, whether this litigation proceeds successfully is still uncertain."

"If successful, you deserve it."

"If unsuccessful, consider yourselves lucky."

With those words finished, one could see him and the human-faced old dragon's figures gradually becoming ethereal, clearly intending to escape this realm.

Seeing this, both Tao Qian and Ma Yi instantly understood.

After Lord Red Scale descended as a split, his actions were quite strange.

Initially furious, yet after destroying evidence and witnessing the aging death of thousands of true dragons, he showed another demeanor.

A dignified Daoist Lord level powerhouse, if truly scheming, should not act so, there must be some trick involved.

Realizing this, Tao Qian was already taking action.

"Stop!"

Dao sound uttered, casting immobilization spell.

After all, the opponent was a Daoist Lord split, Tao Qian's foolproof sublime dharma merely slowed its ething speed.

However, it was already enough.

That instant, countless divine lights descended, transforming into cords binding him, it was Tao Qian communicating with Ancestor Spirit Daoist, letting him use his longevity forbidden technique divine might, temporarily halting the Daoist Lord.

Even though very soon Lord Red Scale broke free, Tao Qian had already appeared before him.

Holding Wa Dang, he fiercely smashed at his skull.

"Bang"

"Lord please hold your steps."

These five words hadn't fallen, Lord Red Scale had already suffered a solid hit.

His skull trembled, before his eyes golden stars danced chaotically.

Taking the opportunity, Tao Qian smoothly wiped his forehead, if it were the true Red Scale body, such a move would reveal nothing, but merely a split could not withstand Tao Qian's abnormal soul probing.

Naturally, many secret details about Lord Red Scale poured out.

Other secrets Tao Qian wasn't concerned about.

At this moment, he only wished to know, what on earth was this Daoist Lord attempting who inexplicably sought to disrupt the alliance between the Spirit Treasure Camp and Mountain and Sea Gods Camp?

In Tao Qian's prior hunch: If Lord Red Scale truly returns to file a complaint, breaking the relationship between the two camps, the karmic consequences triggered, he and his daughter could indeed not bear, not only facing death and Dao dissolution, but even unable to reincarnate for cultivation again.

Soon, one detailed record revealed:

[Zhong Mountain God Zhu Jiuyin exhausted its power in a great battle with another innate god demon, fell into a deep sleep, leaving only a mechanical consciousness "Zhong Mountain Fire Essence" to command its god demon body, ruling the secret realm and its clan.]

[Its consciousness, the fire essence, not only lacks wisdom but is capricious, and it can only access the secret realm, unable to contact the outside world... Seeing this opportunity, Lord Red Scale falsely transmitted a divine decree, transferring the other disciples of Zhong Mountain God out of the secret realm, repeatedly fooling the fire essence with various reasons to obtain benefits.]

[For instance, a hundred years ago, Lord Red Scale claimed there was a strong enemy about to attack Zhong Mountain Secret Realm, tricking the fire essence into personally granting a piece of dragon scale from the true dragon body, enabling him to advance in cultivation realm, surpassing ordinary cultivators in the Daoist Transformation Realm.]

[Eighty years ago, Lord Red Scale informed the fire essence that the Heavenly Demon's "Gonggong" was leading the water clan of all heavens to attack Zhong Mountain, coaxing the fire essence into granting him another divine treasure, "Candle Dragon Grease", to shield Zhong Mountain from the threat temporarily; instead, Lord Red Scale exchanged this divine treasure with the Suirensi for the exotic treasure and divine artifact, Thunder Fire Divine Ash Spear, boosting his battle strength significantly.]

[Fifty years ago, feeling that his Daoist skill was lacking, innately deficient, Lord Red Scale even cooperated with an innate demon god to obtain a Heavenly Demon Secret Technique, forcibly splitting off a Yin Soul Demon Body and naming it Red Bell Fairy, deceiving the fire essence into agreeing to marry Red Bell Fairy to Zhong Mountain God's only son "Gu", thereby stealing Hui Ming Divine Qi to complete himself.]

...

[Fifteen minutes ago, Lord Red Scale unexpectedly learned of the grudge between Tao Lingying and the Mountain and Sea True Dragon Clan, seeing it as a good opportunity, he revealed his avatar and intervened.]

[After destroying the evidence, he secretly noted the scene of thousands of dragons dying of old age, determined to stir trouble in front of "Zhong Mountain Fire Essence" upon returning to the secret realm. Though the fire essence cannot leave Zhong Mountain, it can issue divine decrees to all disciples, clans, and other Mountain and Sea Gods from beyond.]

[In the process, Lord Red Scale is sure to gain substantial benefits once again, along with supreme authority.]

[His ultimate plan: To hollow out Zhong Mountain God Zhu Jiuyin's assets, when the time is right, completely betray and escape the Mountain and Sea Gods Camp, joining the Heavenly Demon Realm, for he has already secured promises that once successful, he will be rewarded with dominion over a realm, receiving numerous benefits, becoming the "Red Scale Demon Lord".]

These records appear complex.

Yet in an instant they flowed through Tao Qian's mind, swiftly unveiling their secret reasons.

Hence, he was momentarily startled.

He originally thought there might be some terrifying conspiracy within.

But who could have predicted?

The conspiracy exists, but it's quite small.

The truth is that this one called "Lord Red Scale" is a habitual offender who tricks fools to steal benefits. Now, upon discovering this matter, he immediately plans to employ the same trick to reap substantial benefits.

As for causing discord between the two camps!

It's just a side effect that he doesn't care about.

Tao Qian had believed that cultivators who reach the Daoist Transformation Realm mostly have some dignity, yet unexpectedly encounters an exception.

Is there such a cultivation method in the world?

Taking advantage of one's divine spirit being asleep, step by step hollowing out the other party?

"Truly a heartless, glib, prodigal Daoist Lord, quite adept at play."

As Tao Qian uttered this.

Lord Red Scale had already awakened from the heavy strike of Toad God Tile, no longer giving Tao Qian a chance.

Only using cold eyes to briefly glance at Tao Qian.

Immediately, his avatar along with that human-faced old dragon simultaneously transformed into foul-smelling, sticky bright red pus, trickling down.

"Not good!"

"If this rogue does manage to return to the secret realm and stirs trouble before Zhong Mountain God's foolish consciousness, hollowing out the assets is one thing, but truly if unfortunate, causing discord between the Mountain and Sea Gods Camp and the Spirit Treasure Camp, even leading to war, that would be a major event."

"My daughter and I would be unjustly blamed."

"No, no, must complain, then let's complain together."

Seeing Lord Red Scale madly fleeing the territory, Tao Qian urgently shouted.

Simultaneously, he immediately planned to chant the "Spirit Treasure Disaster Relief Life Protection Scripture".

This time, his heart was sincere.

Just as he was about to chant, suddenly, the little spiritual baby leaped onto his shoulder, hugging Tao Qian and shouted along:

"Daddy, are you going to complain?"

"Lingying can do that too, a while ago a grandma more majestic than Grandma came into my dream, held Lingying's hand and said she was Grandma's mother, said if anyone dares bully Lingying, I can use the innate marvelous sound to chant 'Doumu Heart Sutra' once."

"Then grandma will respond to Lingying and stand up for Lingying."

Little Douding said in a childish voice.

Not waiting for Tao Qian to respond, the little one directly closed her pair of watery cat pupils.

Muttering in her mouth, evidently already chanting the Doumu Heart Sutra.

Seeing this, Tao Qian couldn't help but think to himself:

"Grandma Taizhen's mother... Doumu Yuanjun!"

"Hmm, more favored than me."

"One chant is sufficient, but Daddy has to chant three times to get a response."

With thoughts settled, Tao Qian followed with heartfelt chanting of the scripture.

...

Beside the father and daughter, the Ma Yi Immortal intended to use the secret skill to communicate with the Sect Master and report to the Heavenly Venerate.

Upon witnessing this scene, she instantly stopped.

Turning her gaze towards the Penglai Sea, at the countless dragon clan corpses dying of old age, sinking into the sea, she couldn't help lamenting for Lord Red Scale.

"In cultivation, there is always a price."

"Lord Red Scale used this method to cleverly cultivate, surpassing many peers in two hundred years, just one step away from impacting the Tribulation Immortal."

"Yet unfortunately, did not foresee the price coming all at once, given the favoritism enjoyed by Tao Qian's niece and nephew before the Heavenly Venerate and Doumu, it can be assured both will respond."

"Zhong Mountain God may even turn misfortune into blessing, waking up early..."

Chapter 873 The Death of Red Scale and Tao Qian's Preferences

The schemes of Lord Red Scale are crude and simple, but they have never failed.

This is because the "Zhong Mountain Fire Essence" is a foolish consciousness, without thought, completely at Red Scale's disposal.

Conversely, this has also fostered a path dependency for Lord Red Scale.

Of course, his idea is not entirely wrong; a supreme god like Lingbao Tianzun, even the Spirit Treasure Sect Master cannot see him at will. Someone of Ma Yi Immortal's status must burn incense and submit a petition, waiting for the Heavenly Venerate's response.

By the time Ma Yi Immortal sends the matter over, he would have already completed his task, benefits in hand. Even if the plot is exposed, he can easily head to the Heavenly Demon Realm and sit on the throne of the [Red Scale Demon Lord].

How could Red Scale have anticipated?

The father and daughter duo he provoked this time were not ordinary folks.

As for Tao Qian, as soon as the scripture was finished reciting, the little Spirit Infant had already cycled through the Innate Marvelous Sound and completed the "Doumu Heart Sutra," and immediately received a response from Doumu Yuanjun.

Now, it appears Tao Lingying has transformed into a kitten Dharma Body, a delicate and cute little tabby cat.

Squinting slightly with an adorable silly face, nodding continuously towards the distant void.

Then she opened her eyes and excitedly shouted to Tao Qian:

"Daddy, I finished reporting."

"I told Grandma that on my way to the Outer Realm to meet the Black Moon Cat Sisters, I encountered a bunch of big bugs secretly capturing the Human Clan from the Mortal World, hiding them in their mouths and between their scales, and as treats once they reached the Outer Realm, gulping them down one by one. When I appeared to stop them, those big bugs wanted to eliminate the witness."

"Thankfully, Spirit Infant also knows how to fight, and that's how I subdued him."

"The rest Grandma already knows, she said she has a disciple under her command [Grandma Nu Chou], also a Mountain and Sea God Demon, who has gone to the Zhong Mountain Secret Realm with Doumu's Talisman, to awaken the Zhong Mountain God and certainly teach that Red-bearded Daoist who falsely accused me a good lesson."

