

Overlord 1151

Chapter 1151:

Lu Chen was momentarily stunned on the spot.

Yang Fei once hinted at plans to cooperate with a certain cultivation force in the Southern Domain. Based on the current situation, everyone in Lingxiao Sect knew that if Yang Fei sought cooperation in the Southern Domain's cultivation world, the greatest possibility was with Lingxiao Sect.

However, Lu Chen didn't expect Yang Fei would want to seek cooperation so quickly and even intended to have him negotiate with the upper echelons of Lingxiao Sect.

After a brief surprise, Lu Chen said, "Brother Yang, you want me to return to Lingxiao Sect in the Southern Domain?"

Yang Fei nodded and said, "Given the current situation, the cultivation world in the Southern Domain will only send more and more Foundation Establishment cultivators over. You know our situation—once too many Foundation Establishment cultivators come from the Southern Domain, we absolutely cannot defend White Jade City."

Lu Chen nodded silently; this was something everyone in Lingxiao Sect had already discussed with Yang Fei.

Although there are only three two-star sects in the southern part of the Southern Domain, and only three major cultivation families nearby, farther away there are numerous three-star sects and cultivation families, some of which can even rival two-star sects in heritage.

Compared to the vast cultivation world of the Southern Domain, Earth is indeed too insignificant.

Even if all the Foundation Establishment cultivators from the three two-star sects and three cultivation families of the Southern Domain came, it would pose a huge threat to Earth. With the current strength of Yang Fei, Qin Yanyang, and others, even when counting the seven from Lingxiao Sect and the Mountain Protection Array of White Jade City, it couldn't be defended then.

If the top-grade spiritual ore resources of White Jade City were lost, the cultivators on Earth would find it even more difficult to grow.

What's more, even if the Foundation Establishment cultivators from several major cultivation forces in the southern part of the Southern Domain couldn't take down White Jade City, what if other sects and families from the Southern Domain joined?

As soon as the disciples of Flame Moon Sect, Great Dao Sect, and the Zhong, He, and Feng families' Foundation Establishment disciples suffer enough casualties, these forces will surely seek external assistance. At that time, if the news of Earth being a Cave Heaven Blessed Land spreads further, it will attract more cultivators to come. Then, hundreds or thousands of Foundation Establishment cultivators will come to Earth Space, competing for opportunities and resources.

When that time comes, Earth's people won't be able to defend their homeland.

"Brother Yang, Daoist Qin, thank you for your trust in me." Lu Chen looked at the two and said, "But I really can't guarantee that after I return, I can secure a cooperation opportunity for you. For Lingxiao Sect, Brother Ye Wu and others and I are just basic disciples who joined a few decades ago. Above us, there are a dozen Core Formation Masters, Nascent Soul grandmasters, and even a Divinity Transformation Ancestor. My words carry little weight and I'm afraid it would even be difficult to meet the nascent soul elder."

Yang Fei frowned slightly and said, "If it was in the usual times, you'd indeed find it hard to meet those real high-level figures of Lingxiao Sect after returning. But the situation is different now; you're bringing back information about Earth Space, a big secret enough to change Lingxiao Sect's future. As long as the Genetic Liquid Medicine takes effect in your Southern Domain's cultivation world, it will certainly arouse the top-tier figures of your Lingxiao Sect.

Qin Yanyang also nodded and said, "Yes, as long as you take the Genetic Liquid Medicine back, your sect's high-level leaders will surely take notice."

Lu Chen smiled bitterly, "I understand that too. It's just that you may not really know how those powerful figures in the cultivation world think and act. Once this Genetic Liquid Medicine is taken back letting people without spirit roots manifest spirit roots, or letting disciples with ordinary spirit roots enhance their spirit root talent and aptitude, sect leaders would definitely go to any lengths to obtain the formula and then kill all others who know it."

Yang Fei said, "We anticipated that long ago. It's like a prized possession inviting trouble; in the cutthroat world of cultivation, who wouldn't want to monopolize such a treasure? But have you forgotten? The transmission channel has limitations, and your Lingxiao Sect's powerful figures can't get through."

Lu Chen reminded, "I know, but have you considered that right now those truly formidable leaders of the sect are not particularly focused on Earth. But once they find out that something like the Genetic Liquid Medicine exists, I fear that even Divinity Transformation Ancestors would mobilize, bringing such level of powerful individuals to personally expand the transmission channel; I fear this limitation would soon be lifted. Once Core Formation Masters can come over, there's no one on Earth currently who can stop them."

Yang Fei and Qin Yanyang's hearts tightened.

In fact, this situation was something that the two, when discussing with other senior experts on Earth, had also contemplated.

Qin Yanyang asked, "If a Divinity Transformation expert personally took action, is there a chance to expand the restrictions of the transmission channel?"

Lu Chen nodded and said, "Yes. In the cultivation world, situations of new Cave Heaven Blessed Lands are quite common. When a new plane space emerges, the cultivation world will slowly explore and excavate it. The Heavenly Dao imposes protective restrictions on these fragile plane worlds, so transmission channels at the beginning would restrict high-level cultivators from traveling.

Thus, every new plane world's emergence often results in many loss for qi refinement or foundation establishment disciples of the cultivation sects.

Once these losses become too large, surpassing the tolerance limits of major sects and cultivation families, their leaders will assess the situation based on this unknown plane's resource storage situation, weighing the pros and cons.

