

Medical 1291

Chapter 1291 Heavenly Dao Halo (Part 2)

"In the Lone Hell Pocket Realm, another shocking Chosen has risen. Her name is second only to yours, Uncle Bai. She hails from the Blood Flow Sect, wearing a mask adorned with plum blossoms. She completely crushed everyone else in the Holy Land, and after countless masters, became the second person in the Blood Flow Sect to reach the pinnacle established by the Earthstring Foundation, nine Tideflows! She slaughtered countless other disciples. It was sheer brutal. They call her Devilwitch Xue Mei!

"Now, I recall, it seems some very strange things happened in the Holy Land of the Foundation establishment. Black horses everywhere! Though, you are clearly the most shocking dark horse, Bai Sect, the strongest among them. You reached the Heavenly Dao Foundation!

"This time, the Spirit Stream Sect truly achieved glory!

"Oh, by the way, before Ghostfang went into secluded meditation, he chose his inheritance in the ancestor Darktunnel, and twenty traditional axes were illuminated! The entire sect was stirred into a great uproar!" Thanks to Xu Baocai's detailed information, Yan Xiaobao gradually understood everything that happened in the Lonely Hell Pocket Kingdom and the Arcane Spirit Void.

Although no event in the other two holy lands was as brutal as in the Fallen Sword World, still many deaths and casualties occurred.

Besides information on other sects, Xu Baocai also told him about the other Spirit Stream Sect disciples in the other two holy lands. Zhou Xinqi, Lu Tianlei, Gongsun Yun, Xu Song, and several other disciples reached the Earth Foundation. However, none of them surpassed six Tideflows. Upon returning, they were all assigned different positions within the sect, then entered secluded meditation, striving for inheritance echelon.

According to Xu Baocai, both Ghostfang and Shangguan Tianyou also chose to enter secluded meditation. Moreover, Beihan Lie became more famous and important within the sect. As for Hou Yunfei, he was taken as an apprentice by a major elder.

Everyone gained their own good fortune. As for those disciples from the Northern and Southern Banks, aided by Yan Xiaobao to reach the Earth Foundation, none were taken as apprentices by elders. However, all were promoted, becoming elders managing sect affairs.

The number of Spirit Stream Sect members reaching the Earth Foundation far exceeded those of other sects, giving them more power and influence at their cultivation stage.

As for Bai Xiaochun, since he already reached the Heavenly Dao Foundation, he was appointed as a Legacy Echelon-customary.

However, he didn't gain much from it. He truly struggled to pull himself out of depression. Time flew by. Half a month later, Sect Leader Zheng Yuandong walked into Yan Xiaobao's secluded Immortal Cave and sat in front of him.

"Xiao Chun, while you were in the Fallen Sword Abyss, the Founder Clan Leader issued a Dharma Decree. Xiangyun Peak is infiltrated by spies!" Zheng Yuandong's words sent shivers through Yan Xiaobao. The fact is Yan Xiaobao was no fool; his thoughts were swift and sharp. Over the past half month, he reflected heavily on the recent events surrounding Du Lingfei's era. Although outwardly there was nothing unusual about her, how could Yan Xiaobao not notice the mixed emotions in her eyes?

He also recalled that on the night she disappeared, she was the one who suggested resting, and then he slept through the night.

All of this told him that Du Lingfei most likely left of her own will.

As for the reason she left, he felt there were some secret reasons behind it. Ultimately, he didn't want to consider it too much; he had already guessed what happened.

Zheng Yuandong did not elaborate on this spy. Yan Xiaobao needed to mention some things. Talking too much about them might not be a good thing.

He was quite sure Yan Xiaobao understood the implications behind it.

After a long silence, Zheng Yuandong changed the subject, inadvertently touching on a sensitive topic for Yan Xiaobao due to recent events.

"Yan Xiaobao, do you know why the Luochen Clan turned into traitors?!"

Due to what happened with Du Lingfei and Yan Xiaobao unwilling to contemplate it, the Luochen Family's events became somewhat blurred. However, after hearing Zheng Yuandong's words, he lifted his head. Although he now didn't want to think about Du Lingfei, the fatal event with the Luochen Family was something he couldn't forget.

Subconsciously, he reached out to rub the place on his arm where the jagged edge of the broken arm bone had once protruded from the flesh. The wound had long healed, but whenever he touched that spot, he remembered how he stabbed Mrs. Chen Heng with his own broken bone.

Initially, it seemed the Luochen Clan turned into traitors because they wanted to escape the control of the Spirit Stream Sect. For this purpose, they even went to the extent of killing mortals to reverse the flow of their own blood. But the events that occurred had multiple layers. Without deeper motives driving them, they would never have done such a thing. After all, although the eastern downstream region is a vast place, in some respects, it is a very small world.

After betraying the Spirit Stream Sect, even if they successfully reversed their bloodline, the Luochen Clan would struggle to survive.

Yan Xiaobao used to think about this issue, but the sect actively suppressed information about the events, essentially spreading news under the carpet.

However, Yan Xiaobao is an Observer and took notice of the frequency with which the sect dispatched Foundation establishment personnel outside. Clearly, bigger events are happening. Considering his previous speculation, Zheng Yuandong bringing up this matter is now somewhat startling.

"You are now a cultivator of the Heavenly Dao Foundation, and a designated member of the inheritance echelon. You are the pride and joy of this sect, henceforth, you are qualified to learn certain secrets unknown to ordinary disciples. I have four significant questions for you." Zheng Yuandong's solemn expression instantly intensified the atmosphere within the Immortal Cave.

"First, are you aware of the nature of the world we live in?" As he spoke these words, Zheng Yuandong's gaze seemed fixed on something distant, even his voice quivered slightly.

Yan Xiaobao shivered. Due to his research of ancient sect records, he had some understanding of the world. However, even those explanations were not very clear.

"The world we live in is vast," Zheng Yuandong continued. "In its center, there is a vast ocean, golden, filled with huge rolling waves. Legend has it that in the middle of that sea is an island, it is the location of the pathway across the Heaven and Earth divide.

"That is why the sea is called the Heavenspan Sea. Furthermore, the world we live in is called the Heavenspan Realm, sometimes even the Heavenspan Land! Over the years, countless omnipotent beings have tried to cross the sea to step onto this island. Unfortunately, none have succeeded.

"Four powerful rivers are connected to the Heavenspan Sea. They extend to the east, west, south, and north. Whether the rivers exist because of the sea, or vice versa, is unclear. Regardless, these four rivers are known as the Eastern, Northern, Southern, and Western Heavenspan Rivers.

"The four great rivers connected to the sea are known as the Upside Rivers. Each of them eventually splits into four smaller branches, known as intermediate reaches. Along this line, these branches also split into four smaller branches, known as lower branches.

"Apart from that, the branches split into even smaller branches, which form the delta region.

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Chapter 1292 The Nature of the World

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"Heavenspan Sea and various rivers are somewhat like a tree. This is the essence of the world we live in." Zheng Yuandong looked at Yan Xiaobao, his eyes flashing with a sharp light.

Yan Xiaobao took a deep breath. Zheng Yuandong's words crashed in his mind like thunder. Slowly, his old understanding of the world shattered and dispersed, replaced by the new version that Zheng Yuandong had just described.

"Secondly. Do you know why the four strongest sects in the eastern lower reaches have the word 'Stream' in their names? Spirit Stream Sect, Blood Stream Sect, Profound Stream Sect, Pill Stream Sect!" Zheng Yuandong recalled the first time he was told about the world and smiled faintly. He was as shaken as Yan Xiaobao now. "Four rivers flow from east, west, south, and north into the position of the sea called the upper river section. In the same place, there are four ancient and powerful sects that have existed for tens of thousands of years. Perhaps they are as ancient as the world itself. They are the four most powerful entities in the world.