Apparently, in baby Tao Lingying's eyes, tattling is more like a game.

But the outcome is fatal for Lord Red Scale.

Moreover, when Tao Qian sincerely recited the Life Protection Scripture three times, the spiritual response received from the Heavenly Venerate directly determined Lord Red Scale's fate:

"Lord Red Scale's incarnation, together with the human-faced old dragon, using Secret Techniques, crossed mountains and seas to return to the Zhong Mountain Secret Realm, not waiting to leave the Cultivation Daoist Field to find the foolish Fire Essence to sow discord and gain benefits."

"A Daoist Lord-level disciple of Doumu Yuanjun, [Grandma Nu Chou], one of the many Mountain and Sea Gods and Demons, forcibly broke into Zhong Mountain carrying the talisman."

"Among the Mountain and Sea Gods, Grandma Nu Chou is not very strong, merely of the lower ranks."

"However, holding Doumu's Talisman, Zhong Mountain Fire Essence, being Zhu Jiuyin's Divine Consciousness, naturally would not hinder her."

"Allowing her to use the talisman to summon huge Source Qi, forcibly awakening the Zhong Mountain God and explaining the reasons... Just then Lord Red Scale arrived, intending to sow discord, but before he could speak, Zhong Mountain God merely sensed a bit, and all of the vile acts this villain had done were fully exposed."

"Zhong Mountain God, furious, devoured him in one bite."

"An 8,000-year-cultivated Daoist Lord met death so swiftly, even without a chance for reincarnation."

...

Upon hearing all this, everyone knew the trouble has passed and the calamity was over.

Just then, seeing a grand banquet on Qingping Island, with little Tao Lingying, the adorable little Demon Star present, the Spirit Treasure Ten Thousand Immortals also couldn't be bothered to return to their Cave Mansion to cultivate hard, so they joined in the feast and sang joyously.

The thousands of lucky Mortal Humans from a city named "Yingchuan," after the banquet, were returned home, soon making the entire world aware of their divine encounter, leaving all envious.

This is a later story to be told, for now, let's set it aside.

Yet, Ma Yi Immortal, upon learning of Lord Red Scale's fate, both sighed and said:

"Years ago, I saw Red Scale's true form, a red-scaled serpent capable of swallowing the Sun and Stars. I also witnessed him being enlightened by Zhong Mountain God and taken in as a disciple."

"8,000 years of arduous cultivation, extremely diligent, but unfortunately, he was too impatient, leading him to choose the wrong path."

"His Dao name is [Red Day], presumably following the Red Sun Eternal Day Path, yet the way ahead is filled with powerful ones, not to mention [Golden Crow], the Innate God Demon, followed by Great Sun Demon Buddha, Eternal Day Demon Lord, Red Flame God Monarch, and other Gods, Demons, Buddhas... If any of them harbored ill intentions to counter and devour him, he would only have the option to hide in Zhong Mountain's interior."

"Perhaps it was due to this that he risked everything, attempting to use such despicable means to gradually hollow out his Master's godly body of Bright Source Qi."

"Seeking to become a Tribulation Immortal, how can it be that easy?"

"Indeed, with all these consequences, he couldn't withstand them one bit, dying in an instant, turning thousands of years of diligent cultivation into nothing."

After saying this, Aunt Ma Yi paused.

Then, gazing at Tao Qian as if seeing through something, she spoke again:

"Nephew Tao, your Dao Nightmare is approaching."

"You, Duobao, and I, and all Celestials in this world are different; you are truly unique."

"Duobao in this life cannot attain Dao, destined to reincarnate and try again."

"I am not confident to become a Tribulation Immortal and face [Longevity Star], [Sovereign of Fate], and [Yan Jun]. Therefore, I have been delaying, unwilling to enter the Dao for thousands of years."

"We may procrastinate, we may hide, waiting only for the moment of Ascension."

"But it seems you can't do it. That Dao Nightmare of yours is truly ferocious. If you were to fall to the demon path and gain the Dao, I'm afraid it wouldn't take many years for the Great Abyss to see the rise of a powerful Demon God."

"The first time the Dao Nightmare came, your Blessing helped you dismiss it, and then you received a Divine Treasure to delay it for three years... Now your cultivation has reached the Transformation Realm, and you can't evade it any longer."

"The pursuit of the Dao cannot be interfered with by others. Not even the Sect Master can help with this."

"I'll just give you this one piece of advice: Fear nothing, remain true to your heart."

...

Tao Qian left Qingping Island, turning toward the direction of Ascending Immortal Island, but he didn't land on the island. Instead, he sent a mental message to his wife, who was still resting warmly in bed.

Afterward, he turned and headed to the neighbor.

Red Sleeve Island, Pan Si Cave Mansion.

He came here to cleanse Aunt Pan Si's heart and soul, aiding her to enter the Ultimate Happiness Realm, and also for his own important matters.

But he was not in a hurry, walking slowly, pondering over Aunt Ma Yi's words from not long ago.

"Though I already knew that Aunt Ma Yi, whether in seniority or cultivation, surpasses Master, I didn't expect her to be this much stronger."

"That unfortunate Lord Red Scale said Aunt Ma Yi outlived him, who knows for how long."

"Although she didn't say it explicitly, she revealed a big secret."

"A struggle on the Dao Path?"

"Could it be the rule of the Great Abyss is that if a cultivator chooses the same 'Dao,' there is a sequence, and they must fight for it, even to the death?"

"Lord Red Scale chose the Red Sun Eternal Day Path, which is somewhat easier, but the path is already filled with strong adversaries that he can't defeat."

"Aunt Ma Yi clearly practices the Dao of Longevity, and ahead stand Longevity Star, Yan Jun, and several other Innate or Acquired Gods and Demons. Aunt Ma Yi thinks she cannot defeat them for now, so she prefers to remain in Ultimate Happiness rather than entering the Dao... If she wishes, she could probably become Ma Yi Daoist any time."

"Which means, if I were to gain the Dao in the future, I would also face this situation, though I don't know which Gods and Demons are ahead of me."

With this thought, Tao Qian sighed.

These are unknowns and need not concern him for now.

He must face the present.

Ma Yi Immortal was right, his Senior Sister Lingji, and marriage to Yunrong, allowed him to safely pass through one Dao Nightmare, and delayed it for three years.

But recently, the Dao Nightmare has struck again.

In recent days, Tao Qian has encountered nightmares almost every night, not exactly the Dao Nightmare, but these are clear signs.

For now, he resolves them with the "Taishang Lingbao Red Child Inquiry Divine Needle" and Toad God Tile, but he can't continue to delay.

The Dao Nightmare isn't truly a bad thing.

It manifests because the cultivator desires the Great Dao, giving rise to it.

The fiercer the Dao Nightmare, the closer Tao Qian is to the Great Dao.

"I must eventually journey to the Great Abyss Origin Sea to seek the Dao, better to be prepared in advance."

"Books like the 'Records of Strange Compilations' are invaluable."

"If I have to search through vast Scripture Halls, it would be too time-consuming; fortunately, there's Aunt Pan Si."

Saying this, Tao Qian's figure had already passed through layer upon layer of webs glistening with silver slime.

He reached the depths of the cave mansion and saw a huge soft web.

Upon it, Aunt Pan Si, who had long received his message, was already waiting.

She still wore her long-sleeved ruqun, her lower body remaining the furry spider abdomen.

Blushing, she looked at her slowly approaching nephew, shyly thinking:

"I always practice propriety; I should transform into a proper human form to meet my nephew."

"But my nephew's thoughts aren't proper; he dislikes the human form and the spider body, preferring this half-human, half-spider form of mine."

"It's really embarrassing."

After this thought passed, Aunt Pan Si lifted her head to welcome Tao Qian.

Her face was like peach blossoms, shy and timid, softly calling out: "Nephew...!"

Such a scene!

Such soft words!

Despite experiencing it countless times over the past three years, Tao Qian still felt his scalp tingling, his body soft, and his soul melting each time.

Chapter 874 - The Red Rope Has Divine Skills, the Secret Demon Rises Again

Red Sleeve Island, Silk Cave.

Master Tao rode on a cloud, slowly leaving Aunt Pan Si's Daoist field, with a slightly fatigued expression on his face.

It was only natural, as though he possessed great magical power, tasks like "Washing Heart and Soul" consumed considerable energy.

Especially during the casting, he and Aunt Pan Si, to some extent, had to be honest with each other, and resisting the temptation therein consumed even more heart power.

On the auspicious cloud, Tao Qian was holding a delicate book box, which seemed to contain only a few books, but in fact, held over a thousand Secret Books, all related to the Great Abyss Origin Sea.

In the vast Spirit Treasure Sect, it would be impossible to accurately sift these from the extensive Scripture Hall in a short time without Pan Si Fairy.

The authors of these books and Secret Books were not all Spirit Treasure disciples.

Most were collected from various sources.

The Longevity Realm had existed for a long time, and cultivators like "Uncle Li Mei," who ventured to the Great Abyss, were countless.

Tao Qian wished to emulate them in seeking the Dao, and doing some homework beforehand was always beneficial.

However, at this moment, his mind was not on this, and he mumbled in bewilderment:

"How did my preferences leak out?"

"Could it be that my unscrupulous master previously gave me some inappropriate nicknames?"

No sooner had Tao Qian spoken.

Soon, a wisp of red smoke from Ascending Immortal Island drifted over, revealing the figure of Yuan Gong in white clothes, with his reddish brows slanted upwards.

Perhaps Master Yuan heard Tao Qian's complaints, he raised his scarlet sword-shaped eyebrows and laughed aloud:

"This time you wronged Duobao, he only gave you the nickname [Daoist Peach Blossom]."

"As for your two preferences, why would they need to be leaked?"

"Just look back at those girls entangled with you; as long as they are not blind, who wouldn't see it?"

No sooner had Master Yuan finished speaking than Tao Qian didn't think of refuting immediately.

He was only stunned for a moment, subconsciously murmuring: "Hmm? Two?"

Soon he recalled and responded solemnly: "Master Yuan, don't spread rumors, nor believe them, Tao Qian is a decent person..."

Yuan Gong came to look for Tao Qian for another important matter.

Upon hearing this, he burst into laughter before saying anything more, causing the red smoke to echo with long cries of an ape, and on Yuan's slightly ancient-looking face, his eyes, ears, mouth, and nose appeared bright and relaxed.