If the cultivation resources in this plane are not abundant, then everyone might give up exploration. But if there are rich resources inside, or inheritance treasures, it will attract the interest of top leaders, and various forces will dispatch top individuals, spending time to expand the transmission channel."

Qin Yanyang nodded and said, "The Genetic Liquid Medicine is extremely rare and precious, so once your Lingxiao Sect's upper echelons know of its existence, they'll spare no cost to expand the transmission channel here?"

"Yes."

Lu Chen said, "Let alone the existence of the Genetic Liquid Medicine, even just White Jade City's top-grade spiritual ore, the forces of the Southern Domain's cultivation forces would go crazy over it."

He paused to remind, "So I think this matter could be delayed a bit; with your two's spirit root talents, maybe after waiting a while, you two could make another breakthrough?"

Yang Fei and Qin Yanyang both furrowed their brows, falling into deep thought.

After a moment, Yang Fei smiled bitterly, "Brother Lu, as you all mentioned, for Foundation Establishment to successfully form the Core, it requires the assistance of Chao Yuan Pill, Gathering Peak Pill, Five Elements Blood Coagulation Pill, and True Essence Pill, among other precious elixirs. But we're not sure if Earth even has the materials for these elixirs, and even if it does, we don't have the formula, nor an alchemist capable of refining these pills."

Lu Chen fell silent again.

Indeed.

The rich resources currently known on Earth are only the top-grade Spirit Mine of White Jade City. As to other cultivation-related resources, they still haven't been truly investigated and explored, everything remains unknown.

Moreover, Yang Fei is right—even if other resources are abundant, there are currently no capable alchemists on Earth, so it's simply impossible for Foundation Establishment cultivators to reach the Core Formation.

Yang Fei continued, "Not to mention the matter of forming the Core, just talking about the Foundation Establishment, there are still quite a few people on our side who have reached the condition for it. But without the Foundation Establishment Pill, Wang Chunfeng has already failed, which has caused others who might reach Foundation Establishment to feel fearful and not dare to try rashly. As a result, it's difficult even for the Earth cultivation world to develop Foundation Establishment cultivators."

Qin Yanyang nodded and said, "Yes, so for the long-term development of Earth's cultivation world, we must seek cooperation with the vast cultivation world forces soon."

Lu Chen took a deep breath and looked at the two, "Is this really your decision?"

"It's decided." Yang Fei solemnly said to Lu Chen, "So we entrust you, Brother Lu."

Chapter 1152:

Lu Chen's expression appeared extremely grave, an inexplicable sense of responsibility and pressure weighed on his heart, making him feel that this decision was somewhat difficult.

After pondering for a long time, Lu Chen looked at the two people and said, "I can go back, but I really can't guarantee that this matter can be negotiated, the most crucial point is..."

He paused once again.

Qin Yanyang laughed and said, "You're worried that even if the high-level of the Lingxiao Sect promises you some conditions, they might not acknowledge it and go back on their word, right?"

Lu Chen let out a bitter laugh and said, "Our Lingxiao Sect, although a reputable and righteous sect, generally speaking, everyone still keeps their promises and righteousness, but..."

Yang Fei laughed heartily, "I understand. I used to be a man of my word, but this time I also deceived Bai Yu, sometimes there really is no other way."

Lu Chen also laughed along with him.

Yang Fei said, "Regardless of the outcome, we've considered it, all kinds of situations have been comprehensively considered, the current situation is that communicating with the Cultivation World as soon as possible and trying to cooperate is Earth's only way out. As for success or failure, not to mention Brother Lu, you can't decide, neither can we, everything depends on fate. However, I believe that before we can send strong individuals above the Core Formation Stage to Earth, the high-level of the Lingxiao Sect will consider cooperation. The key lies in whether the Genetic Liquid Medicine you bring back can be effective."

Lu Chen nodded, suddenly thinking of something, and said, "Let Junior Brother Gan Qian go back with me, his Spirit Root Talent has already been upgraded, the Core Formation Stage elders in his sect who know that his Spirit Root Talent has been upgraded will certainly be greatly shocked, making cooperation easier."

Yang Fei slightly frowned and said, "If that's the case, it will take some time."

Lu Chen said, "I can drive the Spirit Boat to pick up Junior Brother Gan Qian immediately, and if I give it my all, it won't take more than a few days for a round trip."

Yang Fei and Qin Yanyang exchanged a glance, after pondering for a moment, Qin Yanyang nodded and said, "Let's do it. If the Genetic Liquid Medicine that Daoist Lu takes back cannot cause the test subject to produce a Spirit Root or enhance their Spirit Root Talent in a short time, it will waste a lot of time. With Daoist Gan Qian accompanying, if we're lucky, and the test subject's Spirit Root changes, then the high-level of the Lingxiao Sect will certainly be stirred up, and they'll take our cooperation very seriously."

Yang Fei decisively said, "Okay, then Brother Lu, I'll have to trouble you for this journey."

Lu Chen solemnly nodded, then drove the Spirit Boat away.

As Lu Chen's figure disappeared at the end of the void, Yang Fei said, "This Spirit Boat can carry at most three or four people, the people of Lingxiao Sect shouldn't take the opportunity to escape together, right?"