"These four powerful ancient sects control the four main rivers and all subsequent branches of these rivers, all the way to the delta region.

"The ancient sect controlling the eastern cultivation world is called the Starry Sky Heavenly Polar Sect!

"The headquarters of this sect is far away. A Foundation Establishment Middle Cultivator might spend a lifetime flying towards it without reaching it.

"Starry Sky Dao Polarity Sect's affiliates include four powerful courts, each controlling one of the river branches. They are Starry River Court, Sky River Court, Dao River Court, and Polarity River Court!

"These four powerful courts each control four branches that separate from the great river. Spirit Stream Sect is located on the second stream controlled by Sky River Court. Blood Stream Sect is on the first stream, Pill Stream Sect on the third stream, and Profound Stream Sect on the fourth stream. Tianhe Garden is the guardian sect of all four sects, above it is the ancient Star Sky Heavenly Dao Polaris Sect." Zheng Yuandong's words struck Yan Xiaobao like lightning. This revelation about the world around him left him shocked and breathless.

"The Starry Sky Dao Polarity Sect..." he murmured, feeling a bit dizzy.

"Third. Do you know why all the sects in the world are built on the Heavenspan River? Even in the delta, they try to be as close to the river as possible." The third question made Yan Xiaobao feel as if a third bolt of lightning was about to strike him.

"The Heavenspan realm is vast. Immensely vast. While it is incorrect to say it has no end, the fact is that very few people can reach the remotest borders of our world. One peculiar thing about our world is that it lacks spiritual energy!"

"No spiritual energy? That's impossible!" Yan Xiaobao once again felt completely and utterly shaken.

"The entire world lacks spiritual energy. Well, perhaps it's more accurate to say that the heavens and earth have no inherent spiritual energy. Everything it produces is chaotic power, toxic to cultivators but nourishing to beasts.

"Ever since recorded history, it has always been this way. The only reason cultivators can practice cultivation is because of the Heavenspan Sea!

"Heavenspan Sea is a startling place of spiritual energy. Apparently, every drop of seawater there contains infinite spiritual energy, and as the water flows into the four great rivers, into branches and streams, even into the delta region, it brings spiritual energy!

"Near Heavenspan Sea, the spiritual energy is the strongest. Of course, the closer you are to the river, the stronger the local spiritual energy. The upper reaches have the most potent spiritual energy, the middle region slightly weaker, and the lower region even weaker still. The delta region is the weakest.

"The farther you are from Heavenspan River, the weaker the spiritual energy. Eventually, you reach a point with no spiritual energy at all. Almost half of the world we live in consists of these areas. Indeed, the region between rivers is all like that, lacking spiritual energy.

"This actually serves as a safeguard. After all, if any two ancient sects wish to engage in war, it would be exceedingly difficult. Therefore, most wars occur along river branches rather than between the larger sects."

Zheng Yuandong looked at Yan Xiaobao's struggle and continued. "Fourth. Why did the Luo Chen Clan turn traitor!?"

"Blood Stream Sect, Spirit Stream Sect, Profound Stream Sect, and Pill Stream Sect are all affiliates of Sky River Court. Naturally, each of our sects hopes to elevate its status to become the main sect controlling this river!

"This is the dream of our Clan Leader and the direction Spirit Stream Sect has been striving for in the past ten thousand years. This is also the whole purpose of the Legacy Echelon!

"A very rare opportunity arose a few years ago!

"Sky River Court did something to provoke the anger of the ancient Star Sky Heavenly Dao Polaris Sect. Punishment was administered, and the court almost completely vanished. The clan leader was killed, their power structure destroyed. They are unprecedentedly weak now, meaning they can be replaced!

"A position has opened to become the sect controlling the river's other branches, and the Starry Sky Dao Polarity Sect doesn't care who it is. Blood, Spirit, Profound, and Pill Stream Sects all have the opportunity. Naturally, all four sects began vying for that position. Any of us who manages to defeat the other three sects will rise to command everything downstream!

"At this point, who is supporting the Luochen Clan doesn't matter. Maybe it's Blood Stream Sect, maybe it's Profound Stream Sect, or even Pill Stream Sect. Then again, it doesn't matter. They are all our rivals and potential allies at the same time!

Chapter 1293 The Essence of the World (2)

"Other sects have already cast their fishing lines into our territory, so to speak, hoping to catch some advantage. We have done the same thing." Zheng Yuandong smiled, a cold and sinister look that almost seemed out of place. The truth is, to the members of his own sect, Zheng Yuandong is a wise old man, gentle as a spring breeze. But when it comes to those outside the sect, he is even more ruthless than the Daoist jackal Ouyang Jie.

Due to the four questions just asked and answered, Yan Xiaobao's heart was overwhelmed by waves of shock.

Fixing his gaze on Yan Xiaobao, he slowly continued, "Yan Xiaobao, do you want to know why that island spanning the sky over Heavenspan Sea has become the target of so many almighty beings?" This was the first time after the incident with Du Lingfei that Zheng Yuandong saw Yan Xiaobao look a bit angry. Fortunately, he saved his most powerful words for last!

"Legend says that if you walk the path across the sky, you can obtain the eternal path! In other words, you can live forever!"

When Yan Xiaobao heard the last part, his scalp began to tingle, feeling like it might explode. He started to visibly tremble, gasping for breath. He had never felt so shaken in his entire life. His whole mind suddenly filled with the thought of being able to live eternally.

"If you wish to live forever, you must have enough strength to walk towards heaven. It is a long path, and you cannot allow yourself to be distracted by the scenery along the way. You must walk this path and live a life without regrets!

"Here are four pieces of jade. The first will serve as your command medal, recognizing you as a sect elder. The second will open your new Immortal Cave on Mount Daoseed. The third will allow you to enter the Ancestral Darktunnel to select the legacy you have reached at the Foundation establishment. The last is the key to Oscar's pocket realm, which you will enter after obtaining first place in the selected battle." Zheng Yuandong slid four jade pieces onto the ground. Seeing how excited Yan Xiaobao looked, he finally allowed himself to relax. After coming out of Yan Xiaobao's Immortal Cave, he saw Li Qinghou lingering in the distance, waiting for news. As he walked over, he nodded slightly.

Li Qinghou's face lit up with a smile, and he sighed. "Thank you very much, sect leader. Now, as I enter secluded meditation, I can finally be at peace!"

"Do not worry too much, Qing Hou. He is my little brother, so I will naturally take care of him. I hope that once you emerge from secluded meditation, there will be another traditional echelon cultivator in the Spirit Flow Sect!" Zheng Yuandong was actually somewhat envious. However, he was unable to reach the traditional echelon. At most, he might end his life in the future as a major elder.

Li Qinghou clasped his hands and bowed deeply. He gave one last glance at Yan Xiaobao's Immortal Cave and departed with Zheng Yuandong.

Inside the Immortal Cave, Yan Xiaobao was so excited he was nearly breathless. In fact, he didn't even notice that Zheng Yuandong had left. He was dazed late into the night. Finally, he looked up, his eyes flashing brightly.

"I will live forever!!" He buried the matter of Du Lingfei deeply, and walked out of his Immortal Cave, contemplating the broader world he lived in and his desire to live forever!

Looking at the four jade tokens in his hand, his eyes were full of expectation.

Recalling the second volume of the "Immortal Corpse Scripture" given to him by the graveyard attendant, he murmured, "Now I can start cultivating the second volume of the Immortal Codex, the Immortal Heavenly King."

He had previously reviewed the second volume and already knew it was divided into four levels, much stronger than the Immortal Skin. Moreover, even cultivating the first level could grant him a secret magic stronger than throat rupture!