Seeing him laughing heartily, pointing at Tao Qian:

"A decent person... hahaha."

"How could Duobao accept decent people as disciples, truly decent ones wouldn't worship a rogue like Duobao."

"Don't struggle, among us elders and your juniors in the sect, which one can't see that you like half-human half-demon, and also prefer the older ones..."

Hearing this, Tao Qian immediately wanted to speak, to argue with Yuan Gong a little.

However, at this moment, he sensed something, looked up, and indeed saw several clouds from which poked curious and excited heads of the Nursing Woman Bird.

Just seeing wasn't enough, these cursed birds also started chattering and discussing quietly.

"Big news! Big news! Our True Monarch master's preferences have leaked, turns out the master likes half-human half-demon, and also likes older ones."

"This is old news, don't act like you've never seen the world."

"Not only the True Monarch master but the mistress shares the same preferences; otherwise, why often coax Pan Si Immortal, Lue Immortal, and Fairy Cai Yun to bathe together."

"Speaking of, we as a clan fully meet the master's two preferences, is this perhaps the reason he allows us free access to the Longevity Immortal Peach Forest?"

"Hmm? How clever of you, why didn't I think of that."

...

Tao Qian, with his keen eyes and ears, needless to say, turned dark-faced at this moment.

Strange enough, he couldn't argue with these cursed birds, otherwise, within a few days, the entire Penglai would know.

Without saying more, he hurriedly pulled Yuan Gong to the island, while casually pulling out a book, and took the opportunity to change the subject by saying:

"Master Yuan, take a look, this book is called 'Great Abyss Wanderings.'

"The author's origin is unknown, only leaving a Daoist title [Gui Cangzi], after a thorough examination of many scriptures, Aunt Pan Si speculates that this senior might be one of our Secret Demon Sect..."

When they reached the quiet room in the Cave Mansion.

Tao Qian had already browsed through a dozen pages of content, at first he just intended to use this book to change the subject, but now after reading, he couldn't help but sigh:

"What a good Secret Book!"

"Senior Gui Cangzi was truly bold, clearly having Daoist Lord cultivation, yet instead of cultivating, he acted recklessly in the Great Abyss Origin Sea, engaging in all sorts of rebellious acts, each almost costing him his life."

"Just like on this page, the senior described: To verify what would happen if the Human Clan and God Demon combined by essence, he took a risky move, deciding to personally enter the fray."

"First, he used a Secret Technique to trick a thread of Evil Fate Red Rope from [Red Rope God], then chose the Innate God Demon he liked the most, [Wood Mother], and while this god was asleep, he used the red rope to tie her, and when she awoke, intending to devour him, she was tainted by the red rope, dragging senior Gui Cangzi's essence beneath her, and it took ten years, before the senior was completely drained, finally giving birth to a new clan [Demon Person]."

"Unfortunately, though this clan inherited the divinity of Wood Mother and the extraordinary power of the Demon Sect, they naturally lacked heart and were arrogant and rebellious, intending to kill Wood Mother and Gui Cangzi as soon as they were born, only to be swallowed whole by Wood Mother and refined into a [Great Compassionate Wood Mother Spirit Pill], returned to senior Gui Cangzi to restore his essence blood and cultivation."

"Senior Gui Cangzi intended to stay in the Secret Realm for a few more years to create more clans, but [Red Rope God] is of lower status than Wood Mother, and as soon as the ten-year period was over, the Evil Fate Red Rope lost its effect, and Wood Mother subsequently expelled Gui Cangzi."

"Gui Cangzi has committed plenty of such reckless acts."

Tao Qian's words seemed to remind Yuan Gong as well.

Chapter 875 - The Red Rope Has Divine Skills, the Secret Demon Rises Again

A flash of inspiration struck, and he immediately recalled something, exclaiming in understanding:

"So that's it, your Aunt Pan Si's guess wasn't wrong."

"The so-called [Gui Cangzi] should be none other than Master Tian Ling, one of the second-generation ancestors of our Secret Demon Sect."

"I've heard Master mention during sword refining that the actions of Master Tian Ling are indeed beyond ordinary prediction; though they appear reckless, they are actually where his Dao lies."

"If there were no accidents, the elder should have already attained the position of a Tribulation Immortal."

At this point, Yuan Gong finally remembered the serious matter.

He looked at the dense array of books and Secret Books related to the Great Abyss Origin Sea floating before Tao Qian.

With a sly smile, he spoke:

"Master Tao has been carefree and at ease for three years, and now he's thinking of venturing into the Great Abyss seeking the Dao, hence sharpening his spear at the last minute?"

"Once you finish reading these Secret Books, you will indeed gain some understanding of the Great Abyss."

"If you were a nameless junior, doing so could save you from most dangers."

"But unfortunately, ever since that battle at the gate three years ago, your name as Lord Suppressing Evil of the Spirit Treasure Sect, Tao Qian, has already spread across the Source Sea."

"Don't mention those obvious enemies like Yellow Robe, Moon God, Devouring Immortal, Barbarian Mother... et cetera; many are secretly coveting you."

"Once you step into the Source Sea, a great number of Innate and Acquired Gods and Demons will rush in to swallow you alive."

"I heard just now you even teamed up with Spirit Infant to file a complaint, directly killing a Daoist Lord level existence...tsk tsk, your fame has grown even louder, even some ancestors of our Secret Demon Sect have heard of you, and knowing you're a disciple of our Old Ape..."

At this point, Yuan Gong paused, his expression becoming more solemn and serious.

Then he continued, though without directly saying much, revealing a significant issue concerning the Secret Demon Sect.

"Kid, our Secret Demon Sect wants to rebuild the Mountain Gate within the Longevity Realm and select a new Sect Master, which you must already know."

"This plan was supposed to take decades, even a hundred years, but now the Great Abyss has undergone tremendous changes."

"Ten Thousand Gods awakening! Wars are erupting frequently!"

"The ancestors from All Heavens have already made decisions, and in ten days, the selection for the [New Secret Demon Sect Master] begins."

"Each realm and lineage will send one Secret Demon Child to participate."

"Whoever gets elected can command the Ten Thousand Demons of All Heavens, gathering the full power of the sect to rebuild the Mountain Gate."

Upon hearing this, Tao Qian had already guessed the purpose of Master Yuan's search for him.

It should be the longstanding agreement established by Duobao and Yuan Gong:

Yuan Gong, being one of the Secret Demon Elders, accepted Tao Qian as a disciple, not only to accompany and teach him many cultivation matters but also to bestow upon Tao Qian a complete Secret Demon Sect inheritance.

The condition was that once the time was ripe, Tao Qian needed to become a "Secret Demon Child" and officially join the Secret Demon Sect.

Both the Sect Master and the Heavenly Venerate seemed to acquiesce to this agreement.

Now Yuan Gong spoke seriously for the first time, indicating that the time had come.

Sure enough, Yuan Gong continued:

"The ancestors of each realm and lineage have long decided on their Secret Demon Child candidates for the Sect Master selection, and each one is a top talent of their realm, an unparalleled Demon Child."

"Only our Secret Demon Sect's ancestral land, the Longevity Realm, lacks a candidate."

"Those old fools who survived a certain battle have all cultivated some good children; originally, they all seemed to be geniuses, even a few of Ultima Happiness Realm, with some passable Divine Skills."

"But compared to you... hahaha, they fall vastly short."

Yuan Gong couldn't help but laugh heartily, unable to conceal the look of pride on his face.

By the look of it, though praising Tao Qian, he was actually flaunting his insight and skill in teaching disciples, probably not missing the chance to boast to those old friends privately.

"Kid, what say you?"

"Would you like to add the title of [Secret Demon Sect Master] to your name as Master Tao?"

"Let me tell you, though my Secret Demon Sect may not have the reputation of your Spirit Treasure Sect, it has backing as strong as the Spirit Treasure God, not to mention a host of second-generation ancestors, each one of them Daoist Lords and Tribulation Immortal level beings, scattered across All Heavens and Myriads of Worlds."

"Though you may become Sect Master, you may not be able to command the ancestors, but for major undertakings like rebuilding the sect's mountain gate, the ancestors would all lend a hand."

Yuan Gong is an honest man, obviously able to exaggerate benefits to persuade Tao Qian, yet insists on speaking the truth.

Even with straightforward honesty, Tao Qian can see that indeed the benefits are substantial.

And crucial for his cultivation.

The reason why Tao Qian hasn't immediately accepted is simple.

After three comfortable years at Ascending Immortal Island, suddenly leaving Yunrong and the Spirit Infant mother-daughter pair, to face adventure, to experience life and death, how could he agree?

Of course, Tao Qian knows that he cannot avoid it.

Even if he unrelentingly breaches the agreement to avoid the Secret Demon Sect this time, and then what?

As long as Tao Qian doesn't eliminate the Dao Nightmare through Daoist Transformation, he will eventually become Mutated and Fallen, perish, and have his Dao eliminated. Worse yet, if he falls to the likes of an Evil Demon, not only would the mother and daughter suffer, how could Penglai Sea be spared?

The Dao Nightmare is fierce!

He, has little time left.

Yuan Gong also sees Tao Qian's hesitation, and is both pleased and carries a complex expression, internally thinking:

"More often than not, the sect masters of the Secret Demon Sect are ruthless and heartless, yet this young man is full of emotion and kindness."

"If he truly assumes the new sect master's position, who knows what the Secret Demon Sect will become?"

"Interesting, interesting, I must help him ascend to that position."

With determination set, Yuan Gong speaks again.

"There is a slight difference between the Secret Demon Sect and your Spirit Treasure Sect, for although every Secret Demon disciple cultivates the 'All Heavens Secret Demon Scripture' this Great Book."

"Yet most accomplished ancestors have branched out new Great Dao, creating their own unique Great Lifebound Scripture."

"According to sect rules, these Great Books do not need to be included in inheritance, allowing all ancestors to roam All Heavens and Myriads of Worlds, exploring new Daoist Lineages and Magic Veins, if the ancestors wish, they can even change their identity, never again considering themselves part of the Secret Demon Dao, yet not one ancestor has defected to another faction."

"The Secret Demon Inheritance you received is complete, naturally, but if put differently, it is merely one in ten thousand. Of course, not just you, no one can possibly learn all Secret Demon's arts."

"I know your worries, hence I especially invited an entirely new Divine Skill for you."