Qin Yanyang slightly frowned, pondered for a moment, and shook his head, "Not likely, for them, the cultivation environment of White Jade City is too good, if I were them, even if I wanted to go back, I would wait until my strength was close to the Core Formation Stage."

Yang Fei silently nodded.

The most crucial point is that the seven people of Lingxiao Sect had helped them slaughter the members of the Flame Moon Sect, the Great Dao Sect, and the three major cultivating families; going back to the Southern Domain, their days wouldn't be easy.

Moreover, a cultivator's oath to the Heavenly Dao, if not adhered to, will result in divine retribution in the future, under normal circumstances, no one would take such a risk.

Yang Fei and Qin Yanyang returned to their previously inhabited room.

Everything in here remained unchanged, and the room was often cleaned by someone, very tidy, without any peculiar smell.

Yang Fei instructed Qin Yanyang to protect him, while he pulled out the Soul Binding Rope, directing his Divine Thought into it.

The Primordial Spirit Soul of Bai Yu and Jin Ling was sealed in a dark, boundless area, not in contact with the Primordial Spirit Souls of the other Foundation Establishment Cultivators.

Seeing Yang Fei's Divine Soul appear, Bai Yu and Jin Ling's expression changed dramatically, Bai Yu hurriedly said, "Yang... Daoist Yang, please let us go, we can also pledge eternal loyalty to you like those from the Lingxiao Sect."

Jin Ling nodded and said, "Yes, we can swear to the Heavenly Dao and even sign a puppet contract with you, we are willing to be your servants for all eternity, just spare our lives, don't kill us."

"Haha, so afraid of death?" Yang Fei laughed calmly.

Bai Yu and Jin Ling showed no sign of shame.

Cultivators pursue immortality, so they are generally more afraid of death than ordinary people.

When their lives are truly threatened, you won't see the words pride and backbone on most of them.

Better a living coward than a dead hero, especially as cultivators, they are healthy and don't suffer from the ailments of ordinary people, instead, they can enjoy the utmost happiness and have great freedom, so which cultivator wouldn't want to live well?

Of course, there are also many cultivators who, in their later years when they cannot break through and their lifespan is nearing its end, see through everything and can face their life-and-death tribulations.

But Bai Yu and Jin Ling are far from the point where their lifespan is exhausted, so they long to continue living.

Thus, Yang Fei didn't need to waste much convincing to obtain the method of controlling the Mixed Element Bell.

However, this magic treasure was refined by Master Li Yang, and is currently only loaned to Bai Yu for use, so it still recognizes Master Li Yang as its true owner.

"If you wish to completely control the Mixed Element Bell and make it recognize a new owner, you must find a way to erase the connection between my master and the Mixed Element Bell and re-refine it; only in this way can the Mixed Element Bell's greatest power be brought out," Bai Yu said.

"Do you have a method?" Yang Fei asked.

Bai Yu smiled bitterly and said, "Yang Daoist overestimates me. Not to mention me, but even a Core Formation stage expert finds it immensely difficult to completely erase the connection between my master and the Mixed Element Bell. If that weren't the case, my master wouldn't have confidently lent me this treasure in the absence of the Glazed Soul-Seizing Banner."

Yang Fei nodded silently.

Seeing Yang Fei's somewhat low mood, Jin Ling quickly said, "However, even with just basic operational knowledge, possessing the Mixed Element Bell at hand, in addition to the Soul Binding Rope treasure in your hand, you are more than enough to sweep through any cultivator below the Core Formation stage in the various immortal domains of the Central Great World."

Bai Yu agreed and flattered, "Indeed, with your combat ability, possessing the Mixed Element Bell, even if you encounter a Core Formation Master, you would have a chance to escape."

Yang Fei, however, expressed his doubts, "I'm only in the Foundation Establishment stage, why were you defeated when controlling the Mixed Element Bell?"

Bai Yu looked utterly helpless and sighed, "That's because you and your companion cultivated the Combined Attack Technique; in such a case, your strongest strike isn't far from that of an early-stage Core Formation Master."

"Oh?"

Yang Fei felt a flicker of joy in his heart.

Bai Yu said, "I absolutely have no reason to deceive you on this matter. The key is that I'm unable to bring out the strong power of the Mixed Element Bell, so after many of your attacks, my mana suffered a backlash, knowing that I couldn't sustain this for long, I decisively fled. How could I have expected that the Heaven-devouring Divine Beast's sound waves were so dominant, locating our rough position and preventing me from shaking off your pursuit."

By the end, Bai Yu was filled with numerous feelings.

Beside him, Jin Ling had a look of indescribable sorrow.

Not just them, even Master Li Yang could never have expected such a situation.

Under normal circumstances, the realm the transmission passages restrict is the highest realm cultivators of the new Plane World can achieve.

Thus, in Master Li Yang's view, for a Plane World where the highest is only Foundation Establishment cultivators, for Bai Yu and Jin Ling to carry a defensive treasure like the Mixed Element Bell was surely to stand invincible.

Even if they couldn't win, they could still escape without issue.

But who could have thought that combined, Yang Fei and Qin Yanyang's attack power was infinitely close to early-stage Core Formation experts.

The unluckiest part was that Yang Fei actually had a Heaven-devouring Beast as a spirit pet.

Damn it, saying more just brings tears!

