

Medical 1261

Chapter 1261 Flesh and Blood Body (Part 2)

As for the disciples from other peaks, upon reaching the eighth level of Qi Condensation and joining the Inner Sect, they will acquire a second, more powerful technique to prepare for further Tideflows.

The choice of technique the disciple makes is very important and is one of the key factors in determining how many Tideflows they can achieve.

Generally speaking, the minimum is two Tideflows, although three is also possible. Depending on the specific circumstances, four aren't out of the question.

Even the weakest disciple is often able to achieve three Tideflows during Earthstring Foundation Establishment. In some extreme cases, some powerful disciples reach six. However, from ancient times to now, only nine disciples from the Spirit Stream Sect have reached six Tideflows by cultivating the second technique. Naturally, these nine disciples were unique and astonishing figures of their era.

Unfortunately, after cultivating the second technique, nothing else is available for further Tideflows besides secret magic, which is why the Spirit Stream Sect's Ten Great Secret Magic came into being.

The ten secret magics can be used for the fifth Tideflow. There are even some secret magics like Ghosts Haunt the Night and Waterswamp Kingdom, which, in very rare cases, can actually form more than one Tideflow.

Thus, Spirit Stream Sect disciples with outstanding potential have the opportunity to obtain eight Tideflows! Even the weakest disciples can achieve four!

This demonstrates the power and resources of the Spirit Stream Sect! Of course, the other three sects are similar. Ultimately, the real question is, which disciples from different generations can reach the absolute pinnacle.

As for nine Tideflows, that is the legendary peak of Earthstring Foundation Establishment. In all four major sects, only one person has achieved such a feat in the past ten thousand years.

That person was Master Limitless from the Blood Stream Sect, who succeeded 800 years ago.

The pinnacle of Earthstring Foundation Establishment is an incredibly powerful domain, difficult to attain but not impossible. Although the Heavenstring Foundation surpasses the Earthstring Foundation, it can only be obtained through random chance and luck. There is no path to follow.

Yan Xiaobao took a deep breath, his eyes flashing brightly. He had studied the Tideflows and could feel the Sea of Mist had already collapsed and formed his first spiritual ocean. If he wished, he could forgo more Tideflows and immediately end his Earthstring Foundation successfully.

He would gain 200 years of longevity, but unfortunately, among the cultivators of Earthstring Foundation Establishment, he would be very weak. Yan Xiaobao had no desire for weakness. In the cultivation world, the law of the jungle prevails. Whether he liked it or not, he knew it was inevitable.

He disliked fighting and killing, but sometimes, there was no choice!

"Because I have mastered the Violet Qi Cauldron Control Technique's Violet Qi Cauldron Summoning, I can use it as my second Tideflow!" Yan Xiaobao took a deep breath, and suddenly, his Spirit Sea began to rotate rapidly. The surrounding earth energy immediately started to rumble in his direction, shaking everything around, forming a second vortex in his heart.

The lake above crashed and churned as the second vortex appeared above it. It was initially just an outline, but it was evidently larger than the first, ensuring that many disciples looked up to watch.

"The second Tideflow. It's assumed that everyone here should be able to reach at least three to four Tideflows. Each one will be larger than the previous and will require more earth energy!"

"Damn! This guy rushed to the Foundation too quickly. This means the earth's energy will decrease, and there might not even be enough for me to enter the Foundation!"

Even as others in the Fallen Sword World grew more anxious, another massive rumble echoed from another direction. In the midst of distant mountains, another tornado rose to the skies, connecting heaven and earth. Another vortex was forming!

As the whirlpool expanded, the earth's energy in the world began to rush toward it. Now, Bai Xiaobao was sharing the earth's energy with a second person.

In the distant mountains, within an Immortal Cave, Fang Lin sat there, with an extremely focused expression on his face.

Everyone was shocked by this new development. No one could imagine a second person starting a Tideflow only about two hours after the first.

Blood-shot eyes could be seen, as everyone started contending more fiercely for the earth's energy.

Not to say they hadn't thought about killing those at the Foundation establishment center; at this moment, the others hadn't yet reached a state of desperation, just unwilling to waste the time to put in such an effort.

Two hours later, when his first Tideflow ended, the powerful rumbling sound could be heard in Fang Lin's area as the second began. Two more hours later, the lake above Yan Xiaobao exploded as his second tide ended.

When this happened, a second Spirit Sea appeared above the first, his energy surged, making him burn like a flame in the dark night.

He took a deep breath, realizing he had reached the limit of the Violet Qi Cauldron Control Technique; it was not enough for a third Tideflow. Closing his eyes, he turned inward and saw a towering violet cauldron in his two Spirit Seas. Both of them exuded powerful pressure.

"For my third Tideflow, I will have to use the Scriptures formed by the Dragon Mammoth Sea!" His eyes glowed as the roar of dragons and mammoths could be heard emerging from the lake to fill the area. His third Tideflow had begun!

The third vortex appeared within him, more powerful than the previous two. As this power spread to the world, a massive amount of earth energy was drawn to him.

Gradually, a third vortex appeared in the sky, with a dragon visible swirling within it. As disciples from other parts of the world looked over, they immediately saw the dragon.

"What technique is that?"

"That's the Scriptures formed by the Dragon Mammoth Sea! The first to reach the Foundation is from the Spirit Stream Sect!"

"Heavens! I can't believe that's the Spirit Sect. Who could it be? Ghostfang maybe? Shangguan Tianyou?"

"Is it Yan Xiaobao?" All four sects' disciples were in shock, but within the Spirit Stream Sect, a sense of excited euphoria could be felt.

Shangguan Tianyou looked up with blood-shot eyes, let out a furious roar, staring at the dragon in the vortex connecting to the sky. "It's not Ghostfang. It's Yan Xiaobao!!"

He ground his teeth and turned to seek more enemy disciples to kill.

Two more hours passed, and Fang Lin completed his second Tideflow. Another vortex appeared above him, with a massive cauldron within it. It was bronze, covered with carvings of the sun, moon, and stars. It seemed ancient, as if it could melt all the heavens and the earth.

This was the Heaven and Earth Furnace Cauldron!

Once the cauldron became visible, everyone knew who the second person to reach the Foundation was.

"It's Fang Lin from the Pill Stream Sect!"

At that moment, a third tornado suddenly shot into the sky, connecting to the heavens.

The third person had reached the Foundation!

Almost immediately, the vortex turned the color of blood. From the looks of it, it had to be Song Que!

"Heavens! It's Song from the Blood Stream Sect!!"

"He can slay cultivators at Foundation establishment and was the first to provoke a strange sign with his first Tideflow. I heard Master Limitless did the same thing 800 years ago!"

"Maybe Song Que will follow Master Limitless's example and reach the peak of Earthstring Foundation Establishment, nine Tideflows!"

Now, three vortices were contending for the earth's energy, making it surge in three different directions. But then... a fourth tornado rose in the depths of the Fallen Sword World. A fourth tornado arose on the plains, where a massive Spell was established. Shimmering lights radiated in all directions, with a solitary Qi Condensing disciple in the center.

He was a handsome young man dressed in the robes of the Deep Stream Sect. As he conducted breathing exercises, Magic Symbols flowed across his body, each bearing incredible destructive power. Occasionally they gathered into what seemed like iron chains winding around him.

The destructive pulses of energy emanating from the young man marked the annihilation technique!