"This technique, called 'Chaos Soul Splitting God Transformation Technique,' was stolen by an ancestor forcibly from the Chaos Demon Ancestor's innate divinity after severing the link to Source Qi, directly transforming into a Great Method; although it still has costs, it's already within acceptable range."

"Because of this, the ancestor offended the Chaos Demon Ancestor, and to this day hides in the Secret Realm, not daring to show himself. Knowing you need it, he generously lent the method book out."

"After cultivating this technique, you can separate out a True Spirit Soul body, you are you, I am I, with endless wondrous applications."

"Your physical body must confront the Dao Nightmare; why not remain within the Ascending Immortal Star Apture, create a soul body to seek Dao, and incidentally assume the Secret Demon Sect Master position, wouldn't that be ideal?"

Master Yuan's words were compelling, and Tao Qian couldn't deny this plan sounded good, very tempting.

Especially when the next moment, Yuan Gong reached out, directly retrieving an extremely thick, extremely old leather-bound book from within the red smoke.

The cover bore no text, only bizarre faces, symbols, sacred patterns, and a constantly writhing, hair-raising existence like a living Chaos Source Qi.

"The Chaos Demon Ancestor is one of the strongest innate heavenly gods and demons in the Great Abyss, the Taishang Heavenly Demon Sect, Evil Sect, and even our Secret Demon Sect and other Demon Path magic veins have quite a few cultivators following him."

"He also bears titles like the God with No Face, the Thousand Faced Demon God, and with just a thought, can manifest billions of avatars, each possessing extraordinary supernatural power."

"That ancestor coveted such great power, thus took a risky move, stole Divine Qi, thus generating this wondrous Great Book."

"This book is first lent to you for viewing; you can also use some Secret Techniques to identify if there are hidden dangers within."

"With ten days remaining, think carefully and then respond."

...

After speaking, Yuan Gong transformed back into red smoke, entered the clay sculpture, and spoke no more.

Chapter 876 - Tao Qian Enters the Secret Demon, The Medical Records of Madam Bao

In the quiet room of the Spiritual Resonance Cave Mansion, Tao Qian looked at the strange book floating before him, and a series of Secret Books depicting the Great Abyss Origin Sea. He couldn't help but sigh, then reached out to touch it.

Yuan Gong's good intentions, he naturally felt them.

This identity of Tao Qian as a Secret Demon Child, along with transactions like vying for the position of Sect Master of the Secret Demon Sect, were implicitly acknowledged by many, including Tao Qian himself.

Yuan Gong had been mentioning occasionally for years that if he was unwilling, he shouldn't accept so many benefits.

If Yuan Gong had presented his request in the capacity of "Second Master of Tao Qian," Tao Qian would have been unable to refuse.

"Let me first take a look at this Chaos Soul Splitting Technique, is it truly so miraculous?"

In the midst of his thoughts, Tao Qian's fingertips touched the shifting, peculiar Secret Book.

Before the Record was born, he first sensed pain.

At that moment, it was as if billions of sharp blades pierced his heart and soul, cutting and tearing, making him feel as if every inch of skin under his clothes was growing a different face. Even the gaps in his hair, ear acupoints, nose acupoints, and eye acupoints seemed to have a face trying to emerge, an unprecedented sense of fragmentation swept over him.

Tao Qian even felt panic: it seemed that in the next breath, he would split into an unknown number of individuals, each "Tao Qian" being different, taking something from the main body, be it treasure, Divine Skill, or flesh and blood, even wife and daughter, then each going their separate ways, never to relate again.

No time to feel it more deeply, his Dharma Body and wonderful body exploded with rebellious power simultaneously.

Suddenly, billowing black smoke surged from within, with faces of Tao Qian emerging, speaking mockingly and sarcastically:

"So hypocritical. You desire it all, accept me, and I will be your perfect avatar, you may call me [Peach Blossom Evil Immortal]."

"I could take your whole sword heart and sword courage, call me [Sacrificial Sword Demon]."

"I want your exquisite flesh and blood, Innate Dao Seed, pureness and ease, and should be called [Taishang Spiritual Treasure Supreme Dao True Monarch]."

"I want your dusty Buddha heart, your future Dharma inheritance, your Acquired People Species Bag, you should call me [Future Buddha Son]."

...

Tao Qian woke up, somewhat helpless, looking at the babbling faces around him.

Seeing them about to continue, and himself about to be completely divided, he waved them away, saying in annoyance: "Go, go, weak Heart Demons talking big, don't disturb me."

After speaking, he channeled power into his palm, instantly clearing his ears.

Simultaneously, detailed Record information erupted in his mind:

[Record Name: Chaos Soul Splitting God Transformation Technique.]

[Record Type: God Demon Strange Skill.]

[Record: This technique originates from the Innate God Demon "Chaos Demon Ancestor," an extremely ancient and immortal entity, absorbing billions of Source Qi in the Source Sea without any hidden dangers or costs, because it naturally possesses the extraordinary power of soul splitting and god transformation, continuously spawning new God Demons, each possessing Divine Skills, independent, spreading across various factions, races, and no one in the Great Abyss knows how many avatars Chaos Demon Ancestor has, not even Itself.]

[Note 1: The Second Patriarch of Secret Demon Sect, Demon Lord Yin Zhou, due to his greedy nature, practiced many Divine Powers in the All Heavens Secret Demon Scripture excessively. Unable to refine the excessive Source Qi, and always at risk of dying and path disappearing, he set his sights on Chaos Demon Ancestor, stole a wisp of Divine Qi while It slept, and successfully severed its divine connection with "Yang Gong Arrow," transforming the Source Qi into the Chaos Soul Splitting God Transformation Technique.]

[Note 2: Although the divine connection was severed, Chaos Demon Ancestor is now awakening, and if someone in the Great Abyss practices this technique and is known to It, there will inevitably be calamities or benefits as the first cost.]

[Note 3: The "soul bodies" resulting from practicing this technique will copy or directly take away a part of the main body, not only will it develop independent personalities, but race, gender, age, etc. will all be unknown. Though soul bodies will remain under the main body's heart and soul control, calamities may still occur, which is the second cost.]

[Note 4: A practitioner of this technique will suffer the pain of soul splitting in an instant, and if they cannot endure, their heart and soul may collapse, which is the third cost.]

[Note 5: The second and third costs can be exempted.]

...

"Yang Gong Arrow?"

Having read the Record, Tao Qian first noticed this treasure.

He was somewhat familiar with it.

The powerful Divine Skill he created, the True Fire of Suppressing Evil, was founded on the billions of Outer Heaven Flame Essences, which, though extremely tiny, like dust, are actually bona fide God Demon Clans.

The ones they follow are precisely the Innate God Demon [Sun Lord].

This god holds an extraordinary status in the Great Abyss, being the parent of many Innate and Acquired Gods and Demons, like the Golden Crow, Sun Lord, Red Flame Star Lord, etc.

However, according to those little Flame Essences: although the Sun Lord fathered such God Demons as the Golden Crow and the Sun, along with the Black Sun Clan, Red Egg Clan, Red-eyed Monk, and such clans, the ones It dotes on most are always the Outer Heaven Flame Essence clan, which is why It endowed them with the God Demon power to incinerate everything and refine all things.

This statement might have some boastfulness, but considering that the Flame Essences are all honest elves, it might be true.

"As long as you find the correct path, the Sun Lord is almost always responsive, and It indeed is one of the few Innate God Demons not fearing the power of the Chaos Demon Ancestor."

"That predecessor of the Secret Demon Sect really knew how to play."

"However, despite escaping death, he offended the Chaos Demon Ancestor and probably had to hide for life."

Muttering to himself, Tao Qian also pondered whether to cultivate that great method.

If he had to endure all three costs without any reduction, Tao Qian would undoubtedly refuse.

But since two costs were exempt, he became a bit tempted.

However, given the life-or-death significance and involving supreme God Demons like "Chaos Demon Ancestor," how could he take it lightly?

Tao Qian immediately assumed a posture, sincerely reciting:

"Heavenly Venerate above!"

"Disciple Tao Qian has a matter to trouble you, seeking Heavenly Venerate's guidance..."

Having finished speaking, he chanted that Life Protection Scripture.

Normally, Tao Qian knew he'd just recently used this method to file a complaint against [Lord Red Scale], resulting in his death and path disappearing.

Now coming again, Lingbao Tianzun probably wouldn't bother with him.

So this fellow decided that if Heavenly Venerate didn't give spiritual guidance, he'd seek the Toad God.

Clearly, while chanting, he couldn't hide his inner thoughts.

Thus, just after three repetitions, he immediately received a response.

Snap! Snap! Snap!

The back of Tao Qian's head received three smacks out of nowhere.

As he staggered, a spiritual response emerged in his heart, which could be expressed in human words like this:

"Continually chant the Life Protection Scripture, all techniques can be refined."

"With Spirit Treasure Thought in the mouth, fear not the Chaos Demon Ancestor."

Having gained a great benefit, Tao Qian naturally showered flattery generously.

With the promise of Lingbao Tianzun, the first level cost was effectively negligible, and Tao Qian made a swift decision.

Without delay, he directly looked at the clay figure of Yuan Gong and immediately spoke:

"Master Yuan, I will cultivate this method, and count me in for the sect master election."

"Really?"

Upon hearing the response, the clay figure burst into red smoke, revealing Yuan Gong's form.

His face was already brimming with uncontrollable joy.

He subconsciously asked again, seeing Tao Qian nod in confirmation, he was even more elated, repeatedly saying:

"Good, good, good!"

"I, the Old Ape, am a short-lived ghost unable to attain the title of Daoist Lord, nor achieve the position of a Tribulation Immortal. In this life, there's truly nothing much to commend."

"Fortunately, before fading away, I have acquired an excellent disciple, hahaha."

"Good disciple, you stay here to read and cultivate. I will go first to find Elder Jiang and the others to make thorough preparations. You, coming from the Secret Demon Ancestral Land as a Secret Demon Child, must not be outshone by Secret Demon children from other realms."

Upon saying this, without waiting for Tao Qian to respond, Yuan Gong transformed back into red smoke, taking the clay figure with him and disappeared without a trace.

Tao Qian couldn't stop him in time, so he had to let him go.

Ten days!

It sounds ample, but in reality, it's quite short.

The Chaos Soul Splitting God Transformation Technique is easy to cultivate, as it's essentially a Great Book formed by Divine Qi transformation, not the original, but the only replica.

There's no need to expend much effort in cultivation; a simple pat of the hands and imprinting it into the soul counts as completion.