In the end, Yang Fei did not say whether he would spare Bai Yu and Jin Ling, he withdrew from the Soul Binding Rope's Soul Suppressing space.

Then, he tried to activate the Mixed Element Bell, and it turned out that he could indeed drive this treasure, which greatly excited Yang Fei.

In the following few days, Yang Fei studied how to use the Mixed Element Bell, while also taking time to repair and enhance the arrays in Yunwu Mountain's base.

Five days passed swiftly, and on this morning, a sound broke through from the north, as Lu Chen and Gan Qian drove the Spirit Boat towards them.

Chapter 1153:

Seeing Lu Chen and Gan Qian steering the Spirit Boat over, Yang Fei and Qin Yanyang finally relaxed completely.

It seems that the seven members of the Lingxiao Sect still know how to assess the situation, understanding that leaving Earth now would not benefit them, thus choosing to stay.

After the Spirit Boat stopped, Lu Chen and Gan Qian cupped their fists in greeting towards Yang Fei, Qin Yanyang, and the others.

Yang Fei said, "You two had a hard journey."

Lu Chen and Gan Qian quickly shook their heads, with Gan Qian smiling and saying, "With the Spirit Boat as a flying vessel, Earth Space isn't vast or expansive. It took just over two days to get here from White Jade City, which is nothing compared to the months of travel we experienced back in the Southern Domain of the Cultivation World."

Having heard of the boundless vastness of the Cultivation World, Yang Fei and Qin Yanyang were somewhat enthralled inside, but they knew it wasn't yet the time to venture there.

Yang Fei asked, "Do you two want to rest for a bit, or depart immediately?"

Lu Chen and Gan Qian exchanged a glance, and the former replied, "No need to rest."

Seeing that the two seemed full of spirit, Yang Fei nodded and, without further ado, said, "Then you two should leave early. Given the urgency now, the sooner you get back to handle this matter, the fewer conflicts we will have with the various forces in the Southern Domain Cultivation World."

The two nodded repeatedly.

Gan Qian reminded, "Yang, Qin, if we return, the various forces from the Southern Domain will have Core Formation stage cultivators there, and if I'm not mistaken, the Flame Moon Sect might have two Core Formation Masters guarding it. So after we return, we're bound to be surrounded, and it's unknown when we can meet the Lingxiao Sect's higher-ups. More importantly, this Spirit Boat was loaned to Bai Yu and Jin Ling by Master Li Yang. If we ride it back to the Southern Domain, Master Li Yang will certainly interrogate us."

Yang Fei and Qin Yanyang frowned immediately.

They hadn't really thought through this point.

After a moment of contemplation, Yang Fei asked, "Lu, isn't there a way to hide the Spirit Boat before you emerge from the portal?"

Lu Chen smiled bitterly, "If it were a regular Spirit Boat, it could indeed be stored in a storage bag, but this Spirit Boat is inscribed with multiple powerful Barrier Arrays. Without them, Bai Yu and Jin Ling couldn't have traveled through the space turbulence channel on it. Thus, this Spirit Boat is unlike ordinary ones, and we can't handle its storage method."

Yang Fei's heart skipped a beat, and he said, "Wait a moment, I'll ask Bai Yu."

Gan Qian reminded, "It's useless, Yang. Even if we store the Spirit Boat before exiting the portal, Master Li Yang will still suspect."

Yang Fei and Qin Yanyang suddenly realized the intricacies involved.

Indeed.

The transport portal is so dangerous that only superior Spirit Ships or Spirit Boats with special protective Barrier Arrays can traverse it. When Gan Qian and Lu Chen return, they will inevitably be questioned by those there.

Needless to say, the first question that Master Li Yang will ask is if the Spirit Boat they are using is hers.

Moreover, why would Lingxiao Sect disciples choose to return, not earlier or later, but precisely after Bai Yu and Jin Ling have crossed? Isn't it obvious that they've taken the Spirit Boat from Bai Yu and Jin Ling?

Yang Fei couldn't help but feel a bit annoyed, cursing, "Damn, this is really troublesome to handle."

Qin Yanyang said, "Don't rush; we'll think of a way."

Lu Chen and Gan Qian also reassured, "Yes, we'll figure it out."

In fact, the two had already considered these issues while on the Spirit Boat, which was why Gan Qian brought it up first.

Otherwise, if they really rode the Spirit Boat back to the Southern Domain and got controlled by various forces, things wouldn't progress as Yang Fei planned.

Qin Yanyang pondered for a moment and said, "Let's try to figure this out. With Core Formation Masters from various Southern Domain cultivation forces guarding there, you two will certainly be surrounded when you cross over, right?"

Lu Chen and Gan Qian nodded.

Qin Yanyang continued, "But your Lingxiao Sect also has Core Formation Masters present to protect you, isn't that so?"

Lu Chen replied, "Naturally, since we are disciples of the Lingxiao Sect, we represent the sect's reputation. How could the masters let us be bullied or harassed?"

Qin Yanyang's eyes brightened, "In that case, it shouldn't be a significant issue."

Yang Fei asked, "Why not?"

Qin Yanyang smiled, "Where there's trouble, there's protection. The biggest problem they will face is being questioned about the situation on Earth and why Master Li Yang's Spirit Boat ended up in their hands."

Everyone nodded in agreement.