This young man was the top candidate chosen from the Deep Stream Sect, the first in 3000 years to successfully cultivate the annihilation technique of the Nine-Isles. He could unleash power capable of annihilating all living beings. It might annihilate anything, even possibly forming a Blocking Line; according to information compiled by other sects, these lines were as strong as Mortal-Dao Foundation Establishment.

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"In that battle with Ghostfang, none of us were ranked among the top. Once the Foundation is established! I will fight alongside you again, and then I will fully destroy the chosen ones of the Spiritual Sect!" The intent to kill flickered in Nine-Isles' eyes as he took a deep breath and performed a spell gesture with both hands. Instantly, a vortex formed within him, exploding with gravitational force as the tornado shot towards the sky, where a gigantic vortex appeared.

As enormous Earth Energy flowed towards it, a rumbling sound filled the air.

So far, four massive vortices could be seen across four different areas, dividing the Fallen Sword World into four parts.

Other disciples of the Fallen Sword World became extremely anxious. The four in the midst of establishing their Foundations devoured large amounts of Earth Energy. Everyone knew Earth Energy was limited, and if they didn't hurry, their own chances of establishing a Foundation would be shattered, leaving them only among the successful players.

The battles became even more brutal, almost immediately resulting in casualties.

Even as disciples fell with bloodshot eyes, the water above Yan Xiaobao burst with a loud sound as he concluded his third Tideflow.

In the sky, dragons roared, and within Yan Xiaobao, a third Spirit Sea appeared above his second. This spiritual ocean was larger than the previous one.

"The dragon's power has ended. Now it's time for the Mammoth's power!" Yan Xiaobao took a deep breath. His eyes crimson, he let out a powerful roar, and enormous mammoths appeared around him. They raised their forelegs and then stomped them fiercely onto the ground.

Boom!

A fourth vortex appeared within him, even larger and more astonishing than the third. In the sky, the third vortex continued to grow, but now a fourth even larger vortex could be seen!

Inside that vortex was the image of a massive mammoth, roaring as it swiftly rotated with the surrounding vortex.

Two hours later, Fang Li followed with his own fourth Tideflow vortex. As for Song Que and Nine-Isles, they were nearing the conclusion of their third Tideflows. After two more hours, they began their fourth!

Song Que performed exceptionally well. In the vortex of his fourth Tideflow, a gigantic face could be seen, a face with a blood moon on its forehead. Clearly, he absorbed Earth Energy faster than anyone else.

"Song Que is already in his fourth Tideflow. I can't believe how fast he absorbs Earth Energy. It's terrifying!"

"Damn! Is he really trying to replicate what Master Limitless did? Would he reach the pinnacle of Earthstring Foundation Establishment through 9 Tideflows?"

"This is bad. If anyone reaches eight Tideflows, they will absorb so much Earth Energy that it would be difficult for anyone else to succeed! I must get more Earth Energy quickly!"

Deep anxiety filled everyone's hearts. So far, twenty hours had passed since Yan Xiaobao began entering the Foundation establishment. Just then, suddenly, the fifth tornado struck the heavens!

RUUUUUUUUUUMBLE!

As it grew larger, it formed a vortex, beneath a mass of black mist. In that mist, it was none other than ghosts outside.

When disciples looked up to see five vortices spinning in the sky, all necks craned upwards. Time flew by. Shortly before the completion of Ghostfang's first and second Tideflows. When his third Tideflow vortex appeared, a giant Mountain Ghost emerged, revealing his identity to all.

"Ghostfang! It's Ghostfang from Spirit Stream Sect!"

"Clearly, he cultivated the Mountain Ghost God-Magic!"

"Yan Xiaobao. Fang Lin Song Que. Nine Island Chains. Ghostfang!"

Up to this point, five non-human cultivators had risen from four sects' group of cultivators! They are definitely the first to ride the waves of entering the Foundation!

Yan Xiaobao is in the lead. His fourth Tideflow is almost halfway completed. Next is Fang Lin, about two hours behind Bai Xiaobao. Following is Song Que and Nine-Isles, about four hours behind Bai Xiaobao.

And in last place is Ghostfang, twenty hours behind!

At the moment, Yan Xiaobao's fourth vortex is spinning rapidly, absorbing vast amounts of Earth Energy. The power of the Mammoth is relentlessly pushing his physical body towards the first of the five Death Chains.

With every explosion, he shook noticeably. He had cultivated the Scripture formed by Dragon Mammoth Sea to the point where he could touch the first chain. But now, due to his Immortal Life Technology, he was not merely touching it; he could break through it!

He's about to break through the first chain!

"By borrowing the power of the Mammoth and Earth Energy, I can break through the first chain during the fourth Tideflow!" Eyes crimson, he let out a shout, releasing a surge of power again.

As he repeatedly struck the shackles, thunderous booming sounds filled his mind. His body teetered on the edge of collapse, but he persisted. After several hours, with roughly eight hours left in his fourth Tideflow. Thus far, immense Tideflow power was erupting within him.

BOOOOMMM!

Blood seeped from the corners of his mouth, and cracks appeared on his skin. His assault on the first chain proved far more difficult than he imagined. Even borrowing Earth Rope Energy in the form of Tideflow, he still hadn't succeeded in breaking through it, despite thousands of attempts.

Using Earth Energy in an attempt to break through the first Death Chain was completely unheard of. In fact, aside from Yan Xiaobao, no one had attempted such a thing.

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"I can definitely break through!" he thought. Clenching his teeth, he took a deep breath, then absorbed more energy. However, instead of using it to blast through the chains, he began constructing it within himself.

Eight hours later, the fourth Tideflow was nearly complete. Yan Xiaobao's eyes glittered, shining brightly.

"Break! Come on, rest!" Roaring, he unleashed the Tideflow he had accumulated over the past eight hours. A massive rumbling sound echoed as it transformed into a gigantic battering ram. His body was like a wall being struck by the ram.

Once. Twice. Three times. Explosions occurred one after another in quick succession. Soon, cracks spread across that wall until finally, the power of the fourth Tideflow crushed the barrier. The sound of cracking filled the air, and at the same time, Yan Xiaobao visibly trembled. Suddenly, he felt the weight of five great mountains on his shoulders!

Those five mountains began internally but stretched out above him. They exerted a tremendous pressure, making it hard for him to breathe, and only at this moment could he clearly feel them.

He suddenly wanted to destroy those five peaks to eliminate the pressure weighing on him!

"Those five mountains are the five Death Chains!" Roaring, he unleashed earth-shaking energy, breaking into the first of the five mountains. With an explosive barrage, the shackle suddenly crumbled!

In that moment, blood spurted from Yan Xiaobao's mouth. His Qi Path, his flesh and blood, and every part of him collapsed and then immediately transformed.

As an aura began to spread out from him, beyond anything in the Mortal World, he shivered. It thrived within his flesh and filled his body, making the whole world suddenly appear completely different.

There seemed to be more color, more glisten, and simultaneously, he felt lighter and freer.

Before, he bore the weight of five enormous mountains, but now, one had been destroyed.

He broke through the first of the Death Chains!

As it happened, his physical strength erupted explosively. He instantly surpassed the mortal limits of a cultivator at Qi Condensation, entering the Foundation!

His flesh, blood channels, bones, all of these surpassed the mortal world.

He leaned backward, then let out a shout in all directions. The lake water churned, and the fourth rotation above remained steadfast. A moment later... the fifth vortex appeared!