The real time-consuming factor for Tao Qian was the dense array of books before him.

If it were books from the Mortal World, he could understand them at a glance with a sweep of his divine thought.

But the texts from the Spirit Treasure Scripture Hall were not like that.

Each book contained transcendent pollution.

Tao Qian had to read line by line to truly understand the content.

Even so, despite Tao Qian's cultivation reaching heavenly heights and possessing an abnormal soul, he still couldn't be completely immune to all pollution.

Take the "Records of Strange Compilations"!

This book is an adventure journal by Uncle Li Mei in the Source Sea, where each line, each illustration, is imbued with Uncle's essence.

Over time, a book soul spirit demon emerged.

When Tao Qian is engrossed in reading, a "book demon" that looks exactly like Uncle Li Mei would appear, either disrupting the text or doodling on illustrations, or shouting incessantly at Tao Qian, essentially doing everything to keep Tao Qian from finding peace.

"Records of Strange Compilations" is such, who knows what the pollution in other books might be?

"No wonder Aunt Pan Si's heart soul was so mixed up, almost ruining her Dao Path because of it."

"Indeed, every aspect of cultivation has its price, even reading is no different."

After muttering these two sentences, Tao Qian casually pulled a book from beside him, named "Great Abyss Strange Immortal Chronicles".

Though the title seemed somewhat mundane, the content was right up Tao Qian's alley of interest.

It contained records of various "strange immortals" in the Great Abyss, referring to immortal figures not originating from orthodox Daoist sects.

Mostly practitioners of heresy and heterodoxy, each followed their unique path of cultivation.

Desiring to seek the Dao, Tao Qian couldn't miss such a book.

Before long, he was deeply engrossed within it.

...

Five hours passed in the blink of an eye.

Inside the quiet room, Tao Qian was still seated in meditation. Although only one book remained unfinished before him, it was still flipping page by page with Tao Qian's mind's intent.

However, at this moment, the serene room had become quite lively.

Accompanied by a serenely comforting song rhyme echoing repeatedly, a host of female demons surrounded Tao Qian, giggling, calling to him, inviting him to join them in a conversation within the book.

The more pages flipped, the more phantoms materialized.

In the end, beings of all kinds—human, ghost, devil, beast, demon, immortal, god... all appeared, and without exception, they were all female.

This commotion was naturally due to the book that Tao Qian was currently perusing.

Its name was "Fairy Bao's Medical Record".

Contained within were the medical records of a loose immortal called "Fairy Bao", documenting her medical practice in various parts of the Great Abyss.

The reason this book was polluted with these phantom book demons was due to Fairy Bao's mastery in female medicine, hence those seeking her medical expertise were mostly female fairies and goddesses.

Though the crowding scene was notable, compared to the other bizarre books Tao Qian had perused over the five days, this pollution was negligible, not even managing to disturb Tao Qian's mood.

"What a remarkable Fairy Bao, not only compassionate but also exceptionally skilled in exotic skills."

"Yet, who knows whether she eventually achieved enlightenment?"

"The Immortal Acupuncture Sect in Southern Yue Province is probably the Dao lineage she left in the Longevity Realm; if there's karma, I should pay it some regard."

Having said this to himself, Tao Qian then willed the book shut.

In an instant, the divine music stopped, and the female fairies and female demons vanished alongside.

Chapter 877 - All Demons Seek Profit, Ten Thousand Puppets, Primal Saint Demon Mother

"Truly... an eye-opener."

In the quiet room, Tao Qian couldn't help but sigh as he closed the book.

Five days ago, he had a deep curiosity and countless questions about the Great Abyss Origin Sea and the All Heavens and Myriads of Worlds; now many of these questions have dissipated.

At this moment, Tao Master Tao, boasting "Great Abyss All-Knowing," seemed quite justified.

Indeed, he had truly achieved knowing all secrets of the Source Sea without stepping out of his door.

Though the price was somewhat heavy.

His dharma body had long stiffened on the meditation mat, and he felt as if a mountain was pressing on his shoulders, rendering him immobile.

Additionally, within his body, wisps of Source Qi, invisible to the naked eye, continuously leaked out, akin to "body odor."

His eyes were swollen and bloodshot.

At the same time, his Heart Soul was constantly invaded by various distracting thoughts, which even his mental state cultivation couldn't suppress.

"Who would have thought simply reading some books would lead to such exhaustion."

"Fortunately, compared to the gentle and naive Aunt Pan Si, this True Monarch's means are far more diverse."

With that said, Tao Qian began to act.

First, gray flames spewed simultaneously from his nostrils and mouth. As the True Fire of Suppressing Evil emerged, it instantly burned away the chaotic Source Qi, turning them into mottled grains of sand that appeared in mid-air and fell silently.

He then let out a cold snort, releasing a burst of golden light within to protect his wonderful body while cleansing his Heart Soul.

All impurities removed, distracting thoughts vanished.

Tao Qian placed the last book back in the box, and summoned Zhong Doudou, instructing the now-mature Crystal Demon Girl: "Send this box back to Red Sleeve Island."

Having given his instructions, Zhong Doudou left with the box.

Tao Qian then summoned the special leather-bound Secret Book, ready to clasp it with both hands and refine it.

He was curious about what kind of "soul body" would materialize upon refining it.

But just at that moment, the void of the quiet room began to ripple.

Amidst the flashing demon light, rowdy, chattering Outer Realm Heaven Demons squeezed in.

Among them were the Star Zha Demon, Decree Demon, Red Lady Demon, and others—the ones Tao Qian favored most as his subordinates.

Upon their emergence, they couldn't contain themselves and began to file complaints.

"Master, master, those demons claim that Penglai Sea is Spirit Treasure Sect territory, a Daoist Holy Land, and unless captured or imprisoned, their Demon Sect cultivators would never set foot."

"Hmph, such arrogance, surely they wish master to personally welcome and invite them, it's laughable to think so highly of themselves."

"Following your command, master, we've invited all those demons into the Ascending Immortal Star Acupoint, now attended by Spirit Marrow Lady."

"Master, I fear some among them are quite disrespectful towards you and might act offensively on seeing you."

"Rest assured, master, it's not due to our incompetence. Those demons are extremely savage, each skilled in controlling and refining demons, looking down upon us completely. We've labored hard to welcome them, yet they didn't even offer us any 'courtesy'..."

Upon hearing this last complaint, Tao Qian glanced at the shameless Red Lady Demon.

He sighed once more.

These genuinely honest demons had gradually become slick and deceitful, he lamented.

You Outer Realm Heavenly Demons asking Secret Demon Sect's strong men for benefits, it's no wonder you get such a poor reception.

"Oh, inconsiderate of me to task you with welcoming guests, the Secret Demon Sect seniors will inevitably deem me, Tao Qian, as a cunning rogue as well."

"Ruining the sect's reputation, ruining the sect's reputation indeed."

Tao Qian's face darkened slightly as he lamented and strode out towards the Star Aperture.

It took a while for the demons to realize with delayed reaction.

They exchanged glances and grumbled:

"Servants take after their master, no matter how cunning we get, how could we surpass True Monarch master."

"Exactly, could it be that master plans to deduct our compensation?"

"No way, all in all, a hundred Demon Pills, master is always generous and wouldn't shortchange us."

"Generous as he is, however, master values his face and enjoys malicious amusement. Seeing our chaos, he may well feel tempted to tease us... In a few days, we might not get even a single Demon Pill."

"Wow... master, please don't."

As Decree Demon solemnly finished, led by Red Lady, they began wailing loudly while chasing on.

...

Meanwhile, within the Ascending Immortal Star Acupoint, calm for three years, things were now bustling.

Approximately several hundred cultivators with extraordinary energies gathered there.

Containing both the Human Clan and Alien Species, along with devil beasts, ghosts, and others.

They shared a single trait: each one emitted a strong demonic aura.

Most also wore expressions of rampant arrogance, flaunting an air of sole supremacy atop heaven and earth.

Those unfamiliar might mistakenly believe these cultivators practice Emperor Skill rather than Secret Demon magic.

However, if anyone has truly dealt with the Secret Demon Sect, they are well aware that most Secret Demon Cultivators possess this disposition, from ancient times to the present.

"No wonder Yuan Gong told me in advance that a true Secret Demon Cultivator will attract enemies no matter where they are."

"I used to be puzzled why the two major paths of Daoism and Buddhism, along with many major sects, would take turns besieging the Secret Demon Sect. Now it seems much more reasonable."

"Everyone wears a face that incites hatred, perhaps a common price for cultivating the 'All Heavens Secret Demon Scripture'?"

As Tao Qian stood at the entrance of the Star Aperture, observing a group of elders and peers, he secretly complained in his heart.

His own figure also entered the eyes of the people of the Secret Demon Sect.

The first impression was naturally extraordinary.

Including those at the front, several old demons chatting with Yuan Gong, upon seeing Tao Qian, were all shaken in spirit and couldn't help but praise: "What a magnificent Spirit Treasure Subduing Evil True Monarch."

This kind of reaction was nothing unusual.

In Southern Yue, Tao Qian was just an elegant scholar, but as his cultivation became more powerful, he underwent multiple transformations, and now, regarding appearance and aura, he had few rivals in the vast Longevity Realm.

However, soon, all demons noticed the group of little demons from the Outer Realms swirling around Tao Qian's back, shoulders, and feet.

These were precisely the Star Zha Demon, Decree Demon, Red Lady Demon, and others.

Each was wailing, pleading with the master not to forget to feed them, not to cut their rations short.

The appearance of such a scene was naturally because Tao Qian usually interacted with these little demons in this way.

Yet, in the eyes of the demons, this behavior was deemed entirely inappropriate.

Many elders and disciples furrowed their brows, secretly thinking

"This Subduing Evil True Monarch indeed does not conform to the orthodox Secret Demon Child, clearly a gentle and kind person. Outer Realm Heavenly Demons are inherently fierce and deceitful creatures, treating them well like this will not earn their gratitude but will sooner or later bring retribution."

"This child, indeed, is worthy of being Yuan Shixiong's disciple, quite unconventional, but this way of Demon Control has veered off course; once we become closer, I should offer some advice."

"In the Mortal World and the Cultivation World, it is said that Tao True Monarch has an unusual temperament, unlike ordinary cultivators. Now I see it's true; those of us who cultivate demons can't treat Outer Realm Heavenly Demons like this, losing all sense of rank."