"The Mountain Shaking Bash!" The night passed quickly. At dawn, he stepped outside again, gazing at the rising sun. As for this matter, he clearly placed the issue of Du Lingfei's disappearance behind him.

"Yan Xiaobao is back!" He waved his sleeve, raising his chin downward, transforming into a beam shooting towards Mount Daoseed. Finally overjoyed, Yan Xiaobao shot from Xiangyun Peak to Mount Daoseed. According to sect rules of the Spirit Flow Sect, now that he had reached the Foundation, he was no longer a disciple but an elder.

Elders are individuals with special potential talents, entrusted with special duties by the sect. Usually, seven Peak Lords assign certain important tasks or matters to them. When Yan Xiaobao entered the Inner Sect, Elder Zhou was one of the Foundation elders at Xiangyun Peak.

These people were fundamentally selected, and all of them worked hard to reach the Legacy Echelon. They were not people to be taken lightly. Generally, they did not live on the various peaks but resided on Mount Daoseed.

Occasionally, some of them would reach the Legacy Echelon, but in most cases, after a hundred years, it became clear they could not enter the Gold Core Stage, and they contented themselves with being Peak Lords. For those who could indeed reach Gold Core but spent over two sixty-year cycles, they would become major elders.

There were standout individuals like Li Qinghou, who would be promoted to Peak Lord ahead of time. They simultaneously focused on cultivation and management of the peaks. Then, at some point before two sixty-year cycles elapsed, they would enter secluded meditation, attempting to break through to the Golden Core Stage.

Though on the surface it seemed as if the Spirit Sect had only over a hundred cultivators who had established Foundations, the fact was there were more on Mount Daoseed.

Only those who reached Foundation were qualified to establish an Immortal Cave on Mount Daoseed, which was also a symbol of these individuals' power.

Most Immortal Caves were on the lower half of the mountain, but even those contained spiritual energy stronger than outside the seven peaks.

Immortal Caves at the top of the mountain were reserved for major elders and sect leaders.

After reaching the Heavenly Dao Foundation, Yan Xiaobao held a high status in the Spiritual Flow Sect, almost like a Clan Leader. His Immortal Cave was located midway up the mountain, alongside many higher-level cultivators who established Foundation.

Though some were somewhat dissatisfied, there was nothing they could do. Now that he reached the Heavenly Dao Foundation, Yan Xiaobao was undoubtedly a rising star of the sect, a focal point of attention.

Mount Daoseed was vast. When he was a teenage brother of the sect leader and an Inner Sect disciple, he could visit this place, but most areas were restricted, and he couldn't enter. Thus, it seemed like a huge and majestic place.

Now, he was back as a Foundation establishment expert. To him, Mount Daoseed, towering between the other seven peaks, looked like an adult standing among a group of children.

On his path, any Spirit Flow Sect disciple who saw him would look at him with awe and would call out to him. Initially, he planned on using the air rocket, but when he realized what was happening, he slowed

down. His hands were tightly clasped behind his back, looking around like a senior member, eyes filled with approval.

The disciples had strange expressions on their faces, and many began to recall past incidents.

On Green Crest Peak, an elder was leading a group of dozens of Outer Sect Disciples who were receiving swordsmanship training. When he looked up and saw Yan Xiaobao, he sighed and said, "All of you, look up there. See the cultivator walking in the golden light? That is whom I told you about previously, the greatest elector in the Spiritual Sect, Yan Xiaobao!"

Surrounding Outer Sect disciples looked up in awe, their eyes brimming with fervor.

"Is that Uncle Bai?!"

"Uncle Bai is a powerful warrior, an expert of the Heavenly Dao Foundation. I heard he surpassed all other disciples of his generation!"

"Every person of the Bai Clan's generation is extraordinary. I heard Ghostfang Uncle, Aunt Zhou Xinqi, Uncle Shangguan Tianyou and Uncle Beihan Lie are all extraordinarily gifted electors. It's a shame they were born in the same generation as Uncle Bai."

These Outer Sect disciples had just joined the sect and were spread across cultivation bases between the third and fifth levels of Qi Condensation.

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Chapter 1294 Lightning Assault

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They had heard many stories about Yan Xiaobao; for instance, the acid rain incident, the tale of lightning striking the sect, and the disaster at 10,000 Snakes Valley. Of course, they only exaggerated these stories. As for his arrival at the Heavenly Dao Foundation, this seemed to be more credible news recently.

As Yan Xiaobao flew in, he could see the reaction of the disciples on Green Peak, feeling all the burning gazes fixed on him. Moved by this, he decided he definitely couldn't treat these young disciples coldly, nor could he let them think of him as a distant cloud floating high above their heads.

With a gentle cough, he changed direction and flew towards a group of Outer Sect disciples.

The Green Crest Peak elder quickly stood up, clasped his hands in greeting. The nearby Outer Sect disciples also followed suit, looking very excited.

"Greetings, Uncle Bai!"

"Uncle Bai, you are my greatest role model!"

"I love you, Uncle Bai!" The female disciple looked especially bewildered, blushing, cheeks flushed as she excitedly stared at him.

Yan Xiaobao was very touched, couldn't help but think that everything he had done for this sect was very worthwhile. The worshipping gazes of these young people were already a huge motivating force for him, so he smiled warmly and began to give them some encouragement.

"Focus on your cultivation."

"Keep up the good work, you're great!"

"You love your Uncle Bai? Cough, cough. Work hard, remember, anything is possible."

Yan Xiaobao patiently stood there, exchanged a few words with all the disciples present. Considering how excited they were, he gave them some advice on things, then feeling increasingly moved, gave them more advice.

After giving out ten rounds of advice and repeating himself more than once, the eyes of the Outer Sect disciples began to glaze over. They called him Uncle Bai at least dozens of times until they started to wonder what was really happening.

The elder was unsure whether to laugh or cry, couldn't help but recall the situation when Yan Xiaobao was promoted to the Inner Sect, and went around forcing people to call him Religious Uncle.

At some point in the afternoon, Yan Xiaobao finally felt satisfied, but instead of heading to Mount Daoseed, he went to Violet Cauldron Peak and Fragrant Cloud Peak, where he was received with great enthusiasm. More excited than ever, he continued on to the four mountains of the North Shore.

Eventually, it was already late at night, and the Outer Sect disciples of Spirit Creek Sect truly began to develop a strange view of Bai Xiaochun. Just then, he recalled something important. He cleared his throat and proceeded to Mount Daoseed.

His Immortal Cave at Mount Daoseed was very large. In terms of spell formation and decoration, it far exceeded the Immortal Cave he had during his Qi Condensation stage. As for the spiritual energy within, it was shockingly powerful, to say the least.

There was no hot spring. However, inside, there was a lake, and the swirling mists over it made the whole place seem like paradise.

The area outside the Immortal Cave was filled with birdsong and the fragrance of flowers. If he wished, he could ask Outer Sect disciples to wait and take care of the cave itself. Whether outside or inside, this place belonged to him and was his personal domain. At the moment, he sat by the lake, looking around with satisfaction.

"I've finally reached the Foundation Establishment!" He was also considering some information he had gathered from the jade. Considering his current situation, he was now eligible to take on apprentices, and was considering doing so. It could be fun.

Soon, the news spread that he had arrived at Mount Daoseed, and his Immortal Cave was nearly crowded with people from the Foundation Establishment realm, who came to offer greetings and see the exact location of the Heavenly Dao Foundation.

Of course, people never offered formal greetings without gifts. Yan Xiaobao was shocked again and again, until finally, his hands started to ache from accepting so many gifts. However, the smile never left his face, and he always took time to chat with his visitors.

As for the cultivators who reached the Foundation with help from the Fallen Sword Abyss, they were especially grateful.