In the fifth vortex was a crumbling mountain!

The fifth Tideflow was not provoked by the Dragon Mammoth Sea Formation Scripture. This mountain had nothing to do with it. This was the natural result of Yan Xiaobao breaking through the first Death Chain!

So far, Fang Lin, Song Que, and Nine-Isles were nearing the end of their own fourth Tideflows. Meanwhile, Ghostfang finished his third.

At the same time, other sect disciples had been engaged in fierce battles for hours. Just then, the second wave of disciples managed to form their Earth Capture Crystal.

The first in the second wave was Shanguan Tianyou. Almost simultaneously, Xu Xiaoshan's vortex also appeared in the sky.

Next was the dark horse Beihan Lie from the Fallen Sword World!

Finally, Zhao Rou from the Pill Stream Sect!

She sat cross-legged in a valley, with Gongsun Wan'er protected in front of her, face covered in blood. Shockingly, Gongsun Wan'er had no trace of life force in her!

She was dead, yet her corpse could still move. Though somewhat stiff, toxic mist poured out from her body, myriad poisonous centipedes crawling from her eyes, ears, nose, and mouth. If a powerful expert appeared, they could say that Gongsun Wan'er's brain had vanished, replaced by a spider with a human face, controlling her body!

Gongsun Wan'er had become a Poison Puppet!

"Gongsun Wan'er, you're my first poison puppet. Don't worry, I'll soon turn your brother into the second one!" With eyes gleaming with malicious intent, Zhao Rou began meditating, spinning in a rising motion above her. In the sky of the Fallen Sword World, nine tremendous vortices revolved, slowly devouring any hope left in the disciples below. In any Holy Land for Foundation Establishment, Earth energy is limited, and can only be used by so many cultivators to establish a Foundation.

Moreover, the number of successful cultivators is not fixed. If someone reaches eight Tideflows, they absorb more Earth energy than usual, significantly reducing the world's total, forcing some to prematurely end their own Tideflows.

Of course, someone reaching eight Tideflows isn't the most terrifying scenario... the worst is if a prodigy appears among the Chosen and manages to reach nine Tideflows. Once someone reaches the pinnacle of Earthstring Foundation, they will surely slaughter people from other sects trying to intervene and prevent their success. In fact, even those trying to interfere could be killed!

Such a thing happened only once, 800 years ago with Master Limitless. At that time, the insane scenario played out, in which the Pill Stream Sect was completely annihilated, with only a few from the Profound Stream Sect and Spirit Stream Sect escaping with their lives. Even many from the Blood Flow Sect were slaughtered by the enraged Master Limitless.

For the disciples of the four sects who have not yet formed their Earth Capture Crystal, they must either resign to their fate or continue killing, employing any strategy to achieve success. Sometimes that even means ambushing their fellow disciples.

All for the chance to obtain the Earth Capture Crystal, and then reach the Earthstring Foundation.

Time flew by. The second wave composed of Shangguan Tianyou, Xu Xiaoshan, Beihan Lie, and Zhao Rou completed the first three Tideflows. As for Ghostfang, he had completed his fourth and was continuing with his fifth.

Song Que and Nine-Isles were midway through their fifth.

Yan Xiaobao... was the fastest among them. He had almost completed his fifth Tideflow. Earth's energy poured into the vortex, forming the fifth spiritual ocean within him.

Four hours later, as the fifth vortex expanded within him, tremors shook him. The Tideflow exploded, his fifth Spirit Sea completed in the Dantian Region. His fifth Tideflow ended!

"Now for the sixth!" he said, his eyes glinting with intense focus. Having reached this point in the process, he didn't want to give up. He wanted to know his limits. He wanted to know how far he could go. He wanted to know... how many Tideflows he had!

"Violet Qi Cauldron Control Art was the foundation for my first Tideflow. Violet Qi Cauldron Summoning was the second. As for my third and fourth, those came from the power of Dragons and Mammoths!"

"The fifth Tideflow should have come from the magic power of the ocean formation. However, because I broke through the first Death Chain, it became my fifth Tideflow. Therefore, now it's time to continue creating ocean magic and start my sixth Tideflow!" Taking a deep breath, he once again invoked the explosive force of the Dragon Mammoth Sea Formation Scripture. He had already used the power of Dragons and Mammoths, now it was time to harness the power of ocean formation!

The so-called Sea Formation was actually a method to create a spiritual ocean, forming a Dao foundation!

Almost immediately, a sixth vortex formed in the sky, containing a majestic sea wave.

Although the vortex was a spectacular sight, it was somewhat unstable and wouldn't quickly absorb energy. Yan Xiaobao had the Waterswamp Kingdom, but didn't want to use it yet. Because he could utilize the power of sea formation, he didn't want to waste his mighty secret magic.

When other cultivators saw what was happening, they began to relax.

"Yan Xiaobao's sixth Tideflow is unstable. From its appearance, he's reached his limit, and won't last much longer. The crumbling mountain in the fifth Tideflow must be his only secret magic."

"Six Tideflows are already incredibly remarkable. Not to mention, that would be spectacular!"

At this point, Fang Lin and Nine-Isles also relaxed. They stayed completely alert and closely monitored the progress of others.

"Yan Xiaobao's reached his end, so there's no need to worry about him any longer." That's what both of them were thinking.

Ghostfang frowned. Knowing that Yan Xiaobao hadn't used his secret magic, he could tell something strange was happening. As for Song Que, he watched, his eyes gleaming.

Time flew by. Yan Xiaobao's sixth Tideflow slowly absorbed Earth's energy, despite the vortex's instability, it didn't collapse.

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Gradually, some other disciples managed to form their Earth Capture Crystal and begin their Tideflows. One of them was Hou Yunfei.

After sixty hours passed, Yan Xiaobao's sixth Tideflow ended. Most of the people present thought he had already completed...

In the Little Immortal Cave he carved out under the lake, his eyes sparkled in the sixth spiritual ocean forming inside him. Then, he took a deep breath and suddenly stretched out his arms before him.

"Secret Magic... Waterswamp Kingdom!"

Steam filled the Immortal Cave, growing denser, until it began seeping into the lake water itself. The lake began to flow, quickly expanding in the blink of an eye.

In a few breaths, it became so swift that it looked more like an ocean than a lake.

Above the sky, Yan Xiaobao's sixth vortex had stopped moving. However, it seemed to be accumulating energy rather than dissipating.

Then... in the Fallen Sword World, a faint pressure began to grow heavier, astonishing and shocking everyone. Even Nine-Isles and other top contenders were surprised...

Yan Xiaobao raised his hands, then pushed them back. Instantly, gigantic waves swept across the lake above, accompanied by intense rumbling sounds. The sixth vortex began to fluctuate and twist, then spin wildly. In the Fallen Sword World, a resonance echoed... the seventh vortex appeared!

But, this wasn't the end! At the same instant the seventh vortex appeared, the air above it started to twist and turn. Countless clouds appeared as the eighth vortex emerged!

The seventh and eighth vortexes appeared simultaneously, accompanied by thunderous rumbling, shaking the minds of all cultivators.

"Impossible!! He clearly used secret magic for his fifth Tideflow!"

"Secret magic! That's secret magic! Heaven! What he previously used weren't secret magic at all!?!?"

"I can't believe two vortexes appeared simultaneously. Is... that the spectacular secret magic of Spirit Stream Sect, Waterswamp Kingdom? Or Ghosts Haunt the Night?!?!"