"Everyone knows the Spirit Treasure Subduing Evil True Monarch's supernatural power, for even Alchemists have been destroyed by him. The Evil Sect of the Demon Buddha Temple now dares not make a sound. But contesting for the Secret Demon Sect Master is another matter. The ancestral land has suffered various calamities, leading to its decline, yet the demon offsprings of all worlds are formidable. If he were to take on this role, wouldn't he be devoured completely by other Secret Demon Children?"

...

For a moment, the demons were worried about Tao Qian's prospects for the leadership of the Secret Demon Sect.

While they scrutinized and speculated about Tao Qian, he was also observing them.

The first to catch his eye were, naturally, the group of Secret Demon Elders from the front row, who were of the same generation as Yuan Gong.

Besides Yuan Gong, there were six others, two women, three men, and one child. Each one had a cultivation realm and mana not inferior to Tao Qian, their aura intense and overwhelming.

It was clear that these Secret Demon Elders had survived the great wars of the past, inheriting most of the Secret Demon Sect's legacy. After years of hiding and cultivating, they not only surpassed Yuan Gong but each had also nurtured significant followings.

If the opportunity presented itself, one or two might even be able to comprehend the Daoist Transformation Realm.

Tao Qian approached to pay his respects, and Yuan Gong directly introduced the leading elder, an old woman in plain robes.

Although her body was bent and her face aged, full of wrinkles like lotus leaves, her attire was tidy, her demeanor composed, and her eyes, predominantly white with little black, made anyone who met her gaze tremble in spirit.

She held a green jade stick with her left hand, and in her right carried an unlit white lantern.

Behind her, the void was an eerie darkness, as if no light could dispel it.

Even with Tao Qian's spiritual resonance eyes, he could see nothing.

Upon seeing these, without needing Yuan Gong to speak, related information surfaced in Tao Qian's mind:

"Jiang Luan, known as the 'Thousand Puppet Mother,' an elder of the Secret Demon Sect, cultivator of the 'Heavenly Puppet Book' from the Heavenly Chapter of the All Heavens Secret Demon Scripture, skilled in divination and calculation, renowned in this area along with Duobao Daoist of the Spirit Treasure Sect and the high monk Lian Huasheng of the Dharma Cakra Temple."

"The darkness in the void behind her likely conceals the thousand Heavenly Puppets she has refined."

"Transforming all living beings into puppets...with the secret treasure Heavenly Light Lantern illuminating the spiritual resonance, and another secret treasure, the Green Jade Ruyi Stick, to manipulate them, causing the puppets to act out all scenarios and glimpse into the future."

"This great method is indeed extremely profound, yet from what I've heard, it is not as superior to the 'Divination Technique' taught by my master. She manipulates puppets for her divination, calculating many things, whereas my master intercepts the Heavenly Dao, predicting the heavens and earth, which should be superior. Yet, I am curious about what kind of divinatory method that sage 'Lian Huasheng' cultivates?"

"However, Yuan Gong also mentioned that Jiang Luan is not an ordinary human, but of the Ancient Holy Emperor's bloodline, having actively cut off ties to the Holy Emperor's lineage to cultivate Secret Demon great methods for many years, and is not far from comprehending Daoist Transformation."

"If she truly succeeds, she will be known as the 'Mother of Ten Thousand Puppets, Yuan Saint Demon Mother'."

Such countless thoughts fell in the blink of an eye.

On the surface, Tao Qian maintained the etiquettes of the Secret Demon, smiled and nodded at Granny Jiang Luan, and said:

"Greetings, Senior Jiang!"

"Senior Master Yuan has told me that much credit for the preservation and resurgence of the Daoistic tradition of the Secret Demon Sect is due to your strategic vision."

"Having met you today, the reputation is truly deserved."

"Senior's Heavenly Puppet Technique is indeed endlessly profound. Although I possess spiritual resonance eyes that can peer into the essence of all things, they can't see through the mystery behind your technique. But from what I've heard about my master's Divination Technique, while senior refines all living beings into puppets for divination and makes many calculations, my master intercepts the Heavenly Dao itself to predict heaven and earth, which seems superior. Yet, I am curious what kind of divination technique that elder 'Lian Huasheng' cultivates?"

Tao Qian's courteous words quickly brought a smile, full of new lines, to Jiang Luan's face.

On the other hand, Senior Master Yuan beside her, and many Secret Demon disciples behind, all cursed Tao Qian inwardly:

"As expected, how cunning, to start flattering right at the beginning."

Chapter 878 - All Heavens Secret Demon Nest, Arrival of Emperor Wa's Direct Heir

As a disciple of Yuan Gong, Tao Qian naturally seemed a generation lower in front of Jiang Luan and other Secret Demon Elders.

Yet, he was the Spirit Treasure Subduing Evil True Monarch, renowned both inside the realm and in the Outer Realm, with cultivation realm and divine skills exceeding theirs.

Thus, when he spoke praise, including Jiang Luan, the Thousand Puppet Mother, followed by several other elders like the Evil Demon Daoist Tie Lianshan, the Nameless Demon Lord Su Shi, the Black Demon Child, all were overwhelmed.

Each showed a smile, evidently pleased.

Having paid respects to these Secret Demon Sect Masters and Seniors, Tao Qian went on to meet the remaining disciples.

Indeed, as Yuan Gong had said, they were all remarkable talents.

Tao Qian, through his cultivation journey, since starting from Southern Yue, had dealt with major sects like Demon Buddha Temple, Evil Sect, Free Temple, Alchemist, the Xiu Family... and had seen the young talents coming from these forces.

Honest in his assessment, these young Secret Demon Sons before him were not inferior in the least, and some could even compare to true disciples in his Spirit Treasure Sect like Brother Yang Jie and Brother Huang Zhen.

Of course, still not as good as Brother Xu Xun, Brother Yan, and Senior Sister Lu.

If Tao Qian himself hadn't had those remarkable encounters, he would have stood no chance against these true "talents".

Many of these young Secret Demon Sons, before Tao Qian's arrival, had grumblings in their hearts, secretly feeling that Tao True Monarch's famed reputation was perhaps unjustified.

Once truly near, each of them was dumbfounded.

Oppression!

Even if Tao Qian deliberately restrained his aura, he couldn't entirely prevent it.

It's inevitable, strictly speaking, the two sides were completely different "beings", whether in dharma body, supernatural power, or heart soul understanding, all were as far apart as heaven and earth.

The group of Secret Demon Sons, faced with Tao Qian, in an instant had no hostility.

Even if they verbally remained unconvinced, inwardly they all understood: if Tao Qian desires the slot for the Longevity Realm Secret Demon Ancestral Land, none other would be more suitable.

To speak of the Secret Demon Sons, there was also a familiar face to Tao Qian.

As greetings were exchanged, a striking Secret Demon Son dressed in armor, with a handsome face, six arms, and an extra pair of scarlet eyes on his forehead, suddenly stepped forward, bowed deeply to Tao Qian and said:

"Qi Ye pays respects to Tao True Monarch!"

"Back then in Demon City, True Monarch granted me the grace of instruction, helping me escape from the control of Lingwa father and son, a debt of gratitude akin to rebirth."

"Now Qi Ye has switched to cultivating the 'All Heavens Secret Demon Scripture Formless Chapter', and trained an Invisible Formless Demon Army stationed inside Qiantang Province. Should True Monarch have any orders, Qi Ye will comply without reservation."

With these three sentences spoken, the identity of the person became clear.

Yin Qiye!

Previously the Taishang Demon Son, trapped in Rashamon Princess's emotion tribulation, controlled by Primordial Demon True Monarch Lingwa father and son, commanded the Heavenly Demon Army for them.

Later on, Tao Qian enticed him with a scroll of the Secret Demon Volume, successfully transforming him into a Secret Demon Son, now having apprenticed Evil Demon Daoist Tie Lianshan.

He is someone who remembers kindness, thus immediately expressing his mind upon meeting again.

Tao Qian naturally declined with a smile, only reminiscing about the past.

After the pleasantries, Thousand Puppet Mother Jiang Luan glanced at Yuan Gong, who was entirely absorbed in his own pride, seemingly forgetting the proper matters.

With a helpless shake of her head, she then approached Tao Qian and said:

"Nephew, you know that although our Secret Demon Sect has people spread throughout All Heavens and Myriads of Worlds, we have always been loose, free, and unrestrained."

"Originally, the matter of rebuilding the Mountain Gate was to be carried out by my ancestral land lineage, and for these hundreds of years, we have been plotting and planning, now it's time to act."

"However, unexpectedly, the Great Abyss Origin Sea underwent major upheavals, the Ten Thousand Gods are awakening..."

"Seeking an alternative path, or perhaps idle with boredom, ancestors across realms decided to unite to push this matter forward, which is very appropriate, for these three years, the transformations in the Longevity Realm have been incredibly enigmatic, if we were still the ones rebuilding the Mountain Gate, I fear the Secret Demon Sect would decline into three-second-rate sects in the current Longevity Realm, how could that be allowed?"

These words from Jiang Luan also made Tao Qian raise his eyebrows.

These three years!

Though he occasionally conversed with the "Ancestor Spirit" Daoist from afar, perceiving mundane changes through shifts in the Human Dao Destiny.

But Tao Qian's true body had been hermiting in Penglai Sea, never actually having deep understanding.

Since Jiang Luan spoke thus, the truth might be completely beyond Tao Qian's expectations.

Before he could inquire, Granny Jiang continued:

"We are already destitute, though over these years, I've cultivated a few somewhat outstanding juniors, competing against All Heavens Secret Demon Sons is exceedingly difficult."

"Luckily, with Nephew willing to join, with your abilities, you'll surely defeat other Secret Demon Sons."

"Other Secret Demon Sons have backing from realm ancestors, some undergo Daoist transformation, or even become Tribulation Immortals, whereas Nephew has only us."

Spitting out the last sentence.

The Secret Demon Elders, including Yuan Gong, all revealed expressions of embarrassment.

Understandably so!

Other competitors have ancestors-level existence behind them, even able to present a realm's heritage.

In contrast, the support Tao Qian could receive was extremely meager.

Granny Jiang saying these words was clearly to mention the unpleasant facts upfront, unwilling to deceive Tao Qian.

"The ancestral land lineage originally had ancestors, but unfortunately, along with the sect's accumulation, all perished in the calamities of those years."

"Although we are destitute, nephew need not worry too much, this Monarch has also done some things over these hundreds of years, sitting in the Demon Cave for a century, finally refined a 'All Heavens Demon Net', then went to the Outer Realm, slaughtered a million evil spirits, refining that 'Nine Heavens Four Spirits Binding Earth Evil Thousand Demon Array'... all of which are at your disposal."