Half a month later, things finally calmed down. After the visits stopped, Yan Xiaobao decided it was time to stop fooling around. He couldn't stop thinking about his brother, leader Zheng Yuandong told him about the matters of the central island of Sea Cloud Mountain. From there, it's possible to leave the heavens and live forever.

"If I want to go to the Heavenspan Sea, I definitely must have a powerful cultivation base. That means I need to work hard on cultivation!" He got up early the next morning. He took a deep breath, eyes sparkling, and headed towards the direction of Ancestral Darktunnel, where he would be able to select the techniques he would cultivate at the Foundation establishment stage.

Ancestral Darktunnel is a long tunnel located in the center of Mount Daoseed. Upon entering the tunnel, people will find over a hundred axles advancing in different directions, each representing a different heritage.

Generally, people would bring certification devices into the tunnel, then activate them, thus lighting up some of the heritage axles.

This is a very magical thing, and it is said that, although cultivators choose heritage, sometimes the heritage will choose the cultivator!

Of course, such things are rare. Yan Xiaobao also remembered Xu Baocai telling him that when Ghost Gang came to select his techniques, over twenty heritage axles lit up to choose him.

Yan Xiaobao was not very impressed by this. "Is that really so great? So what if twenty heritages chose him? I've reached the Heavenly Dao Foundation!"

Chapter 1295 Lightning Assault (Part 2)

According to sect rules, only those with certification devices can enter the Ancestral Darktunnel. Anyone lacking such a device who attempts entry will be killed instantly by spells inside.

As a result, no one is assigned to guard this location. When Yan Xiaobao arrived, there was no one there. After hesitating for a moment, he ventured into the cave-like entrance. Moments later, he stood at the beautiful tunnel entrance, facing over a hundred shaft-like tunnels.

Though the shafts didn't look particularly special, Yan Xiaobao knew that once he activated the certification device, at least one shaft would emit a bright light, indicating he could enter.

As he surveyed the area, intending to activate the device, a young woman emerged from a shaft ahead.

It was Zhou Xinqi using her Foundation Establishment technique. Almost immediately upon appearing, she noticed Yan Xiaobao.

"EEE? Niece Xinqi!" he said, blinking.

Zhou Xinqi frowned, took a deep breath, and then gave Yan Xiaobao a sideways glance.

"Greetings, Brother. Please conduct yourself appropriately here."

"Hmm?" Yan Xiaobao said, staring at her in shock. Then he realized that since they both were in the Foundation Establishment stage, they had equal seniority. He suddenly felt he'd lost something significant. After all, regardless of the years gone by, rarely had she deigned to call him Sect Uncle...

Feeling immensely disappointed, he pressed his finger down on the certification device, and the shaft ahead began to glow brightly! With a momentary infusion of spiritual power, every one of the hundred shafts started to flicker with light.

As dazzling beams shot forth, a rumbling sound could be heard, illuminating the scene within the cave completely.

Yan Xiaobao's jaw dropped, and Zhou Xinqi widened her eyes with incredulous shock.

"How is this possible?!?!?" Zhou Xinqi exclaimed.

Each of the hundred plus shafts represented an inheritance, and evidently, they were all available to Yan Xiaobao. Essentially, he could choose any inheritance he desired.

The astonishing scene left Zhou Xinqi flabbergasted. Earlier, only one shaft lit up for her, and when Ghost Fang triggered twenty or so to light up, the entire sect was shaken.

But then Yan Xiaobao arrived and caused over a hundred to light up...

As Zhou Xinqi reeled from the shock, she suddenly realized that besides lighting up, each shaft began pulsating gravitationally, as if vying for Yan Xiaobao's attention.

Zhou Xinqi's mind reeled, seeing the hundred plus ceremonial shafts all striving to impress Bai Xiaochun.

Yan Xiaobao was equally stupefied. Meanwhile, all of Mount Daoseed's major elders sensed what was transpiring, and were astonished. Even the few Clan Leaders within the Spirit Sect boasted wide-eyed stares.

"Not even the last Heavenly Dao Foundation cultivator managed such a feat..."

"This indicates one thing: Yan Xiaobao has reached an unimaginable height in the Qi Condensation stage!"

Outside Mount Daoseed, more than a hundred beams shot into the clouds above, stirring a massive uproar amongst the disciples. After all, they had witnessed a similar scenario a month prior when twenty beams shot towards the ghosts.

Now, the fact that there were over a hundred beams left the Spirit Sect disciples utterly tongue-tied.

Ghost Fang was currently meditating. A tremor ran through him, and he gazed skyward. He didn't even need a moment to contemplate the matter.

"Yan Xiaobao..."

Shangguan Tianyou, Beihan Lie, Lu Tianlei, and all the other electors were similarly shaken.

Back in the Ancestral Darktunnel, Yan Xiaobao gulped, then blinked, his heart pounding. Zhou Xinqi stood silently beside him, as if paralyzed. Finally, Yan Xiaobao lifted his chin and swished his sleeve.

"Ai," he murmured, "With a flick of the finger, I, Yan Xiaobao, have gained acceptance from over a hundred inheritances. Really remarkable. And quite a headache. How do I choose?"

Of course, his voice was loud enough for Zhou Xinqi to hear. Her expression darkened, her heart filled with myriad conflicting emotions.

Then, suddenly, a crack appeared where the wall had initially seemed blank, emitting blinding, sun-like rays into the cave.

Incredible pressure accompanied it, utterly surpassing the other hundred inheritances. Clearly, this shaft's inheritance was exponentially stronger than any other, exuding domination!

A strong gravitational force enveloped Yan Xiaobao, and in the blink of an eye, he was dragged toward the shaft opening. To his shock, he was nearly instantly pulled inside.

The other inheritances seemed unwilling to yield, emitting their own deadly light pulses. Yet, unable to alter circumstances, they quickly calmed down.

The sole witness was Zhou Xinqi, so astonished that she couldn't even recall leaving. All she remembered was the hundred plus inheritances seeming utterly anxious and eager, and the final shaft seeming unlike any original one.

As Yan Xiaobao was absorbed into the shaft with a powerful, domineering inheritance, at Spirit Creek Ninth Mountain Peak, five Clan Leaders were shaken.

Initially, they had been monitoring Yan Xiaobao closely, even before this astonishing development unfolded. Indeed, they were prepared to spur him on with divine will, to assist him in selecting the optimal technique.

After all, he was a Heavenly Dao Foundation cultivator and highly regarded within the sect.

Yet, then an unseen shaft appeared, casting him away prior to their deployment of divine will.

"That was..."

"What destiny does this Yan Xiaobao possess!?!?"

"This inheritance hadn't emerged in countless years! It's the only hidden inheritance there!"

Although they struggled with shock, Yan Xiaobao was drawn inward, ultimately finding himself inside a stone room.

Moments earlier, it had been black, darker than the darkest night, but upon his arrival, it became radiant.

He hesitated briefly, unsure of what the abrupt twist of events implied. After all, he hadn't chosen any inheritance; this inheritance chose him. However, he took a moment to recuperate and looked around.

The stone room wasn't large, and in its center rested a stone book!

"What's that?" he muttered, moving forward. Almost immediately, he noticed five characters inscribed on the book, utterly captivating him.

"Purple Qi Heavenspan Spell!" Yan Xiaobao's eyes widened. This name sounded incredibly extraordinary, making him only imagine how unusual it must be.

"South Shore has Violet Qi Cauldron control art, North Shore has Heavenspan Shamanic Control Incantation. Could this Violet Qi Heavenspan Incantation be a combination of the two?"

Yan Xiaobao continued to peruse the stone book and quickly became shocked by the technique's introduction. Though merely a synopsis, it remained astonishing. "Is it truly cultivated using water from the Heavenspan River?"

According to the description, Violet Qi Heavenspan Incantation absorbs water from Heavenspan River into one's body, nurturing oneself and growing stronger. It splits into four levels, one for early, mid, and late Foundation Establishment, and one for Quasi-Core stage!