Qin Yanyang said, "Aside from the Genetic Liquid Medicine and the rich top-grade spiritual ore resources from White Jade City, there's no need to hide the situation on Earth. You can explain truthfully."

Yang Fei added, "And even about the Spirit Ore resources, you can reveal a little. After all, we have yet to fully explore just how abundant White Jade City's Spirit Ore is."

Qin Yanyang nodded with a smile, "Yes, it's okay to leak a bit."

"What about disclosing the events of Chai Xun and Xiang Yuncong being killed?" Gan Qian asked.

Qin Yanyang said, "Since Master Li Yang already knows about Xiang Yuncong's death, there's no need to hide this matter. You can blame it on me and Yang Fei."

Lu Chen and Gan Qian vaguely understood Qin Yanyang's intention.

Qin Yanyang suddenly recalled something, "Right, a Core Formation Master can't perform a Soul Search, right?"

Both of them nodded, with Lu Chen explaining, "Only a Nascent Soul Stage cultivator can actively perform a Soul Search. As for Core Formation Masters, they can't soul search others without special Magic Treasures or a Soul Searching Talisman."

Qin Yanyang said, "That's perfect. As long as you two aren't soul-searched, you can hide the fact that you allied with us against other forces. As for the deaths of others, you can attribute them to us, and other cultivation forces' Core Formation Masters can't trouble you."

Lu Chen and Gan Qian silently nodded, but Gan Qian still reminded, "The real issue is Master Li Yang's Spirit Boat. How do we explain it being in our hands?"

Qin Yanyang decisively said, "Simple, just say Bai Yu and Jin Ling were attacked by Yang Fei's Soul Binding Rope and have been enslaved. You two fortuitously found the Spirit Boat during the chaos and escaped with it. Just give perfunctory answers to other sects and families. Your main task is to find a way to hint to Lingxiao Sect's Core Formation Master that you have secrets to share privately. They'll surely protect you then."

Lu Chen and Gan Qian nodded silently, with Yang Fei frowning, "It's still somewhat risky."

Qin Yanyang insisted, "For us, this needs to be done quickly. The longer the delay, the more each force in the Southern Domain will pay attention. It would be harder if they start spreading the word."

Yang Fei weighed the options for a moment, then decisively said, "Let's do it this way. Brother Lu, Brother Gan, assess the situation when you return, and prioritize your safety. With that assured, figure out how to talk to Lingxiao Sect's higher-ups about cooperation."

Qin Yanyang's eyes flickered with determination, "If Lingxiao Sect doesn't dare to cooperate with us alone, you can suggest joining forces with the other Southern Domain forces. After witnessing the effects of the Genetic Liquid Medicine, they wouldn't neglect the opportunity to advance their sects and families over a few Foundation Establishment disciples."

Lu Chen and Gan Qian gave Qin Yanyang a look of surprise, silently praising her decisiveness.

In the face of massive benefits, not to mention a few Foundation Establishment disciples, even grudges with a Core Formation Master can be set aside.

Chapter 1154:

Upon hearing Qin Yanyang say this, Yang Fei steeled his heart and thought this method might work.

If the Lingxiao Sect dares not offend the other two two-star sects and three great cultivation families and privately collaborates with Earth, then let the major Southern Domain cultivation forces unite and collaborate with Earth.

As long as the benefits are substantial enough, what do those people I killed matter to those great cultivation sects?

He said, "Let's do as my wife suggests. The key to further advancement for the major cultivation forces in the Southern Domain is collaboration with Earth. Mutual benefits without any downside. If this stalemate continues, the Earth cultivation world won't develop, and you, in the Southern Domain, won't easily enslave or invade Earth. It will cost you dearly. And I can assure you, if they attempt to forcibly conquer Earth, not to mention the Genetic Liquid Medicine, they won't even get the White Jade City, this top-grade spiritual ore, I'd rather stop playing altogether."

Lu Chen and Gan Qian's hearts trembled, having realized the resolve of Qin Yanyang and Yang Fei; they decisively said, "Alright, in that case, we'll go back and try to push for collaboration."

At that moment, Yang Fei took out two large bottles of Genetic Liquid Medicine and handed them to the pair.

Each bottle of the Genetic Liquid Medicine was a full thousand milliliters. Seeing such a quantity, Lu Chen and Gan Qian couldn't help but secretly swallow, amazed at the magnitude of their nerve.

Lu Chen couldn't help but say, "Aren't you two worried about us brothers keeping all this Genetic Liquid Medicine for ourselves?"

Yang Fei laughed and said, "A single fill or a full day's sustenance, I believe you know how to choose."

Lu Chen and Gan Qian laughed heartily.

Carrying the two large bottles of Genetic Liquid Medicine, Gan Qian and Lu Chen navigated the Spirit Boat toward the transmission channel. Yang Fei and Qin Yanyang saw them off, witnessing them disappear into the transmission channel aboard the Spirit Boat.

"I wonder whether this decision is good or bad for Earth," Yang Fei said with some apprehension.

Qin Yanyang replied, "Why think so much? Since the decision is made, there's no point regretting it. And considering the current situation, even if we don't do this, do you think the Southern Domain cultivation world will remain peaceful? They will continue sending more people, and once there are too many, we cannot stop them."

Yang Fei nodded silently and sighed, "Yes, in the end, it's because we are too weak."