"Under my command, including the child Qi Ye's Formless Demon Army, there are eighteen Demon Armies, along with myself, all are at your beck and call."

"This Monarch conquered three great Demon Countries in the Outer Realm, containing various Heavenly Demons numbering in the millions, all can be loaned to Nephew."

...

A group of elders, each chiming in, nearly gave Tao Qian all the assets accumulated over hundreds of years, including the heritage rescued from past calamities.

Tao Qian in the cultivation world was already considered quite wealthy.

However, upon hearing this now, he was still shaken.

If he were to take everything, it would be a fortune beyond fortune. With his strength alone, he could establish another Major Sect.

It's a pity, this can only be said within the Longevity Realm.

Once outside the realm, the scene is completely different.

"Going to the Source Sea and competing with numerous Secret Demon Sons is like a frog leaping out of a dry well, seeing the vast world."

"These stores of spiritual materials and resources can dominate within the Longevity Realm, but when compared to the foundation of an entire realm, they are extremely meager, likely completely incomparable, unless I drag the Spirit Treasure Sect into this, which is an impossibility."

As the thought came to a close, Tao Qian's expression didn't change.

He merely looked towards Granny Jiang and calmly asked, "Do we now know what the process is for the sect master selection?"

Upon hearing this, Jiang Luan immediately replied, "Twelve hours ago, the ancestors sent a demon message. For this selection of sect master, there are no special rules or procedures; only one thing is needed, which is to collect world resources and construct our Secret Demon Sect's first treasure."

Hearing this, Tao Qian couldn't help but become interested.

The first treasure of the Secret Demon!

Such a title, he had never heard before either.

Jiang Luan did not keep him in suspense and directly continued:

"The All Heavens Secret Demon Nest!"

"This is the name of that treasure."

"In the Great Abyss Origin Sea, all heavens and myriads of worlds, life undergoes birth, extinction, and reincarnation. All other things, and even the world itself, experience this."

"The robust boundary walls of a thriving realm are immovable."

"But in the Great Abyss, countless worlds are often on the verge of breaking and destroying. If one can retrieve still usable items like the [Realm Core], [Source Fire], [Heavenly Track], [Earth Body]... and other treasures, they can be used as spiritual materials to construct the indestructible treasure [All Heavens Secret Demon Nest]."

"Once this nest is forged, it will take the Longevity Realm as its heart, connecting all realms. At that time, us Secret Demon Cultivators can travel freely across the heavens, and need not fear sect annihilation tribulation. Even if the Daoist, Buddhist, and Demon Sects unite to exterminate us again, they wouldn't be able to do anything to us."

"The more world spiritual materials we have, the stronger the nest becomes."

"The ancestors have stated: Whoever among the Secret Demon Sons collects the most and the most useful spiritual materials will become the Secret Demon Revival Master, and not only will they control the All Heavens Secret Demon Nest, but if a new sect master asks the ancestors to come forth, the cost can be halved."

...

After Jiang Luan finished speaking, Tao Qian couldn't help but fall into deep thought.

As he pondered, he felt an abnormality.

Some peculiar terms from his past life jumped out in his mind.

Goodness!

What kind of construction worker?

What kind of all heavens railway?

It turns out the proper sect master selection was turned into a grand infrastructure-building group activity by these second-generation ancestors of the Secret Demon Sect.

What made Tao Qian internally criticize even more was the benefits obtained after becoming the Secret Demon Revival Master.

"To command the [All Heavens Secret Demon Nest], that is to be expected."

"But even if you can ask the ancestors, you still need to pay a price, only reduced by half."

"Hmm? Is it that difficult to have these Daoist Transformation and Tribulation Immortals come forth?"

"Was it just as strenuous for our Spirit Treasure Sect Master to ask the second-generation ancestors for help?"

Tao Qian's thoughts didn't wander for too long, nor did he regret.

To divide soul and body and compete for the position of Secret Demon Sect Master, this was something the Heavenly Venerate tacitly approved.

The spiritual response that Tao Qian had received clearly indicated that this was a significant opportunity for him, one not to be missed.

Thus, he shifted the topic, starting to inquire more details and secret information from Jiang Luan.

Later, he simply gathered the Secret Demon Elders for a discussion on Dao.

...

Several hours later, after knowing all the details, Tao Qian bid farewell to all the elder disciples and left the Ascending Immortal Star Acupoint alone.

Upon exiting the Star Acupoint, he intended to look for his wife and precious daughter.

Just after taking a few steps, he stopped suddenly, furrowing his brows, and directly looked into the void before him.

Ripples spread as a figure resembling an old peasant yet also a scholar emerged.

Before Tao Qian could greet, the Ancestor Spirit, whose face was full of distress, approached without a word, cupped his hands, and said:

"Daoist Tao, I've encountered a difficult matter, and I've come seeking your aid."

"Daoist, there is no need for formality, please speak."

With a raised eyebrow, Tao Qian responded, surprised and curious in his heart.

The Ancestor Spirit is a unique being born of Human Dao Destiny.

That such an existence would encounter difficulties?

The question had just arisen when he received the answer immediately.

"Daoist Tao, you may also know, although I belong to the Human Dao spirit, my true form is the Exotic Treasure [Mountain and River Map]."

"And this treasure, it originally had an original master."

"It was the great Innate God and Demon [Emperor Wa], His Excellency does not require my assistance, thus I am allowed to roam outside."

"But recently, a direct disciple of Emperor Wa's lineage entered the Longevity Realm, and intends to retrieve me back."

Chapter 879 - The Gods Pass Down the Dao to the Immortal Dynasty, Bai Yin Seeks Success

Spiritual Resonance Cave, at Thunder Cliff.

Tao Qian's eyebrows slightly furrowed as he looked at the Ancestor Spirit Daoist in front of him.

Though he was a spirit of fortune, he was always close to the Human Clan, his avatar appearing as a half-farmer, half-scholar.

Yet now, his figure seemed to Tao Qian like a "mass of blood and flesh", kneaded by countless invisible hands, flashing and changing without a stable form.

Looking closer, it was even more terrifying.

Though the Ancestor Spirit's character was beyond question, at this moment, Tao Qian closely observed the occasional changes in him, surprisingly seeing shades of sinister, venomous, and cunning expressions in his eyes.

Unlike a human, more like an Evil Demon.

"The Ancestor Spirit is nurtured by Human Dao Destiny, such a change in him must mean something grave has occurred in the human realm."

"How could it be so?"

"Three years ago, wasn't it the Primordial Sect that led the creation of the Immortal Dynasty?"

"Given it is the Immortal Dynasty, how could such intense Evil Poison arise, so much so that the Ancestor Spirit Daoist is poisoned without realizing it...?"

Tao Qian noticed the clues, his heart filled with inexplicable horror, but he did not speak out.

He merely made small talk while using the long absence from the mountains as an excuse, requesting the Ancestor Spirit to cast and reveal the changes in the Longevity Realm over these three years.

At first, he noticed nothing significant.

But soon, Tao Qian gradually understood what was truly happening in the Longevity Realm.

An unprecedented, never-before-seen great upheaval.

Five words describe it:

All Heavens Migration Wave!

Three years ago, going back to ancient times, the Longevity Realm had a long history, nurturing all living beings, but indeed never experienced such a change.

After all, it is a great world, with thick barriers and many god and demon protections.

Not only does the Longevity Heavenly Dynasty have great arrays like the Ancestor God Forbidden Technique, but countries like Rashamon Country, Black Teeth Country, Tianyin Country... and so on, Outer Realm foreign lands, have similar existences, furthermore, some directly isolate the transcendents, completely blocking any pollution invasion.

Behind all these, it should be some powerful gods and demons maintaining, keeping the Longevity Realm's gateways firmly closed.

The Human Clan population of the entire Longevity Realm swelled to hundreds of billions due to this.

But in the past three years, the gates of the Longevity Realm suddenly fully opened.

God Demon Clans!

Great Abyss Dao Vein!

Source Sea Strange Spirits!

A large number of transcendental beings, for unknown reasons, started migrating into the Longevity Realm to settle.

Initially, their number was negligible compared to the Human Clan in the Longevity Realm, so it did not catch Tao Qian's attention.

But in the recent month, or even just these few days.

The number of immigrants surged tens of times, all accepted by the Longevity Realm.

The consequences?

Even Tao Qian could not guess or understand at this time.

Tao Qian only furrowed his brows, observing the various changes in the Tian Chao's seventy-two provinces, occasionally catching glimpses of pictures from those Outer Realm countries.

"Three years, accumulation over time, it's as if suddenly a myriad of colors were poured into a pond of clear water, chaotic to the extreme, yet vitality and fortune swelled and surged tens or even hundreds of times."

"Countries like Rashamon Country in the Outer domains, initially had no strong support, at most some unfit heterodox Exotic Skills, but now each has an unclear figure of innate or acquired gods and demons teaching and imparting law?"

"The Human Dao Destiny of the Longevity Heavenly Dynasty seems completely corroded, if it continues like this, even the Ancestor God Forbidden Technique may soon lose its effect."

"No, it has already lost its effect."

As this thought came, Tao Qian, as part-owner of the Ancestor God Forbidden Technique, already sensed the reason.

The Longevity Realm is one of the ancestral lands for the human clan's gods.

And the Ancestor God Forbidden Technique was built with treasures borrowed from all the sects of Daoist, Buddhist, Demon, and Devil lineages.

Some of the returning clans and lineages naturally have old ties with these sects, all capable of linking with relatives, and the forbidden technique naturally becomes lenient.

Over time, accommodating too many, involving too much, enforcing law can no longer be strict or fair.

"Three years!"

"The Ancestor God Forbidden Technique I painstakingly rebuilt had a strong and effective period of only three years?"

"No wonder the so-called 'Ancient True Dragon Clan' dared to be so arrogant, I suppose among the forbidden treasures there is one borrowed from the camp of the Mountain and Sea Gods."

"Is this the prototype of the Immortal Dynasty?"

Tao Qian watched and hesitated to speak.

Without a doubt, the plan of the Longevity Immortal Dynasty was not only the intention of Yuanshi Tianzun but also had the tacit approval of Lord Lao Zi of the Great Monad and Lingbao Tianzun, and was pushed by the entire human clan's gods' camp.

Because of this, the grand scene of the past three years occurred.

The gods imparting teachings!