Moreover, cultivating Violet Qi Heavenspan Incantation can grant a Daoist Magic known as Heavenspan Dharma Eye!

This technique can also unleash control power, but it remains entirely distinct from anything in the Qi Condensation stage. In Qi Condensation stage, control is achieved via qi, but in Foundation Establishment, merely casting a glance controls all!

Yan Xiaobao continued examining this information, eventually the stone book blurred, emerging with four magical symbols, each containing copious data. Yan Xiaobao gazed at them, increasingly shaken.

"Cultivate with Heavenspan River water. At Level 1, condense a waterdrop. At Level 2, a goblet. At the third level, a stone, fourth-level... a cauldron!" Yan Xiaobao was utterly stunned, tongue-tied. He couldn't help pondering how Zheng Yuandong had told him, Sea Cloud Sea is the source of all spiritual energy in the world.

The Violet Qi Heavenspan Incantation was so domineering, requiring water from Heavenspan River....

Perhaps fortunately, it was usable only in the Foundation Establishment stage. Had it extended beyond, Yan Xiaobao could only fathom its potency.

He suddenly envisioned himself waving a hand, draining dry all of Heavenspan River's four massive branches.

Then, he saw himself hovering in the air, Sea Cloud Sea transforming into his spiritual ocean.

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Chapter 1296 Qi Heavenspan Spell

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"So powerful!!" He gasped, trembling. He was even more shocked by the Daoist magic of the Heavenspan Dharma Eye. At a glance, one could control anything and everything.

"This is like the great magic of human control I've always been striving for!" Although this technique was useless after the Foundation was established, he immediately decided the Violet Qi Sea Cloud Leveling Spell was for him!

Time flew by. Yan Xiaobao neither ate nor slept. He stayed in the stone room, seeking enlightenment for the Violet Qi Heavenspan Spell. A month later, he was unsuccessful, but the technique was imprinted in his mind. Reluctantly, he decided to leave.

"If I want to cultivate it properly, I need a drop of water from the Heavenspan River!" Gritting his teeth, he took out his certification device and disappeared from the stone room. When he reappeared, he was in the cave, the entrance to the Ancestor's dark cave. Without a moment's hesitation, he left.

Although he didn't notice it, as he left, there were several divine wills there, trembling with shock and anticipation.

In the following days, Yan Xiaobao stayed by the Heavenspan River beneath Mount Daoseed. He sat cross-legged, watching the golden water rush by. He could feel the spiritual power in the water, which sent out terrifying ripples with its roar. Occasionally, when he attempted to extract a drop of water for himself, his hands flashed in the posture of a two-handed spell.

But he never succeeded. No matter what he did, he couldn't affect the water at all. The water was so terrifyingly powerful that if a single drop touched him, his flesh would instantly melt.

A few more days passed, but he never saw success. After a while, he decided to consult his brother, the Sect Leader. He left with a jade bottle, to collect a drop of water from the Heavenspan River. Every so often, the sect's Clan Leader would collect some water through various means, which would be used as rewards for Foundation establishment cultivators, who could use the water for various purposes.

It was only after talking with his brother that Yan Xiaobao realized that during the Foundation establishment stage, the Heavenspan River water was a crucial factor for cultivation. He wasn't the only one needing this water; all heritages required the Heavenspan River's water.

The Spirit Stream Sect's heritage was quite complex. There were heritages related to beasts, swords, and spirit enhancement. In fact, the Blood Flow Sect, Deep Flow Sect, and Pill Sect differed in various aspects, but they also used Heavenspan River water. For example, the Blood Stream Sect could use it to create spirit blood. Cultivators from the Profound Stream Sect used it to create a second spiritual body for themselves or to craft weapons. Of course, the Pill Stream Sect focused on pill concoction.

However, in the final analysis, all heritages temporarily used a bit of water. As for Bai Xiaochun's technique, the Violet Qi Heavenspan Incantation, it was even more domineering. It didn't temporarily use it; it permanently plundered it!

The difference between borrowing and taking is like the difference between heaven and earth! He didn't take the jade bottle back to his Immortal Cave, but instead took some time to think, then decided to take advantage of his opportunity to enter the Oscar Pocket Realm, which he had earned in the selection battle.

In the mysterious pocket realm, he could seek enlightenment for secret magic as well as his own personal techniques. Although Yan Xiaobao didn't fully understand the mechanics of it all, the arcane pocket realm had something profound and mysterious that made enlightenment easier.

In the Qi Condensation stage, techniques were limited, so it was best to wait until Foundation establishment to enter the arcane pocket realm. Furthermore, no one dared to confidently say they could reach the Golden Core stage. Even Yan Xiaobao and his Heavenly Dao Foundation, at best, had a good chance of success.

Thus, waiting until the Gold Core stage was not very practical.

The entrance to the arcane pocket was located in a secret spot on Mount Daoseed. When Yan Xiaobao handed the jade stone to the elder in charge of the entrance, the white-haired old man gazed deeply at him.

Yan Xiaobao felt incredible pressure accompanying that gaze, almost the same pressure he remembered feeling when a Foundation establishment expert looked at him, a Qi Condensation cultivator. He immediately put on his most charming front.

"You took first place in the selection battle," the old man said. "That grants you one day of enlightenment. The Heavenly Dao Foundation grants you three days of service. Li Feng and Hou Feng from Xiangyun Peak previously accumulated two days, which they have passed on to you. The leader of this sect also gave you two days." Hearing these things, Yan Xiaobao's eyes widened.

He had never been told that Li Qinghou and Zheng Yuandong had given him time in the arcane pocket realm. But he wasn't even aware that there was a time limit in the first place. A few days definitely weren't enough time to gain enlightenment.

"A total of eight days!" The elder's right hand flashed in the posture of a spell, then he waved his hand toward a nearby giant stone. The stone began to blur, then a rumbling sound echoed, causing Yan Xiaobao's heart to tremble. Astonishingly, the stone transformed into a massive stone golem over 30 meters high. It lifted its head, howling, then stretched out its hands and began to tear open the air.

Soon after, a massive rift became visible.

"What are you waiting for?!" the main elder said. Although he spoke in a calm voice, it still echoed like thunder. Yan Xiaobao took a deep breath, then clasped his hands, bowed, and flew toward the rift, disappearing inside.

A moment later, the rift closed up, and the stone golem reverted to a giant stone. Then, the elders closed their eyes and meditated.

Chapter 1297 Qi Heavenspan Spell (Part 2)

When Yan Xiaobao reappeared, he found himself in a strange, completely desolate world. As he looked around, he realized he was standing in the exact spot he had previously stood.

He could see giant rocks, though the main elder had already left. The entire Soul Sect could be seen around him, yet he couldn't even sense a hint of life within it. After a moment, he flew into the air for a better view of the surroundings.

"This..." The Spirit Sect looked exactly as he remembered it. However, there wasn't a single person to be seen in any of the buildings.

The sense of desolation he felt made Yan Xiaobao very nervous. Then he glanced around and realized the Heavenspan River had completely dried up, and his scalp began to tingle.

"What kind of arcane pocket is this?" He felt very uneasy, although he was not sure why. Subsequently, he headed towards the mountain peak, a place he would usually never be able to reach.

From that vantage point, he could see the entire world around him. However, everything was filled with gray fog, making it difficult to see far.

"I don't even want to consider what this means. I suppose I'll just see if gaining enlightenment in techniques here is really easier." Suppressing his feelings of unease, he sat cross-legged, closed his eyes, and visualized the Violet Qi Heavenspan Incantation.

A moment later, his eyes opened, gleaming with joy. For some reason, many things that were confusing in the outside world suddenly made sense to him here. It was as if his mind had expanded, and any thought that passed through it became a reality!