Soon, the shocked cries turned into a storm of fury.

"Eight Tideflows! He reached eight Tideflows! If he succeeds, it will siphon a vast amount of Earth energy!"

"Stop him!"

As the seventh and eighth vortexes began to spin rapidly, the entire sky trembled. The power of the Tideflow erupting to absorb Earth energy was far more powerful than ever before, dozens of times over. It was like the force of a giant black hole reaching out to the world, pulling all the Earth energy within it.

The vortexes belonging to the other disciples began to twist and distort, even slowing their own absorption.

It was at this point that Fang Lin opened his eyes, then spoke in a voice that rose into the vortex above him and spread throughout the area. "Disciples of Pill Stream Sect, heed my orders: kill Yan Xiaobao. Stop him from completing his eighth Tideflow!! All who comply will receive special compensation from me upon returning to the sect. I will acquire pills established by the Foundation for all of you, and take care of you for life!"

Meanwhile, Nine-Isles sat within his spell formation, his eyes flickering with murderous intent. "Profound Sect religious disciples, heed my orders: eliminate Bai Xiaobao. Kill him and his Earth energy will disperse back to the world. It's beneficial for me, you, and everyone!"

As Nine-Isles' words echoed, Song Que opened his eyes. After a moment of consideration, he said, "Blood Flow Sect, heed my orders: kill Yan Xiaobao and end his Tideflow!"

Hou Yunfei began to feel nervous, but amidst his own foundation, was powerless.

Shangguan Tianyou's eyes flickered, and he let out a slight cold laugh. The fact that Yan Xiaobao simultaneously started his seventh and eighth Tideflows shocked him, but now, he wasn't so tense.

"You're merely courting death," he murmured. "You can't blame us for that." Then, he closed his eyes and continued his own Tideflow.

Ghostfang's eyes gleamed. Although he felt Yan Xiaobao bore no malice, at this moment, even if he wanted to, he was unable to help him.

Beihan Lie hesitated for a moment. So far, he was still unsure how he felt about Bai Xiaobao. He hated him, even wanted to kill him. But over time, he had reached a point where he didn't want Yan Xiaobao to die at the hands of anyone but himself.

"You despicable wretch!" he shouted. However, he currently was impotent to offer any help.

As the top figures selected from each sect issued their commands, other disciples in the Fallen Sword World looked with bloodshot eyes.

"Kill Bai Xiaobao. If he dies, then his Earth energy will dissipate, giving us a chance to succeed!"

"That's right. Song Que, Nine-Isles, even Fang Lin are people we can't afford to risk. But based on sect information, Yan Xiaobao isn't the strongest here. We can definitely take him down!"

"I think each sect has different information about Yan Xiaobao... but now is not the time to worry about that. Kill him, and we all have a chance to reach the Foundation!"

"He doesn't deserve to attain eight Tideflows!"

With eyes scarlet, disciples rushed from all directions towards Yan Xiaobao's lake. Spiritual Flow Sect disciples began to feel anxious, but given all the disciples from the other three sects were joining forces, they were completely outnumbered.

They managed to stop some of them, but not all. Soon, disciples from all three sects closed in on Bai Xiaobao.

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At that moment, Yan Xiaobao's eyes opened.

"Trying to kill me?!" Yan Xiaobao's eyes shone with dazzling light, yet inside, his heart was pounding wildly. He always knew that his attempt at foundation establishment wouldn't go without interference. Unless he finished his seventh and eighth Tideflows immediately, people would definitely try to kill him.

"Song Que. Nine Island Chains. Fang Lin, you're all despicable!"

"I won't take your Earth Energy, but you send your fellow disciple to try to stop me?!"

"Wait until I establish my foundation, then you'll know how great I am!" Clenching his teeth, he temporarily suppressed the hatred in his heart. He knew he was in a deep crisis moment, a slight mistake could lead to total disaster. People coming towards him weren't just trying to stop him from continuing his foundation, they were trying to kill him and steal the Earth Energy from his spiritual ocean.

Due to life and death peril, a vicious, crazy expression appeared on his face. Suddenly, he felt as if he returned to the mountains chased by the Luo Chen Family.

As dozens of disciples from the three sects closed in, rumbling sounds echoed over the surface of the lake. However, even as they approached his Immortal Cave, Yan Xiaobao activated two hundred of the more than a thousand paper amulets he had set at the entrance of the cave.

As they ignited, a massive shield dozens of meters thick appeared, causing the lake water to churn violently. As for the incoming disciples, they were completely blocked by the sparkling shield.

"Each of these defensive paper amulets is exceedingly costly. Yan Xiaobao is the last line of defense. Destroy these shields, we will be able to enter his Immortal Cave!"

"Kill Yan Xiaobao, the Earth Energy inside him will return to our surrounding world. We finally have a chance at foundation establishment!"

Dozens of vicious disciples attacked the shield maliciously. Shield after shield began twisting and then shattering.

Yan Xiaobao took a deep breath. The seventh and eighth vortexes spun rapidly, filled with rumbling sounds, filling the heaven and earth, causing a massive influx of Earth Energy towards him.

When about half of the two hundred paper amulet shields were destroyed, Pill Stream Sect's Fang Lin completed his Tideflow, even though pressure had already mounted on his vortex. He hesitated not one bit to start his own seventh Tideflow.

Next was Nine-Isles.

After that, Song Que. Soon, everyone was amid their seventh Tideflow.

Ghostfang was twenty hours behind Bai Xiaochun, and now he completed about half of his sixth Tideflow.

Nevertheless, they teamed up to match Yan Xiaobao's speed of absorbing Earth Energy.

Earth Energy in Fallen Sword World was rapidly dwindling, leading disciples from the three sects to become more anxious. More and more people chose to try killing Bai Xiaochun. After all, the remaining total Earth Energy had now almost halved, the only way to reverse the situation was to kill Bai Xiaochun.

More and more disciples appeared attacking him. By this time, the lake was destroyed, and Yan Xiaobao's defense shield nearly vanished. Close to a hundred disciples gathered in the area began to become very excited.

"Come. A big explosion should destroy those shields!"

"Quickly. Yan Xiaobao's shield has almost disappeared!"

However, even as hope flashed in their eyes, Yan Xiaobao ignited another four hundred paper amulets.

These shields instantly transformed into several hundred meters thick, the dazzling display shocking the attacking disciples.

"Damn it! He has more!?!?"

"How many paper amulets does Yan Xiaobao have?!"

"I refuse to believe this! This must be his final line of defense!"

As nearly a hundred disciples with bloodshot eyes attacked, even greater killing intent erupted, bombings ensued. As layer upon layer of shields shattered, Yan Xiaobao pushed harder on the vortex, frantically absorbing as much Earth Energy as possible.

"Faster," he roared. "Must go faster!" Time passed and quickly, active paper amulets reduced from four hundred to a hundred.

At this point, as the seventh vortex transformed into a complete Tideflow, the seventh spiritual ocean appeared in his Dantian Region, hissing sounds audible.

Yan Xiaobao could clearly feel how powerful he was towards that boundless seventh Spirit Sea. Meanwhile, his eighth vortex began spinning faster.

Just then, Fang Lin trembled completing his seventh Tideflow. However, he couldn't start his eighth, in fact, anyone who examined him closely could tell his seventh Tideflow wasn't finished.