The migration of all clans!

Even though Tao Qian's cultivation realm was fairly adequate, he could not even be considered a minor role in this grand plan.

"I should have known, at the time of my wedding, almost all the human gods showed their shadows, if it were just trivial, how could it be possible."

"With so many changes, it's expected."

"As for the root cause, I suppose it is the warning by senior Yin Xuanmu... Outer Realm Cataclysm, the revival of ten thousand gods, frequent wars."

"Hmm? The second-generation ancestors of the Secret Demon Sect at this time joined forces to reforge the 'All Heavens Secret Demon Nest', perhaps also for this."

At the last thought, the fog in Tao Qian's heart cleared up a lot.

He raised his eyes again, looking at the Ancestor Spirit Daoist, who was shifting among conditions of weakening, mutation, and expansion.

The urgent task is to save his life first.

The Ancestor Spirit had already made it clear:

A few days ago, several clan contingents migrated into the Longevity Realm, namely the Devil Tomb Fox Clan, Jade Pipa Clan, and Nine-headed Pheasant Clan, each proficient in multiple secret Devil Techniques, led by the clan leader of the Devil Tomb Fox Clan, known as "Da," who had reached the Daoist Transformation Realm, entering the realm through the use of Secret Technique and great support.

Da holds an Emperor Wa's Token, which can legitimately authenticate his identity as the direct disciple of the Emperor Wa.

Chapter 880 - The Gods Pass Down the Dao to the Immortal Dynasty, Bai Yin Seeks Success

After finding the Ancestor Spirit, she ordered it to restore its original form and submit to her.

...

"A direct disciple of the Daoist Transformation Realm?"

"Goodness, they might already be equivalent to Aunt Ma Yi's status in our Spirit Treasure Sect."

"Ancestor Spirit Daoist can delay for a few days at most. Forcing them to defy Emperor Wa's Token might be impossible. What if I personally go and negotiate?"

At this thought, Tao Qian shook his head.

Though over the years he's grown calluses in his ears from flattery, Tao Qian knew he was far from being able to look down upon everything.

He wasn't even in the Daoist Transformation Realm, so how could he have the face to think he could persuade a Daoist Transformation-level Devil Immortal with even greater backing?

The current strategy seemed to be to seek help.

"I've already disturbed the Heavenly Venerate twice, once to complain, and once to seek Spiritual Response guidance. If I recite the Life Protection Scripture again, I'm afraid the old Heavenly Venerate might not respond to me."

"Aunt Ma Yi has already taken Brother Xu Xun to the Outer Realm to refine that [Universe in the Sleeve] Divine Skill, and should have no time now."

"Hmm?"

"I've never heard Sect Master be particularly busy, so he should have some time available."

He decided to act on his thoughts.

Tao Qian, not caring that the Ancestor Spirit Daoist was nearby, willed the Miraculous Tree Treasure Boat into existence.

In fact, as the sole disciple of Duobao, if he wanted to speak with the Spirit Treasure Sect Master,

he could just go to Biyou Palace and burn a stick of Daoist Incense.

However, Tao Qian was notoriously lazy. The Miraculous Tree Treasure Boat was the former treasure of the Sect Master, personally gifted to him. He figured he could use this treasure to converse with the Sect Master.

Sure enough, before he cast any spell,

the Miraculous Tree Treasure Boat trembled slightly, and in the glittering light, a familiar and grand Daoist sound echoed:

"Tao, hmph, truly you and your Master are alike, how can you be so lazy that even an elder like Toad God takes such a liking to you."

"I already know what you're asking for, but this shouldn't be something I meddle in. That bothersome fox from the Devil Tomb isn't favored by Emperor Wa, but she does have the inheritance. By rank, she is indeed a direct disciple. If I go looking for her, I'd be accused of bullying the weak."

"But just because I can't do it doesn't mean others can't intervene."

"In the Penglai Sea, there is someone, if she's willing to act, she'll ensure that meddlesome fox doesn't dare speak out again."

Upon hearing this, not only Tao Qian, but even the Ancestor Spirit became quite intrigued.

Could it be that within the Spirit Treasure Sect, there is an Elder or disciple with deep Karma with the line of Emperor Wa?

Luckily, the Sect Master didn't keep them guessing, and in the next moment provided the answer.

Though his tone was quite teasing.

"Our Spirit Treasure Sect has quite a bit of Karma with the line of Emperor Wa. If we were to draw relationships, there'd be dozens or hundreds who could speak on it."

"However, all combined, they don't compare to one person."

"Emperor Wa had an orthodox Clan called the [Wa Snake Clan], and this clan was most favored, sharing the same form with Emperor Wa: human head and snake body, allowing the entire clan to reside in Emperor Wa Palace."

"Years ago, due to chance, a Princess of this clan joined our Spirit Treasure Sect, with a status different from other disciples, and was given a most suitable task."

"Her nature is unique, cold and solitary."

"If others went to invite her, even if a group of Elders who are nominally her senior brothers and sisters tried, they probably wouldn't succeed."

"Except for you, who with a few words could succeed."

As the Spirit Treasure Sect Master's last words came, Tao Qian immediately guessed who that person was.

Aunt Bai Yin!

A human head and snake body, cold and solitary, different from other disciples, a most suitable task... In the entire Penglai Sea, there's no second such person meeting these criteria.

Seeing Tao Qian guessed the answer, the Miraculous Tree Treasure Boat trembled again, and Tao Qian seemed to hear the Sect Master's mischievous "hehe" laugh.

It seems the Sect Master is also enjoying the spectacle.

Not only the Sect Master, in the vast Penglai Sea, who doesn't know of the entanglements between Tao Qian, his wife, and Bai Yin Fairy?

Yunrong had previously revealed her true nature, not only fancying the male beauty of Tao Qian but also the many fairy-like women within the Mountain Gate.

She often persuaded Pan Si, Lue, Cai Yun, and other fairies to bathe together, her enthusiasm making the fairies avoid visiting the island.

Yunrong loved beauty, yet uniquely disliked Bai Yin Fairy.

The two often bickered.

Bai Yin was not good with words, but whenever she lost an argument, she would use her trump card: asking Tao Qian to accompany her for twenty hours, a promise Tao made to Bai Yin Fairy who guarded [Spiritual Tablet Island], in order to uncover its secrets back then.

But Bai Yin was also cunning, always using this promise as a weapon in arguments, never truly exercising it.

Even so, Yunrong was extremely annoyed, often saying:

"Husband was truly too rash and reckless back then. How could you not see the bad intentions of this slippery white snake woman."

"Among the immortals and aunts in the Penglai Sea, you can accompany anyone, but you should call me along; yet it has to be her, truly unpleasant."

...

After the Sect Master finished speaking and left, Tao Qian couldn't help but show a trace of embarrassment on his face.

Clearly, the Sect Master was not wrong.

If Aunt Bai Yin is indeed a Princess of the Emperor Wa Clan, even though her cultivation realm is not as high as the Devil Tomb Fox Clan Leader called "Da," her status is probably still above them.

As long as she is willing to move and ask for a favor, Ancestor Spirit Daoist's little tribulation can be solved in an instant.

The only problem is, it poses quite a dilemma for Master Tao.

Ancestor Spirit Daoist also understands this.

Even though his condition is not good, with disaster approaching, he is still unwilling to trouble his friend, and was about to speak, telling Tao Qian not to rush around.

At this moment, Tao Qian had already set aside that trace of embarrassment, thinking to himself: "Business is important, these small matters count for nothing."

After thinking this, Tao Qian signaled Ancestor Spirit to wait a while.

Then, he directly conveyed the original reason telepathically to Yunrong over a distance.

Before he could add a few words like "wife, rest assured, your husband will definitely strive to keep himself," the reply had already arrived.

In Tao Qian's mind, he heard Yunrong gently say:

"Husband, just go, rescuing people is important."

"That white snake woman said she wanted to sleep with you and has been nagging for three years. Every time it's just talk; this time, I doubt she has the courage."

Upon hearing this, Tao Qian felt at ease.

But the next moment, he heard Yunrong add a few more sentences:

"However, this time, after all, it's husband voluntarily coming to her, and you have a favor to ask, it's an excellent pretext. If it were Yunrong, I would definitely seize the opportunity to blackmail a good brother, using all my skills to accompany me for several dozen hours."

"And if she truly has the guts, and husband can't break the agreement, remember to call me along."

"Since she is a Princess of the Emperor Wa Clan, her true form is probably enormous, and she's inherited the Emperor Wa bloodline, even if she hasn't practiced any secret techniques, she is a natural expert in the path of yin-yang propagation."

"With such long duration, I'm afraid you can't hold out, and you will need the two of us, husband and wife together, to subdue her."

What is the language of the tiger and wolf?

This, is it.

Even though Master Tao has always been someone who isn't much concerned about face, at this time, after hearing this, he couldn't help but fall silent, only inwardly sighing:

"Before marrying, wife often spoke such tiger and wolf words that made me blush and my heart soul tremble. Unexpectedly, after marriage, I am even more unable to withstand it, worthy of being Grandma Taizhen's excellent disciple."

After sighing, Tao Qian no longer delayed.

He summoned Tao Changshou, instructing this Peach Immortal to entertain Ancestor Spirit Daoist.

Then he cast the technique of escape, heading swiftly to the Absolute Immortal Sea, Spiritual Tablet Island.

...

In no time, Tao Qian's eyes once again reflected that familiar scene.

The Spiritual Tablet Island seemed like a cemetery, with a cloud-patterned ancient tree on the cliff.

On the tree, still entwined a Devil Immortal.

A human head and snake body, lazily lying on the tree trunk.

Still wearing a loose robe, without any undershirt or inner clothing, springtime could be said to be infinitely beautiful.

That white-scaled snake tail, like soft snow silk, gently drooped down a segment, swaying slowly with the Qingfeng.

When he first saw her, Tao Qian worshipped her, only hearing the words "retreat."

After much entanglement, he managed to reach the island.

From their interactions, Aunt Bai Yin gradually began to pay attention to Tao Qian.

So this time seeing him again, especially since Tao Qian came to seek her, Tao Qian was treated quite differently.

Just seeing the sea of mist suddenly move, the Spiritual Tablet Island, like a living thing, suddenly lunged forward.

When the white mist filled with exotic aroma, along with the faint moistness, entered Tao Qian's nostrils, he also felt that his dharma body had been tightly embraced by an icy, soft body.

The unprecedented miraculous sensation followed and invaded.