It was strange. Almost as if all he had to do was imagine a new world, and that world would appear before him. He could hardly believe it.

He closed his eyes excitedly, immersing himself in the enlightenment of the Violet Qi Heavenspan Incantation.

Time flew by. Soon, night fell. Before Yan Xiaobao knew it, the second day came and went. Then came the third.

In the dead of night on the third day, Yan Xiaobao's eyes opened, shining with the light of enlightenment. In fact, if you looked closely, you would see magical symbols flickering deep within each pupil.

"The hardest part of the Violet Qi Heavenspan Incantation is the first step," he murmured. "The water from the Spirit River is like a meteor falling into the mortal realm. Flesh becomes the thread supporting the star. The body becomes a heaven, with stars within, never falling!" He waved his right hand, causing a jade bottle to fly out from his satchel.

The bottle opened, and a drop of golden water from the Heavenspan River floated out, being the only color in the gray world around him.

He hesitated for a moment at the water before gritting his teeth.

"Anything capable of living forever! Anything can enter the Heavenspan Haii!" He took a deep breath as the golden river water dropped onto his forehead.

Once it touched his skin, intense pain erupted. His flesh and blood felt as if they were melting, and he shuddered violently. Grinding his teeth, he rotated his cultivation base and employed his nine spiritual oceans with the Violet Qi Heavenspan Incantation to try to absorb the water's power.

A rumbling sound filled his ears, and the golden liquid began to slowly merge into his forehead. After an uncertain period, he let out a mighty roar. Within him, the golden liquid utterly disregarded his Qi Paths, flesh, and blood as it sank deep within.

It was like water from the spirit river falling like a meteor into the Human world.

As it moved through him, all of his Qi Paths and flesh melted, even his internal organs were wounded. His bones screamed in agony, making his face pale as blood seeped from his mouth.

Yet he just clenched his jaw and disregarded his melting, destroyed Qi Paths and flesh. Instead, he sent his internal spiritual energy coursing through them, spreading throughout his body like threads wrapping around the golden river water. This was nothing less than flesh becoming the thread supporting the star.

Most of the threads were destroyed, but as they continued to spread, many of them managed to wrap madly around the golden river water.

When the golden river water flowed into Yan Xiaobao's Dantian Region, his eyes suddenly flashed brightly.

"The body becomes a heaven, with stars within, never falling!"

As his nine spiritual oceans burst forth with the power of 9 Tideflows, a rumbling sound could be heard as they slammed into the golden liquid, as if trying to destroy it. However, the liquid rapidly pierced into the ninth spiritual ocean, then the eighth, the seventh....

As that happened, the spiritual oceans rapidly transformed into countless spiritual threads, wrapping around the golden river water.

After piercing through the eight spiritual oceans, the golden liquid was completely bound by the spiritual threads, and then it slowly stopped, suspended above the first spiritual sea!

At that moment, it began radiating endless golden light that exploded out to fill Yan Xiaobao's entire body. It spread everywhere, healing everything in its path, including his spiritual oceans, Qi Paths, flesh, bones, and everything else. At the same time, everything began to transform.

Yan Xiaobao's aura erupted. Despite still being in the early Foundation establishment stage, it was completely different than before. Previously, he appeared impressive from the outside, but the truth was that his Foundation establishment power was in a chaotic state, like an army with no general. But now, after gaining enlightenment of the Violet Qi Sea Cloud Leveling Spell, that general had appeared, and all his spiritual power was now in unison. As a result, his combat power was completely different than before. Yan Xiaobao's aura erupted. Despite still being in the early Foundation establishment stage, it was completely different than before. Previously, he appeared impressive from the outside, but the truth was that his Foundation establishment power was in a chaotic state, like an army with no general.

But now, after gaining enlightenment of the Violet Qi Sea Cloud Leveling Spell, that general had appeared, and all his spiritual power was now in unison. As a result, his combat power was completely different than before.

His eyes opened, and the magical symbols in his pupils were clearer than before. Gradually, they disappeared, while at the same time, the golden liquid within him began merging into his first spiritual sea.

At some point in the future, when the golden liquid was fully absorbed, he would have successfully completed Level 1 of cultivating the Violet Qi Sea Cloud Spell.

It was at this point that Yan Xiaobao's forehead suddenly throbbed with splitting pain. There was also an itchy sensation, as an eye gradually began to form at that location, seeming to be on the brink of opening.

This was his Heavenspan Dharma Eye!

"It worked!" he exclaimed joyfully. He reached up to touch his forehead, finding the itchiness growing more pronounced. However, he didn't panic; instead, he was overjoyed.

"Hahaha!" He laughed, nearly jumping up and down. "From now on, I'll have three eyes. Even just saying it sounds amazing!" Then he looked into the distance, taking a deep breath.

"It's still developing, but perhaps I can test it out a bit." After a moment's hesitation, he closed his eyes. His first spiritual ocean began to deplete, with drops of golden river water emitting flickering golden light, passing through his Qi Paths and converging on his forehead.

At that moment, the recently stabilized gap suddenly opened, revealing a violet eye. His gaze pierced through the fog in an instant, seeing something.

When he realized that beyond the mist lay not land, but an almost completely dry ocean, a shiver ran through him. Spirit Stream Sect was an island floating in the air, with countless other islands far away!

Bolts of lightning crackled between the ocean and various islands.

He wanted to inspect the scene further, but the pain in his forehead was too intense. Blood began to seep out as the gap on his forehead sealed shut. Just like that, his two eyes opened, sending shivers through him as his spiritual power had been half exhausted.

"What kind of arcane pocket is this?" he thought, panting heavily. Yan Xiaobao found it utterly bizarre, unable to fathom where he was.

After a while, he decided to stop contemplating the fog and whatever else. Taking a deep breath, he gradually calmed down.

"I suppose it doesn't matter. One thing is certain: my rate of enlightenment is incredible. I can truly benefit from this." Shaking his head, he completely quelled the shock within him.

"No wonder they allocate time here. Even hourly allocations make sense. Every day here is considered an opportunity for major gains by any cultivator." Suddenly, he felt a sense of urgency replace it. He had spent three days on the Violet Qi Heavenspan Incantation, which meant he had five days left.

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Chapter 1298 Immortal Heavenly King

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"I can't waste any time!" He quickly took out a piece of jade from his hand and injected some spiritual power into it. Soon, a mnemonic appeared in his mind.

"Immortal Heavenly King!" he said, eyes filled with excitement. Years ago, a person known as the Graveyard gave him a piece of jade. This was the second volume of the Immortal Corpse Scripture! The Immortal Heavenly King!

In the first volume of the Immortal Corpse Scripture, people cultivated the power of the skin, known as Immortal Skin. The second volume focuses on the power of the flesh, referred to as the Immortal Heavenly King!

Similar to the Immortal Skin, the Immortal Heavenly King is divided into four levels. However, they are not divided into iron, bronze, silver, and gold. Instead, they are four types of physical bodies. Level 1 is the Ten Mammoth Berserk Ghost Body. The second is the Ten Ghost Heaven Demon Body. The third level is the Ten Demon Asura Body. The final level is the Immortal King Body!

Each of these four physical types is stronger than the previous one, with the strongest being the Immortal Heavenly King Body. It is actually thousands of times stronger than the Level 1 Berserk Ghost Body!

Yan Xiaobao had known about this for a long time, but because he had never mastered the Immortal Skin, he was unable to undertake higher-level cultivation. Now, as he revisited it, the Immortal King was utterly astounding.

"The so-called mammoths referred to in the Ten Mammoth Berserk Ghost Body are not ordinary creatures. They are colossal mammoths from the primordial era, exuding incredible pressure. Even their physical strength can only rival early Foundation Middle Cultivators!