Yan Xiaobao basically controlled half of the world's Earth Energy, Fang Lin was in no way prepared like others. Lower-level tides didn't require as much Earth Energy, but at the seventh, it was quite the opposite, Fang Lin simply couldn't compete with others. He was completely spent.

"Yan Xiaobao!!" Eyes filled with killing intent, he had no choice but to end his foundation with a partially complete seventh spiritual sea.

As Fang Lin's vortex above gradually vanished, less Earth Energy was absorbed, and the overall tension in Fallen Sword World somewhat eased.

Soon after, Song Que and Nine-Isles completed their seventh Tideflow. Then, with great difficulty yet no hesitation, they called upon the power of their secret magic to start their eighth Tideflows.

Rumbling filled the entire world, as unstable vortices appeared above each world.

It seemed that for both of them, eighth Tideflow might fail at any moment. Clearly, the world's Earth Energy was almost insufficient to sustain two such vortices.

However, they struggled to hold on longer!

"I can definitely achieve eight Tideflows!" Nine-Isles roared.

"My goal is not eight, it's nine!" Song Que's eyes were completely bloodshot, as he performed a spell with both hands, causing his chest to wither while unleashing a strange force into the eighth Tideflow vortex, causing it to accelerate rapidly.

Song Que's vortex acceleration seemed to impose incredible pressure on Nine-Isles' vortex. As his vortex slowly withered, Nine-Isles began to tremble.

"There's still hope!" Nine-Isles bit his tongue slightly, then spat a mouthful of blood, forming a magical sigil that fell upon him. As it did, the chain of magic symbols surrounding him began to shine brilliantly, causing the vortex within him to accelerate. Soon, he caught up to Song Que.

However, it was at this point that Ghostfang completed his seventh Tideflow and began his eighth. Instantly, the already unstable, teetering Nine-Isles, cried out in desperate agony.

Moments later, Nine-Isles' vortex trembled, then stopped.

"No!" Nine-Isles roared, eyes filled with manic light. However, he was powerless. His eighth Tideflow failed.

Since he and Fang Lin were no longer absorbing Earth Energy, Fallen Sword World's pressure had significantly lessened. With two fewer Tideflow vortices in the picture, Song Que's eighth Tideflow further stabilized.

As for Ghostfang, he had an even better chance than before and relentlessly chased. Though he too was teetering on the verge of failure, he still persisted, the question was how much longer he could continue.

Certainly, Yan Xiaobao greatly benefited as well, proceeding faster.

It was a dazzling scene, with three people in their eighth Tideflow: Yan Xiaobao, Song Que, and Ghostfang!

So far, two people had failed: Fang Lin and Nine-Isles!

As for Shangguan Tianyou, Beihan Lie, Zhao Rou, and Xu Xiaoshan, they were in the second wave. Since disciples in the first wave absorbed so much Earth Energy, their speed significantly slowed. All of them had just begun their fourth Tideflows.

Hou Yunfei and several other miscellaneous contestants were in the third wave, having just started their second Tideflows. In Hou Yunfei's case, considering his potential talent and expectations, even establishing a Tideflow in Earthstring Foundation was a significant achievement.

At this point, other disciples had no hope of completing their Earth Capture Crystals, therefore, even no chance to accomplish a single Tideflow.

In their desperation, these disciples' killing intent surged, their gaze focusing on the three vortices above representing disciples in their eighth Tideflow.

"Ghostfang just began his eighth Tideflow and is not fully stabilized. He has plenty of Earth Energy, but not as much as Song Que and Yan Xiaobao!"

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Chapter 1266 The Most Powerful Person

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"Song Que is super famous, with a shockingly murderous aura. Besides, recruiting people from the Blood Flow Sect is never a good idea. Furthermore, he might not have as much Earth Energy as Yan Xiaobao...."

"Yan Xiaobao has already been besieged by quite a few people. We should take this moment to kill him. If he dies, his Earth Energy will disperse back into the world!" After analyzing the situation, most of the disciples chose to target Yan Xiaobao.

At the same moment, Fang Lin completed his Foundation Establishment and solidified his spiritual ocean. As he flew into the air, a rumbling sounded, emitting the pressure of the Foundation.

His hair whipped around in the powerful wind swirling around him. Meanwhile, the image of the Heaven and Earth Furnace Crucible appeared behind him. Clearly, he was far superior to any cultivator at Qi Condensation stage.

He was the first to enter Foundation Establishment and was now the most powerful person in the Fallen Sword World!

"Since I obtained seven Tideflows, the rest of you won't even dream of completing your eighth!" His eyes flickered with killing intent as he looked around at Song Que, Ghostfang, and Bai Xiaochun. Then, he shot towards Yan Xiaobao like a bolt of lightning.

"I'll kill you first, then absorb your Earth Energy. Maybe I can still achieve eight Tideflows after all!"

When using Tideflow power to reach Earthstring Foundation Establishment, someone might interrupt any of their first eight Tideflows and prematurely reach Foundation Establishment. Moreover, since the Dao Foundation is incomplete in such cases, it's possible to continue after an interruption as long as not too much time has passed. However, it's typically difficult to do such a thing due to the immense Earth Energy required.

In contrast, once the Ninth Tideflow begins, one must choose to either complete it or risk death in the attempt.

Almost at the same moment that Fang Lin was heading towards Bai Xiaochun, a rumbling sound was heard as Nine-Isles ascended into the air like an agitated god.

Loosened magical symbols whipped around him, creating a 30-meter-wide band of magical symbols. They were black and pulsed with the power of Extinction Technology, filling the entire area with their will to annihilate.

From the energy radiating off him, he seemed even stronger than Fang Lin!

"Fang Lin is taking out Yan Xiaobao, so I'll kill the Ghost. Ghostfang, if not for the delay caused by your interference, I wouldn't have been the fourth to begin Foundation Establishment. Starting so late meant I couldn't complete my eighth Tideflow. But if I kill you and absorb your Earth Energy, I still have a chance!" Nine-Isles turned around and roared. He hated Yan Xiaobao, but he hated the ghost even more. Ultimately, he blamed Ghostfang's sudden rise for his own failures.

Of course, he equally despised Song Que and planned to take revenge on him. However, his plan was to take out Ghostfang first.

Radiating the power of the Foundation, he shot into the air, becoming a blur.

Song Que breathed a sigh of relief, focusing entirely on his eighth vortex. "Nine-Isles and Fang Lin aren't qualified to tangle with me. Only Yan Xiaobao and Ghostfang are.... But if they are interrupted, that will be my greatest chance for success!"

Above Yan Xiaobao, there was nothing; only a massive crater with the Immortal Cave he created at its bottom. There, disciples from the three sects continued to bombard his shimmering shields. At this moment, only one hundred shield layers remained as Fang Lin appeared like a streak of lightning.

He was a blur of motion, flying towards the shields, then waved his hand, causing the Heaven and Earth Furnace Cauldron to enlarge rapidly and come crashing down.

"Break!" he shouted deafeningly, causing the other disciples to support him in shock. Due to Fang Lin's Foundation power, many of them even coughed up blood.

The incredible force of the Heaven and Earth Furnace Cauldron shattered all one hundred shields in a single strike.

"Yan Xiaobao!!" As he prepared to enter the Immortal Cave, Fang Lin's eyes glimmered with killing intent. However, at that moment, Yan Xiaobao looked up, his eyes filled with bloodshot veins.