Qin Yanyang made a sound of agreement, a flash of cold light in her eyes, as she said, "In the upcoming period, let's stay here. Before getting a reply from Lu Chen and Gan Qian, anyone who comes, we will do our best to suppress, ensuring their numbers don't grow, or matters will spiral out of control."

Yang Fei nodded and said, "Yes, with the Soul Binding Rope and the Mixed Element Bell, along with the Spirit Ship, the Heaven-devouring Divine Beast, and the combat power of you and me together, guarding this place shouldn't be too hard."

...

In the Southern Domain, outside the transmission channel.

Since Master Li Yang sent Bai Yu and Jin Ling into the transmission channel, it had been less than three days when Lingxiao Sect sent two more Core Formation Masters, namely Situ Yao and Huang Yuankui.

After discovering this new world, the Lingxiao Sect was the first group to explore. When Shang Daocheng noticed the team had not returned, fearing they had met with trouble, he reported the situation to the sect's remaining elders. At that time, most of the sect's other Core Formation Masters were occupied on external tasks, so the high-level members summoned the nearby Situ Yao and Huang Yuankui, who subsequently arrived here.

Upon learning that eight members of Lingxiao Sect had not returned in three months, the second teams from other forces who went afterward also didn't return, and Master Li Yang sensed Xiang Yuncong's demise. He dispatched Bai Yu and Jin Ling to investigate further, and everyone was filled with curiosity about this newly discovered unknown world.

From past experience, the more dangerous an unknown land, the greater the hidden opportunity, or it might be rich in cultivation resources.

Now, a full twenty-eight Foundation Establishment disciples have ventured into this unknown world, including top late-stage Foundation Establishment disciples from the three major two-star sects, carrying treasures like the Glazed Soul-Seizing Banner and the Mixed Element Bell. It was expected that news would arrive soon.

Of course, Shang Daocheng, Li Yang, Ying Wujiu, Chu Kuangge, and the later-arriving Situ Yao and Huang Yuankui have not been idle. They have been researching how to expand the transmission channel.

Unfortunately, the realm restrictions of this transmission channel are too stringent. They've tried many methods, but neither crossing over nor merely approaching results in anything other than the terrifying aura sweeping over them.

This is the power law restriction within the transmission channel.

Any cultivator above the Foundation Establishment realm approaching would be immediately slaughtered by the channel's terrifying power.

Even when trying to use a 'Divine Concealment Talisman' crafted by a Divinity Transformation Divine Talisman Master, which hides realm energy, letting even Divinity Transformation experts pass undetected, they were still locked by this terrifying power when approaching, narrowly escaping death.

"The realm restriction of this transmission channel is way too strong. I'm afraid we Core Formation couldn't handle it at all. Will a Nascent Soul expert find a way when they arrive?" Li Yang said with an unpleasant expression.

The others all nodded.

This is definitely the hardest transmission channel to expand they've ever heard of.

In at least the southernmost million miles of the Southern Domain, such a firmly stabilized channel with power laws had never been found before.

Shang Daocheng said gravely, "Even a Nascent Soul expert might not suffice; perhaps only a Divinity Transformation Ancestor's arrival could offer a chance."

Everyone was stunned.

Among those present, Shang Daocheng was the oldest, and a late-stage Core Formation grandmaster, and his words carried considerable weight.

Chu Kuangge's eyes flashed with insight as he said, "Does this mean this newly discovered world is indeed extraordinary?"

"Perhaps it's the Cave Mansion World left by a former top-majority expert."

"Mahayana, or maybe Tribulation Crossing? Could it be an Immortal's Cave Mansion from the ancient or antiquity era?"

For a while, everyone speculated endlessly.

For this newly discovered unknown world, everyone was filled with more curiosity and anticipation.

On this day, while everyone meditated separately, Shang Daocheng suddenly opened his eyes, prompting the other Core Formation Masters to do the same.

Six Core Formation Masters, three Fake Pill experts, all nine focused their gaze on the transmission channel's entrance simultaneously.

Soon, all nine of them stood up.

"They're back." Li Yang's face showed some excitement.

Among those present, she was the most concerned about the Foundation Establishment cultivators who had entered Earth, because her Glazed Soul-Seizing Banner might have been lost by Xiang Yuncong.

Additionally, she had also instructed Bai Yu and Jin Ling to take the Mixed Element Bell. If Bai Yu can't complete the mission and return, she would lose her two most crucial offensive and defensive spiritual treasures—a loss even she, one of the wealthiest Core Formation Masters in the Southern Domain, couldn't afford.

Just then, intense spatial turbulence emanated from the transmission channel, and suddenly, a flash of silver light appeared; a Spirit Boat surged out of it.

Chapter 1155:

As the Spirit Boat burst out of the teleportation tunnel, everyone surrounded it.

Master Li Yang originally had a look of joy and was about to call out to his disciple Bai Yu, but the words caught in his throat, and the joy on his face vanished as his eyebrows knitted slightly.

"Lu Chen, Gan Qian?"

Shang Daocheng, Situ Yao, and Huang Yuankui were overjoyed; they had also thought Bai Yu and Jin Ling had returned, but unexpectedly, it was disciples of the Lingxiao Sect.

Especially since Situ Yao and Huang Yuankui were the mentors of Lu Chen and Gan Qian respectively.

Seeing their disciples return, both were naturally delighted.