"The massive power formed from the Dragon Mammoth Sea Scripture is similar. Upon reaching Foundation Establishment, my physical strength is actually akin to one of those gigantic mammoths.

"As for the Fierce Ghosts, the information about the Immortal Heavenly King states that, in legend, there was a terrifying entity that could tear mammoths to pieces. It was actually a ghostly beast with fearsome flesh!" Considering his current cultivation base, he found the information about the Immortal Heavenly King more astonishing than before.

"Basically, if I cultivate the first level of the Immortal Heavenly King, then ultimately, my physical strength will be ten times what it is now, equivalent to the power of a Level 2 ghost. The strength of ten such fierce ghosts would place me at the level of a Heavenly Demon.

"According to this information, Heavenly Demons are also legendary creatures with formidable physical strength, hunting and devouring fierce ghosts!

"The power of Asuras is ten times that of Heavenly Demons, and according to legend, they can easily crush Heavenly Demons. I suppose this means the power of the Immortal King is ten times that of an Asura?"

Yan Xiaobao's eyes sparkled. Having become very familiar with the benefits of his Immortal Skin, he was even more excited about the Immortal Heavenly King. He could already imagine what it would be like to someday combine the power of the Immortal Heavenly King with his immortal golden skin. Although he would not be truly immortal, he would certainly be hard to kill!

"This volume of the Immortal Heavenly King can lead to explosive growth of the body! If I successfully cultivate it, it would be difficult to find a Foundation cultivator in Heaven who could kill me!" With this, he quickly closed his eyes and began working on the first layer of the Immortal Heavenly King.

This was not an easy task, and the difficulty lay in the need for massive amounts of life energy. In comparison, the requirements of the first volume of the Real Estate Code paled in comparison. After a period of cultivation, Yan Xiaobao already appeared withered, and he quickly stopped.

"How terrifying for life energy. If you're not careful, you can turn yourself into a brittle human..." When he thought about looking like a piece of brittle humanity, he couldn't help but shudder in fear. However, he was unwilling to give up. This was especially true because if he successfully cultivated the first level, he would gain divine ability.

"The Mountain Shaking Bash..." he thought, taking a deep breath. He immediately decided that, upon leaving the arcane pocket, he would concoct pills, even store precious materials that could replenish life energy. No matter how difficult, he had to cultivate the Immortal Heavenly King.

After some brief calculations, he realized he had three more days. Without any further hesitation, he took out the Protomagnetic Wings from his back and examined them closely. In the center of the wings was a pearl, which he had obtained the recipe for aphrodisiac pills from the North Shore. It was called the Protomagnetic Pearl.

According to the Peak Lord of Irispetal Peak, if this was his fate, he might be able to gain an epiphany related to gravitational repulsion.

While he had previously investigated this matter, he had never made much progress. With three more days in this place, he felt this might be a good time to look again.

Time flew by, and before he knew it, there were only about 8 hours left in the arcane pocket realm. However, he did not give up. Even if he did not achieve complete enlightenment on gravity and repulsion, he did gain a deeper understanding of the pearl's magnetism.

Now, he was able to release a strange force containing pull and push, which, when combined, twisted the air into the shape of a pearl.

The pearl seemed elusive but affected the surrounding air, causing it to warp and twist. When Yan Xiaobao poured spiritual power into it, the power vanished like a rock thrown into the deep sea. However, once he stopped the flow, the power he poured into the crystal emptied with a roar. Shocked, he realized the pearl was apparently maintaining balance in the form of a cycle, making it a container of sorts.

Chapter 1299 Immortal Heavenly King (2)

Even so, he still couldn't release gravitational and repulsive force. If he could succeed with it in the future, he would eventually be able to come into contact with a true original magnetic ability.

"What a pity. If I could just spend more time in there, I'm sure I could unravel this mystery." He sighed, put the wings away, then spent the remaining eight hours working on his Waterswamp Kingdom.

When the eight hours ended, the air around him began to ripple, and before he could do anything, everything around him collapsed. A rumbling sound echoed out as a vortex formed, pulling at Yan Xiaobao's consciousness.

After he vanished, he reappeared outside the entrance of the Ausne Pass arcane pocket. He immediately felt disoriented. Inside the arcane pocket domain, his mind had been clearer than ever. His thoughts had roamed freely without restraint. But now that he'd returned to his normal state, he felt as if he were submerged in water. His head was incredibly muddled.

The elder opened his eyes and looked at him, and was immediately shaken. Yan Xiaobao seemed completely different from eight days ago. Every aspect of his energy felt far stronger than before.

The old man nodded in admiration, then said, "It's usually very difficult for someone to adjust after entering the arcane pocket domain for the first time. Meditate for a few days and you'll be fine."

After that, he closed his eyes again.

It took Yan Xiaobao a while to recover enough to move. Face pale, hands clenched tight, he bowed respectfully to the elder, then took his leave.

Back in his Immortal Cave, he sat beside the lake, adjusting himself while recalling his experiences in the pocket domain. In the end, he sighed.

"If only I could seek enlightenment there for a few more days. Cultivating in there was pure bliss. Just what kind of place is that? It's too strange." He shook his head. It was actually possible to pay merit points to enter the arcane pocket domain, but with Yan Xiaobao's current savings, he could only afford a few hours.

Considering how uncomfortable he felt, it was impossible to clear his mind enough to practice cultivation. After thinking it over, he undid his storage bag.

It was stuffed full of all sorts of odds and ends, including many things he'd obtained in the Fallen Sword World. So far, he hadn't taken the time to sort through any of it. When he opened it, he saw countless items, including Spirit Stones and even some magical artifacts.

After organizing everything, he discovered over a dozen bottles and boxes, some filled with pills, some containing items he didn't recognize. The other sects each had their own areas of expertise, so his understanding of items obtained from them was limited.

"Is this Spiritual Medicine from the Pill Stream Sect? The Pill Stream Sect's pill-refining methods look really interesting..."

"This is from the Profound Stream Sect, right? It looks like a fingernail!"

"What is this thing? It's so sticky..." Shaking his head, he turned to a blood-colored jade box. As soon as he opened it, a blast of searing heat burst out.

At first, he wasn't particularly impressed, but when he looked closer, his eyes went wide. Gasping, he leaned in toward the tiny tongue of flame inside the jade box.

That fire wasn't ordinary flame, but was emanating from an object at the bottom of the box—a type of Immortal Grass whose leaves bore four different colors. Because of the four colors on its leaves, the flames on the plant itself were also four-colored, making it look extremely bizarre.

Yan Xiaobao took a deep breath, his heart pounding. After a careful inspection, he confirmed his initial guess. "Four-leaf Immortal Grass! A rare item that can produce four-colored flame!"

"This mutation only appears once among a hundred thousand clumps of three-leaf Immortal Grass. Four-leaf Immortal Grass can produce four-colored flame..." Yan Xiaobao's eyes began to shine. How could he have imagined that his storage bag would contain such an item?

For disciples of the other three sects, it might only be something used in concocting medicines or for cultivation practice. But for Yan Xiaobao, it was like a priceless treasure.

He hadn't used his little turtle in quite some time—not because he didn't want to, but because fuel for four-colored flame was extremely rare in the sect and he hadn't been able to acquire any.

As he stared at the Four-leaf Immortal Grass, he suddenly remembered something he'd obtained from a disciple of the Blood Flow Sect. Back in the Fallen Sword World, many disciples had besieged him, and he couldn't clearly recall all of their auras. However, there was one disciple who had left some impression; after being killed, he had turned into a mask and tried to escape.

"Yeah, I remember him!" Yan Xiaobao thought, eyes flashing. He clearly remembered grabbing the mask and trying to crush it, but failing. In his haste, he had just sealed it away and tossed it into his bag.