"Fang Lin!" he roared, then ignited his last 600 paper talismans.

The sound of explosions filled the air as the 600 shields seemed to block Fang Lin's path.

"Dammit, I can't believe he still has paper talismans!" Fang Lin frowned. He had just entered Foundation Establishment and hadn't fully acclimated, thus unable to unleash his full potential in combat.

The other disciples from the three sects all stared with wide eyes at what they were witnessing. The wealth Yan Xiaobao displayed was incredible, and they were astonished. They all knew how expensive paper talismans were, and a quick calculation showed he had just used over a thousand. In an instant, sounds of shocked gasps could be heard.

"How many paper talismans does he have?"

"Damn it! During Foundation Establishment, most people use spell forms or Magic Technology to protect themselves. I can't believe he relies entirely on paper talismans!"

"Even if he has more, it won't do him any good. He might as well forget about succeeding in his eighth Tideflow!" Fang Lin's eyes flashed as he launched another attack.

The booming sounds made Yan Xiaobao's growth more tense, but at the same time, furiously.

Without Fang Lin, the situation wouldn't be so nerve-wracking. But considering the mix of Foundation power now, Yan Xiaobao knew his defense couldn't last long.

Chapter 1267 The Most Powerful Person (2)

"He just entered the Foundation, perhaps not yet fully accustomed. I still have a chance!" Clenching his teeth, he ignored the rumbling sound and focused entirely on the vortex spinning inside him.

As it spun faster and faster, the layers of the shield were broken one by one. Fang Lin and the other disciples continued their attacks, and time flew by. Soon, half of the shields were gone, but Fang Lin began to feel extremely anxious.

"Not good!"

At that moment, Yan Xiaobao's eighth vortex suddenly stopped.

His eighth Tideflow... was a success!

The eighth Spirit Sea appeared inside him, just above the seventh. Meanwhile, it seemed the ninth vortex was about to appear above in the sky.

"My ninth Tideflow will be... my Immortal Eternal Life Skill!" Yan Xiaobao was driven mad as he put everything on the line. As he invoked the Immortal Eternal Life Skill, a silver light spread out, with faint traces of gold already visible within.

As he did so... a ninth vortex appeared above his head!

His eyes were squeezed shut as if he lacked even the strength to open them. He almost seemed on the verge of exploding.

For the others in the Fallen Sword World, it wasn't important what they were doing; their hearts were trembling, their jaws dropping.

"The ninth... Tideflow..."

"I can't believe it... nine Tideflows have appeared!"

"The last time this happened was 800 years ago. My god...."

Outside Yan Xiaobao's Immortal Cave, Fang Lin's eyes widened wide, trembling. He couldn't even complete seven Tideflows, and yet here was someone working on their ninth.

During the attack on Ghostfang's position, the Nine-Isles trembled as they turned to face Yan Xiaobao. Panting heavily, he said, "The Spirit Sect... is already on their ninth Tideflow. We cannot let the ninth Tideflow succeed!" Abandoning his hostility towards Ghostfang, he began to move towards Yan Xiaobao.

Meanwhile, Song Que, breathless, his eyes ablaze, eager for battle. Because Yan Xiaobao had started his ninth Tideflow, Song Que's eighth Tideflow now seemed on the brink of collapse. With complete determination, he formed a double-handed spell gesture, then slammed his hands onto the ground, causing a surge of heat. A moment later, cracking sounds could be heard in nine places across the Fallen Sword World, as Earth Energy was forcibly extracted using some special technique. Soon after, Song Que's eighth Tideflow stabilized.

As the Nine-Isles flew swiftly into the distance, Ghostfang watched silently. His expression was one of despair. He didn't want to admit it, but he could feel his eighth Tideflow destabilizing rapidly. Due to the appearance of the ninth Tideflow, it would soon shatter.

Shangguan Tianyou was in the middle of his fifth Tideflow when he sensed that Yan Xiaobao had begun his ninth Tideflow, shattering all his confidence and pride.

"Never disciplined by parents, always pulling bizarre stunts. A shameless son of a bitch! I can't believe he has nine Tideflows! What a joke!" Suddenly, Shangguan Tianyou let out a harsh laugh.

Beihan Lie clenched his fists in agony. Despite Yan Xiaobao causing endless frustration, he never gave up hope of surpassing him. From that moment on, he gritted his teeth, feeling more than ever that he must do it.

Everyone in the Fallen Sword World experienced a momentary reflective silence. But then, Fang Lin and Nine-Isles' voices resounded from all directions.

"Our three sects will never tolerate the appearance of nine Tideflows! You all know what we must do!"

"Kill Yan Xiaobao! Stop the ninth Tideflow and return the Earth Energy to the world around us. Deep Sect! Blood Flow Sect! Pill Stream Sect! If we don't attack him now together, when will we?!"

Moments later, Song Que's voice rang out, cold and sinister. "Kill Yan Xiaobao!"

In truth, the three didn't even need to say anything. All non-Foundation cultivators in the Fallen Sword Abyss felt fear, and began accelerating their attacks on Yan Xiaobao, their intent to kill running rampant.

Hou Yunfei completed his third Tideflow, and in the middle of his fourth. Suddenly, he laughed joyously, "Xiao Chun, you defended the Luo Chen Clan, now, I will defend you!"

At that time, he chose to enter the Foundation as his fourth Tideflow began to fade away.

He knew Yan Xiaobao would be in an extremely weak state, about to be besieged by a large group of enemies. Therefore, he would... protect Yan Xiaobao!

Just as his Tideflow ended, he called out loudly, "Spirit Creek Sect disciples, it's me, Hou Yunfei. I've just completed my own Foundation, and I will defend Yan Xiaobao. Who is with me?!"

After a moment of silence, many voices of the Spirit Sect disciples were heard responding.

"From the moment we entered this place, Uncle Bai had our backs. I will be his Dharma Protector!"

"Yan Xiaobao may be mischievous and prank-prone, but he's one of us!"

"Nine Tideflows! It's a sign, the Spirit Sect will become prominent! You want to kill Uncle Bai? I don't think so!" Almost all disciples of the Spiritual Flow Sect gritted their teeth and began to accelerate in the direction of Yan Xiaobao.

Ghostfang could no longer bear it. As his eighth Tideflow dwindled into failure, he contemplated for a moment, then completely ignored Yan Xiaobao in favor of... disrupting Song Que. Clearly, he felt Yan Xiaobao's success or failure was of no concern to him.

Chapter 1268 The Most Powerful Person (Part 3)

Beihan Lie let out a powerful roar. To suppress his anger towards Yan Xiaobao, he ended his Fifth Tideflow and immediately chose to enter Foundation Establishment. Then, he went out to serve as Yan Xiaobao's head nurse.

"This is not for you, Yan Xiaobao, this is for the Spirit Sect!"

Some other disciples of the Spiritual Flow Sect also gritted their teeth and then ended their Tideflow to join their companions.

Soon, throughout the Spirit Stream Sect, the only one still continuing with Tideflow besides Yan Xiaobao... was Shangguan Tianyou!

His eyes were bloodshot, and aside from his own wavering Fifth Tideflow, he completely ignored everything else.

As the disciples charged towards Yan Xiaobao, an intense battle erupted instantly. Soon, outside Yan Xiaobao's Immortal Cave, a fierce battle was happening, as only a few dozen disciples of the Spiritual Flow Sect stood against a crowd of over a hundred.