"Master, Martial Uncle, Martial Elder." Since entering the teleportation tunnel by driving the Spirit Boat, Lu Chen and Gan Qian had been worrying about how to respond to the inquiries of the other sects' Core Formation Masters upon their return.

To their surprise, they saw their own masters as soon as they returned to the Southern Domain world.

Stared at by six Core Formation Masters and three Fake Pill experts, the two felt their hair stand on end, extremely tense, and under immense pressure. Fortunately, there were three Core Formation Masters from their own sect present, including their masters, which brought them great peace of mind.

"How is it that my Spirit Boat is in your hands?" Master Li Yang's sharp gaze locked onto Lu Chen and Gan Qian, asking sternly.

Lu Chen and Gan Qian felt a chill in their hearts, feeling as if the gaze was a sharp sword hanging over their heads, instilling fear.

As expected, among everyone present, Master Li Yang was the most concerned about the Spirit Boat.

Situ Yao, who cherished his disciple Lu Chen the most, frowned upon hearing this and snorted coldly, "Master Li Yang, let's speak nicely, no need to scare the juniors."

Huang Yuankui also chuckled and said, "Indeed, whatever the matter is, we can inquire slowly, no need to create such a tense atmosphere."

Master Li Yang snorted softly, his gaze still fiercely fixed on Lu Chen and Gan Qian as he asked: "I ask you, why did my Spirit Boat fall into your hands?"

Chu Kuangge also chimed in, "Indeed, this Spirit Boat was clearly driven by Master Li Yang's two disciples into that unknown world; why is it now in your hands? Also, what is the situation in the world you entered, and where are the others who went in before?"

The Fake Pill experts of the three great cultivation families each spoke up, asking whether the two had encountered their family members by name.

Only Ying Wujiu from the Great Dao Sect gazed intently at the two without asking questions.

Although this situation had been anticipated, being locked onto and questioned by these Core Formation and Fake Pill experts was still hugely pressurizing for Lu Chen and Gan Qian.

Fortunately, the Lingxiao Sect had three Core Formation Masters present, especially Situ Yao and Huang Yuankui, who protected them.

Shang Daocheng glanced at the other six, lightly coughed, and said, "Fellow Daoists, please calm down; bombarding our two disciples with so many questions at once has frightened them. Let's go one by one, no need to rush."

Ying Wujiu chuckled, nodded, and said, "Old Brother Shang is right, since some people have returned, it means the situation might not be as severe as we imagined. Let's not scare the juniors."

Everyone nodded in agreement, refraining from further speech.

Ying Wujiu said, "Li Yang Immortal, you seem the most anxious, please ask."

Li Yang glanced at Ying Wujiu, snorted softly, and then turned to Lu Chen and Gan Qian, "Let me ask you, why did this Spirit Boat end up in your hands? What happened to my two disciples, Bai Yu and Jin Ling?"

Lu Chen hurriedly made a respectful bow as a junior meeting a senior, and said, "In response to the senior, this Spirit Boat was indeed driven by Bai Yu and Jin Ling when it appeared in the Earth Space, but Bai Yu and Jin Ling were captured by native cultivators of Earth. The Spirit Boat was claimed by my brother Gan Qian and I after taking risks. After acquiring it, we were pursued by Earth cultivators and thought to first return and report, so we borrowed it. Senior, we now return this Spirit Boat to its rightful owner, with no intention of coveting it."

As he spoke, Lu Chen manipulated the Spirit Boat to send it to Master Li Yang.

With a wave of Li Yang's sleeve, the Spirit Boat suddenly disappeared, stored away in a spatial magic treasure.

Lu Chen and Gan Qian secretly admired it; indeed, as Core Formation Masters, the spatial magic treasures they owned were enormous, much larger than the Qian Kun storage bags used by most Foundation Establishment cultivators.

Although the Spirit Boat was valuable, other than Lu Chen and Gan Qian's envy, the other Core Formation Masters present had no desire to possess it.

Even the Fake Pill cultivators of the three families possessed their own Spirit Boats, and considering Master Li Yang's formidable reputation, along with the fact that it was rightfully hers, no one would dare to contend for it.

Everyone was completely shocked by Lu Chen's words, and Chu Kuangge couldn't help but ask, "That unknown land is called Earth?"

"Yes," Lu Chen hurriedly replied.

"Is Earth also a cultivation civilization?" asked a Fake Pill expert from the Feng Family, whose name was Feng Changgong.

Lu Chen nodded and said, "Kind of. Originally, it was a technological civilization, possessing a cultivation civilization as well, but the cultivation civilization was relatively backward compared to their technological civilization. However, when we arrived, they were just undergoing a thousand-year catastrophe; the entire planet encountered catastrophic disaster, with deaths surpassing eighty percent of their population. Subsequently, the technological civilization collapsed, and spiritual energy revived, transitioning the entire planet towards a cultivation civilization."

Li Yang frowned, her sharp gaze fixed on Lu Chen as she said, "You lie. An underdeveloped cultivation world, even experiencing spiritual energy revival and breakthrough in cultivation speed, would not produce powerful experts in such a short time. How could so many of you Foundation Establishment cultivators be suppressed by Earth's cultivators?"

Chu Kuangge nodded and asked, "When you went over, how long had spiritual energy revival been occurring on Earth?"