However, after quite a long time, he was shocked to discover that the mask was nowhere to be found.

"Impossible!" Ignoring the discomfort he'd felt just after returning from the pocket, he drew upon the power of his cultivation base to search again, this time even more thoroughly.

"I couldn't have misremembered. I definitely threw it into my bag. That mask has to be some sort of magical treasure and is actually trying to hide from me!" A conspiratorial gleam appeared in his eyes.

Jutting out his chin, he said, "How dare you play hide-and-seek with Lord Bai, you little mask. Lord Bai could pinch your ashes to dust with a single finger!" The bag in his hand was deathly quiet; you could have heard a needle drop. There wasn't the slightest response from inside. Yan Xiaobao's eyes went wide as he let out a threatening roar. Yet nothing in the bag moved. He jutted his chin out and said, "How dare you play hide-and-seek with Lord Bai, you little mask. Lord Bai could pinch your ashes to dust with a single finger!" The bag in his hand was deathly quiet; you could have heard a needle drop. There wasn't the slightest response from inside. Yan Xiaobao's eyes went wide as he let out a threatening roar. Yet nothing in the bag moved.

Enraged, he sealed it. Then he chuckled coldly, closed his eyes, and began to meditate. A few days later, after he had fully recovered, he circulated his cultivation base and sent golden light surging into the golden Dharma Eye on his forehead.

"All right, little mask, let's see if you can hide from me this time!" He snorted coldly, confirming that he could once again forcibly open his Heavenspan Dharma Eye. Then he opened his storage bag and activated his third eye. As he looked at the bag in his hand, a faint violet gleam appeared in his eye.

In that instant, his mind trembled and everything vanished. His storage bag and everything else turned transparent, revealing a crumpled mask in one corner.

It was hidden in the lining of the bag, slowly merging into the side. Clearly, if given enough time, it would have completely fused with the material of the holding bag and then secretly slipped out the other side.

The moment Yan Xiaobao saw it with his third eye, the mask shuddered and emitted a dazzling light, attempting to shoot out of his hand. Before it could, though, Yan Xiaobao snorted coldly and sent his spiritual power surging into the bag holding the mask.

After wrenching it out from the inner lining of the bag, he pulled it free and held it in his hand, examining it with his third eye. Strangely, only his third eye could see it. None of his other senses, including his normal eyes, could perceive its existence at all.

"How strange," he thought. "Why could I see it in the Fallen Sword World?" He couldn't maintain his third eye for long, so after closing it, he roused his nine Spirit Seas and released some Heavenly Halo. The air above his palm immediately began to distort, and soon, the mask became clearly visible before him.

It was now a flesh-colored mask!

This was the same mask he'd tried to crush in the Fallen Sword World. It looked as delicate as a cicada's wing, and also carried some strange auras that Yan Xiaobao couldn't clearly analyze. "Can it be nurtured with water from the Heavenspan River?"

This was an aura stemming from the material that formed the mask, and Yan Xiaobao found it shocking. Then he recalled how that Blood Flow Sect disciple's soul had entered the mask and tried to escape.

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Chapter 1300 Lord Bai

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"I know you're there!" he roared. "Show your face to Lord Bai!" However, the mask did not react at all. His eyes flashing wickedly, he tried to crush the mask, but no matter how much force he applied, nothing happened.

"Won't come out? Do you really think I can't deal with you?" With that, he plummeted from the mountain to the banks of the Heavenspan River, where he raised his hand behind him, as if to throw the mask into the water.

The river water was the only thing Yan Xiaobao could think of that could melt anything. However, before he actually threw the mask away, it trembled and suddenly shouted, "Old man, let me say something!"

"Ah, you can speak now, huh?" Yan Xiaobao said, his eyes flashing fiercely. "Come out of that mask and tell me who you are!"

A mist suddenly flowed from the wrinkled mask, quickly forming a small figure. Although he did not look like the person he had killed in the Fallen Sword World, he looked very similar. He appeared utterly terrified, his body trembling, hands bowing in respect to Yan Xiaobao.

"Honestly, please do me a favor," "Your humble servant made a mistake, I know. I'm an Inner Sect disciple of the Blood Stream Sect. My name is Nightcrypt..." After the disaster in the Fallen Sword World, he had remained in Yan Xiaobao's grasp. His plan had been to slowly escape, but before he could, Yan Xiaobao found him.

Initially, he wasn't too worried, assuming Yan Xiaobao couldn't harm him. He never anticipated the threat of being melted in the Heavenspan River.

The spiritual power of the Heavenspan River's water is difficult to express in words; even some of the most powerful defensive treasures can be destroyed by it.

When Yan Xiaobao heard the name "Nightcrypt," he was a bit surprised, even feeling a bit tense. That name was truly daunting. Whether the name hinted at burying people at night, or burying the night itself, it certainly felt very cruel. [1. Generally, I transliterate characters' names and translate Taoist names or nicknames. For Nightcrypt, I'm somewhat of an exception. This should be his actual name, not a Daoist name. So, if I transliterate, it would be Ye Cang. However, it's a completely ridiculous Chinese name that no one in real life would have. It should sound cool/creepy/badass, other than being somewhat "made up" rather than a real name. To maintain the appalling flavor of this name, I'm going to translate it rather than transliterate it. PS I'm sorry if anyone in the audience is actually named Nightcrypt and feels offended by being deemed a ridiculous name.]

Looking at the confused soul, Yan Xiaobao cleared his throat. "Alright, your name could use some work. You know, it doesn't sound very good. Definitely not as good as mine."

Nightcrypt hesitated for a moment, obediently expressing his agreement. However, he dared not say anything more. The truth was, he felt very sorry for himself. The Blood Stream Sect never paid much attention to him, and he worked very hard to reach the large circle of Qi Condensation.

Initially, he was not qualified to enter the Fallen Sword Abyss. The fact was, he studied some odd things within the Blood Stream Sect. Besides a little understanding of medicinal modulation, he also studied the sect's divination magic. He often put his future into practice, and although the results were not always accurate, they provided some benefits to his cultivation.

Before the opening of the Fallen Sword Abyss, his divinations showed that if he continued forward, he would encounter some incredible good fortune.

Although he didn't believe it at first, after countless divinations, he got the same result. Finally, he gritted his teeth, paid a huge price, and even endured significant humiliation to get himself a spot. Who would have thought, not only did he not receive any good fortune, he ended up captured by the ruthless Yan Xiaobao.

"Lord Bai," he said, continuously bowing, "considering your incredible power, sir, why don't you let me go? I can be your spy! I will return to the Blood Stream Sect and report to you within the Spirit Stream Sect. I can even swear an oath!"

Yan Xiaobao looked at him and then coldly snorted.

"A spy? I suppose this is your real face, right? The Nightcrypt I killed is nothing like you! I can't believe you tried to deceive me! Yan Xiaobao hates it when people try to deceive him! Prepare to die!" He glared at him as much as he could, then knelt down, ready to toss the mask into the river.

A wave seemed about to crash upon Nightcrypt, and he screamed and trembled in terror. The feeling of imminent death he experienced exceeded anything he had ever felt in his life. Then he thought of all the humiliation he endured within the sect, and he felt like crying.

"Don't kill me! I'll tell you a huge secret!"

Yan Xiaobao sneered, more distrustful than before. Then, he relaxed his grip, and the mask began to fall.

As the river water surged toward him, Nightcrypt was terrified. "No! I'm serious about the secret! It concerns eternal indestructibility!!"

A tremor ran through Yan Xiaobao. To his mind, the words "eternal" and "indestructibility" basically meant "eternal" and "living forever." Without a moment's hesitation, his hand shot out at lightning speed to snatch back the mask.

"You better not deceive me," he said sternly. "You've already seen how much I hate it when people try to deceive me!"