Time passed, and the battle grew more intense. Under the joint attack of Fang Lin and Nine-Isles, Hou Yunfei was already severely injured, and so was Beihan Lie. The Spirit Creek Sect disciples were pushed back again and again, and Yan Xiaobao's shield continued to be weakened.

Yan Xiaobao could feel what was happening outside, and he was trembling. He wanted to end the Tideflow, but soon realized he couldn't control it. It was impossible to end it himself; in fact, he didn't even have the strength to open his eyes.

After all, the Ninth Tideflow represented the pinnacle of Earthstring Foundation Establishment!

Unless somehow interrupted, there are only three ways it could end. One is success, which would naturally end the Tideflow. The second way it could end is if the Fallen Sword World exhausts its Earth Energy, causing Tideflow to gradually fade. The last method is if the person experiencing the Ninth Tideflow is killed.

Though his eyes were closed, they were fully bloodshot. He could sense his fellow disciples fighting for him; he could tell they were bleeding, getting injured, and might even die. His mind felt torn; he wanted to open his eyes and end the Tideflow. But he couldn't.

"Either the Ninth Tideflow fails or it finishes quickly... ARGHHHHH!!" His body trembled, and he let out a long-lasting howl. For everyone else, it was a rare opportunity to witness the peak of Earthstring Foundation Establishment, which had only happened once in the past thousands of years, 800 years ago with Master Limitless of the Blood Flow Sect.

But, for Yan Xiaobao, it was more than that. It was also an incredible opportunity to make progress with the Immortal Eternal Life Skill.

It was a chance to advance from Immortal silver skin to Immortal golden skin!

With the life-saving magic item Li Qinghou gave him, his entire body was covered in a layer of blackness, but even that couldn't stop the faint golden light flickering around him.

As of now, Yan Xiaobao had successfully cultivated the first level of the Immortal Codex!

He successfully broke through the first Death Shackles, something countless others had been unable to accomplish. Of course, some had achieved this task in the past. After all, the purpose of the first volume of the Immortal Corpse Scripture is to break through the first shackles.

However, Yan Xiaobao was the first to make further progress after breaking through the shackles!

Generally speaking, there's not much mortality rate between the layers of the five shackles. They're like circles with fixed sizes and shapes. However, just like Bai Xiaochun, that fixed circle seemed to be rapidly expanding!

This was completely shocking!

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Chapter 1269 Endless Cycle

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As the golden hue of his skin grew stronger, a rumbling sound filled his body. The Immortal Eternal Life Skill was operating at full force as he broke the first shackle, causing the ninth vortex above to spin faster, leading the Ninth Tideflow to absorb Earth Energy at an astonishing rate.

This was a harmonious cycle. The more Earth Energy forming his ninth spiritual ocean, the more his Immortal Skin emitted golden light. This in turn accelerated the Ninth Tideflow even more.

This seemingly endless cycle would continue to speed up over time.

Meanwhile, Song Que was calling upon everything he possessed, including Blood Flow Sect's secret magic and the energy nodes he had previously connected, absorbing Earth Energy at an incredible speed.

For most people, the time taken to complete the Tideflow was fixed, but Yan Xiaobao and Song Que completely broke this trend. Both absorbed as much Earth Energy as others might take a month to absorb.

As for Song Que, when Ghostfang exerted every effort to interfere, the area around him was filled with immense rumbling. However, Song Que still successfully completed his eighth Tideflow!

With the power of the eighth Tideflow surging around him, Song Que's eyes were filled with madness and excitement.

"The Ninth Tideflow!" he roared. Outside, Ghostfang's face flickered at the sight of the ninth vortex springing into the sky.

According to an old saying, there will never be two suns appearing simultaneously in the sky. Yet, so far, in the Fallen Sword World, the two vortexes visible were both ninth Tideflow vortexes, leaving everyone witnessing them in shock.

Even Shangguan Tianyou felt completely shaken. As for the disciples who still wanted to hold onto their own Tideflow, their faces turned pale with despair. They could only helplessly watch as their Tideflow gradually disappeared.

There was absolutely no way to compete with the two king-like disciples amongst the ninth Tideflow. No one could absorb any Earth Energy from where those vortexes existed.

"I refuse to accept this!" Shangguan Tianyou gritted his teeth. However, his fifth Tideflow was stopped, leaving him with no choice but to enter the Foundation. The murderous intent blazing in his eyes wasn't unleashed towards Yan Xiaobao, but instead joined Ghostfang in resisting Song Que.

Inside, he howled, "Yan Xiaobao, I wish you death, and I wish the same for you, Song Que!"

Zhao Rou also had no choice but to abandon her fifth Tideflow, and Xu Xiaoshan was the same.

As for the others, they were all in the second or third Tideflow.

Up till now, in the Fallen Sword World, the ones still in Earth infrastructure were Yan Xiaobao and Song Que!

The other disciples, beaten and angry, chose to attack Yan Xiaobao or Song Que. Considering that Yan Xiaobao was the biggest obstacle for everyone, it wasn't surprising that most chose to attack him. Hence, disciples defending Yan Xiaobao was imminent.

Just as Zhao Rou was about to attack Bai Xiaochun, she noticed that somehow, her Poison Puppet she had created for herself, Gongsun Wan'er, was nowhere to be found.

No trace was left to indicate that she might have gone. Zhao Rou's heart trembled, but there was no time to ponder this matter. She fired at Bai Xiaochun without hesitation.

Yan Xiaobao's eyes were closed, but they were even more bloodshot than before.

"We must hurry!" he murmured, anxiety filling him; he didn't have any hope that his fellow sect disciples outside his Immortal Cave would die defending him.

At this very moment, the entire Immortal Cave suddenly trembled violently as the last paper talisman outside was destroyed.

Yan Xiaobao had used many paper amulets, his defenses far surpassing the spell forms used by others. But now, they were completely destroyed.

Once this happened, disciples from other three sects would unleash all their Holy Powers under Yan Xiaobao's command.

Thankfully, Fang Yun and Nine-Isles were intercepted by Hou Yunfei, Beihan Lie, and two other Soul Stream sect disciples, who had reached the Earth Foundation, temporarily preventing them from joining. Therefore, most were attacking Yan Xiaobao's Qi Condensation disciples.

Many cultivators released magical techniques, all of which were blocked by Yan Xiaobao's Divine Crane Shield.

At Qi Condensation Stage, Hou Yunfei and Beihan Lie were not at the same level as Fang Lin and Nine-Isles. Since they were in Foundation, it made no difference. Despite having a numerical advantage, they

were still in extreme danger and were repeatedly injured. Blood spurted from Hou Yunfei's mouth, yet he continued blocking, appearing as if mad.

Beihan Lie hesitated. Drenched in blood and covered in wounds, he began to back up. He came to assist Yan Xiaobao, but wouldn't offer his life for him. Seeing the Immortal Cave about to be destroyed, he decided it was time to retreat.

Fang Lin did not chase him. Instead, he fired at Yan Xiaobao, joining the Qi Condensation disciples in attempting to destroy the Divine Crane Shield.

"Do you want to die?!" Nine-Isles roared, his eyes flashing with murderous intent. Considering he had just entered Foundation, he didn't dare to release too much of the cultivation base out of fear that his Dao Foundation was unstable. However, Hou Yunfei seemed unconcerned about his Dao Foundation and fought like a madman, making it difficult for him to control.

Chapter 1270 Endless Cycle (Part 2)

Roaring with anger, the Nine-Isles launched an attack capable of disappearing, crashing fiercely into Hou Yunfei, who couldn't even evade.

As he tumbled backward, blood spurted from his mouth, bones cracking and snapping inside him. When he struggled to land on his feet, he couldn't—he could only lay there helplessly as more than a hundred cultivators attacked Yan Xiaobao relentlessly.

"Xiao Chun," he murmured, "this is my failure."

Other disciples from the Spirit Sect were also heavily injured. Fortunately, the disciples from the other three sects were focused on killing Yan Xiaobao and didn't try to kill them.

Of course, every enemy disciple hoped to be the one to land the killing blow. After all, whoever was closest to Yan Xiaobao upon his death would maximize their gain from the explosion of Earth Energy.

By now, not a single Spirit Sect disciple had any energy left to fight and could only watch painfully as Yan Xiaobao was bombarded.

The great booming sound continued. Fang Lin and Nine-Isles were at their best, now being cultivators with seven Tideflows Earthstring Foundations. Under their leadership, all of the Qi Condensation disciples' bombardment meant that Yan Xiaobao's Holy Crane Shield was on the verge of shattering.

"Your time is up, Yan Xiaobao!!"

"Return your Earth Energy to the world around you," Fang Lin said. "Even though I may not continue my Tideflow, at least some of my Pill Stream Sect disciples will reach Earthstring Foundation Establishment!"

"Yan Xiaobao, we absolutely won't let you succeed!" The crowd roared, and the Holy Crane Shield finally exploded.

The magical item that Yan Xiaobao's eldest brother organization leader had given him shattered. As it did, the spirit of the holy crane flew out and settled around Yan Xiaobao, providing a final line of defense.

However, it would only last for a moment before it gradually disappeared. At that moment, all the disciples from the other three sects charged in. It was also at this point that the last batch of disciples reaching Foundation Establishment joined the fray. The strongest among them were Tideflows, albeit the weakest one. However, they were still Earthstring Foundation cultivators, and their attacks made the holy crane emit a screeching sound as it vanished.

Zhao Rou from the Pill Stream Sect launched an especially malicious attack, reaching out to touch Yan Xiaobao's forehead the moment the crane disappeared.

"Even as an expert who's reached the Eight Tideflows Foundation Establishment, it doesn't matter. This time you won't escape death. All Spirit Sect disciples must die!" When her finger touched Yan Xiaobao's forehead, Zhao Rou's beauty twisted with malicious intent.

As she expected his head to explode, a powerful force struck her, throwing her backward several meters. At the same time, the attacks of the other disciples ricocheted.

With a loud rumble, Yan Xiaobao emitted a black light that defended against everything.

"Damn it! He has more defenses!?"

"This Bai Xiaochun has deep defensive preparations. He must have known that reaching Nine Tideflows would provoke widespread wrath. That's why he prepared in advance!"

"No matter how many layers of defense he has, regardless of how much Earth Energy he absorbed, that's how much he's going to need to spit out!"

As seven or eight Foundation Establishment cultivators and over a hundred Qi Condensation disciples launched their assaults, magical light rose into the sky. The life-saving magical item from Li Qinghou began to deform, and after a moment, when it returned to the shape of a bracelet, a cracking sound could be heard, the bracelet now covered with fissures. If it weren't for the new Foundation Establishment cultivators not daring to channel all their power, it would have been destroyed by now.

When the black light disappeared, Yan Xiaobao was revealed, shining with endless golden light!

"Die!" Zhao Rou exclaimed excitedly. She extended her index finger again, but before she could get close, Yan Xiaobao's eyes snapped open.

They looked like the eyes of a beast, filled with boundless madness and fury. The whole world seemed to freeze into place! As Yan Xiaobao opened his eyes, he saw Nine-Isles' malicious expression, Fang Lin's cruel smile, and the other Foundation Establishment cultivators, including Zhao Rou, her beautiful face twisted with malevolent anger as she reached for his forehead.

Everything around him moved in slow motion as if time itself had been suddenly locked in place.

He could feel his ninth Tideflow coming to an end, and there was a ninth Spirit Sea present in his Dantian Region.

He now had nine Spirit Seas, each larger and more magnificent than the one below. Infinite spiritual power surged into his heart, pouring into his body. As his Spirit Seas became more stable, his Dao foundation formed!

He also realized something other disciples couldn't know; the peak of Earthstring Foundation Establishment, Nine Tideflows, required almost no time to stabilize, unlike other levels.

It stabilized almost instantly, filling him with an unprecedented sense of power. He had never experienced such spiritual force, which was a vital energy. He could clearly sense the terrifying life force emanating from him and signs of his longevity.

Moreover, his Immortal Skin had broken through to a new level. Instead of Immortal silver skin, he now possessed Immortal golden skin!

He transformed remarkably, becoming stronger in all aspects. He reached a new level of existence, entirely different from before. No longer was he a part of the Mortal World, but a true cultivator who had escaped death!

However, the price he had to pay was immense, and he was acutely aware of it. He understood, only suited for survival, the law of the jungle resonated with him. He knew that on the path to eternal life, whether he hated fighting and killing didn't matter. The path was narrow and tight, though he was willing to walk alongside others, many did not share that sentiment.

Now he realized more clearly than ever; even if he did not want to kill others, they might want to kill him. In such a scenario, he could either close his eyes and die or unleash his fury and fight!

He observed the shattered battlefield, the area outside his Immortal Cave. He saw the injured Spirit Creek Sect disciples and the blood-soaked, unconscious Hou Yunfei.

He was deeply moved, tears welling in his eyes. These were his fellow disciples, like his family. Every Spirit Sect disciple was someone he would never be able to forget.

He saw some Spirit Sect disciples, now merely corpses, filled with agony. Their end reminded him of Zhou Youdao, and that thought filled Yan Xiaobao with anger, turning his eyes red.

Oh, how his anger burned!

He was infuriated at being besieged, and with the Spirit Sect disciples defending him. He was enraged that even though he had not provoked the other sects, they had already targeted his life!

"I practice cultivation because I want to live forever. I do not enjoy fighting and killing. But... if I must, I will!" To Yan Xiaobao, the world turned scarlet as blood. Everything slowed to the point of stillness.

"My fellow Spirit Sect disciples died protecting me. So now, I will ensure that the survivors reach Foundation!

"Every Soul Stream disciple here will reach Earthstring Foundation Establishment!"

Anger burned within him like a vow, and then, everything seemed to return to normal. Zhao Rou appeared as fierce as before. As her index finger closed in, it stopped abruptly. From some unknown place, Yan Xiaobao raised his right hand; before Zhao Rou realized what was happening, he pressed his hand down on her wrist.

"No!" she screamed. She was ready to cut off her arm to escape, but with intent flashing in Yan Xiaobao's eyes, he pressed down harder. A bang was audible as Zhao Rou's entire arm exploded, accompanied by a scream. Meanwhile, Yan Xiaobao stood up, taking a step forward, slamming his body into her. Her chest caved in, blood spraying from her mouth amid another scream. Even as she tried to turn and flee, her whole body exploded.

Simultaneously, her Dao foundation was destroyed. Having just entered Foundation, the Earth Energy within her had not fully solidified. As she perished, a vast amount of Earth Energy erupted in all directions. Yan Xiaobao swiftly waved his hands, sending it toward the Spirit Sect.

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