Lu Chen said, "Less than a year."

Li Yang sternly said, "Junior, do you really dare deceive us?"

Situ Yao suddenly stepped forward, releasing a powerful aura, blocking all the pressure Li Yang emitted towards Lu Chen and Gan Qian, and coldly smiled, "Li Yang, I've said before, ask whatever you like, but mind your tone, do not frighten the juniors of our Lingxiao Sect."

Shang Daocheng also fixed a cold gaze on Li Yang and coldly said, "What Situ Martial Brother said is true. Fellow cultivator Li Yang, if you maintain this attitude, I will forbid our Lingxiao Sect's disciples from answering any of your questions. What could you do then?"

Li Yang angrily said, "Oh, so you think without my Glazed Soul-Seizing Banner and Mixed Element Bell I'm afraid of you?"

Chu Kuangge's expression changed, and he quickly said, "Junior sister, don't be angered, please calm down."

Concurrently, he hurriedly saluted Shang Daocheng, Situ Yao, and Huang Yuankui with a bitter smile, "Please don't blame her, our junior sister indeed has a short fuse, but she does have a reason. She's deeply worried about her disciples."

Shang Daocheng indifferently said, "If she's that anxious, she should go gather information herself instead of scaring the juniors of Lingxiao Sect."

Situ Yao nodded, "Indeed, our Lingxiao Sect's disciples are not obliged to answer your questions."

Chapter 1156:

Although Huang Yuankui didn't speak, he shielded his disciple Gan Qian behind him with a smile, observing Li Yang and Chu Kuangge.

The attitude of the three Core Formation Masters from the Lingxiao Sect was very clear: they were protective of their own.

The people are from our Lingxiao Sect. You may ask what you like, but mind your attitude, otherwise our sect's disciples won't answer your questions.

If you're asking for something, you better act like it.

Li Yang's face shifted several times, looking somewhat unpleasant.

She had always been quite arrogant among the Core Formation Masters in the Southern Domain, but it didn't mean she was invincible.

Moreover, now without the Glazed Soul-Seizing Banner and Mixed Element Bell, she no longer had much of an advantage in head-on confrontations among the Core Formation Masters.

Seeing Shang Daocheng and the other two Core Formation Masters from the Lingxiao Sect so firm, Li Yang felt both ashamed and angry, but had no choice but to adjust her mindset, taking a deep breath she said, "I apologize, I spoke rather sharply just now because of my disciples from the Flame Moon Sect. I hope the three of you can forgive me."

Seeing her lower her head, everyone was slightly surprised.

Meanwhile, Lu Chen and Gan Qian, while Shang Daocheng was speaking to Li Yang, each conveyed a message to their respective masters: "Master, I have important information that needs to be reported to the sect separately, the situation is urgent."

Situ Yao and Huang Yuankui felt a stirring in their hearts, curious what secrets the world of Earth might hold, judging by the tone of their disciples' messages, it seemed to be a big secret.

"Ahem, Senior Brother Shang, perhaps it would be better to let the two disciples rest a little before answering the questions of the fellow cultivators?" Situ Yao lightly coughed, suggesting to Shang Daocheng.

Shang Daocheng glanced at him, having an inkling that Lu Chen and Gan Qian had conveyed something to their respective masters.

However, Ying Wujiu, Chu Kuangge, as well as Li Yang and Feng Changgong all noticed something was amiss too, and Chu Kuangge hurriedly said, "From what I see, the two disciples don't seem tired or injured, and our disciples are still over there with their lives unknown, so a few questions should be fine, right?"

"Indeed, Situ Yao, whatever your disciples have to say can wait for a while, there's no rush. Rest assured, we just want to find out what's going on in that so-called Earth and the situation with our disciples, nothing more."

"Exactly, let these two talk about their Earth matters first, the key is what has happened to our several sects' disciples who went over there."

Situ Yao and Huang Yuankui, though eager to know what their disciples wanted to say privately, had no choice but to exercise patience, telling their disciples, "Lu Chen, Gan Qian, you can first explain the situation the seniors here are interested in."

Gan Qian quickly said, "I'm not good with words, so let Senior Brother Lu Chen speak."

Lu Chen did not refuse, saying, "The day we eight from the Lingxiao Sect arrived on the Earth Plane, we found that although there was Spiritual Energy, it was very weak and not suitable for cultivators to reside. At that time, the Earth civilization was still in the technological era, and we did not disturb the Earth humans but searched Earth Space aboard the Divine Wind Treasure Ship."

At the moment, he recounted the situation after the eight from the Lingxiao Sect went to Earth.

He spoke of discovering a vast Spiritual Ore Mountain Range, attempting to extract it from the deep sea using the 'Spirit Vein Cage Immortal Talisman', resulting in failure, causing a series of disasters and changes on Earth such as the upheaval of heaven and earth. Even the well-traveled Core Formation experts were shocked.

Shang Daocheng furrowed his brows further, his face grave as he spoke, "So, it was due to your actions that led to the devastation of Earth's living creatures?"

Lu Chen's face turned pale, answering heavily, "There might have been some relation."

Situ Yao's brow furrowed, urgently saying, "Lu Chen, don't think like this, or it will certainly leave a Heart Demon tribulation in your heart in the future."

Huang Yuankui promptly reminded Gan Qian, "That's right, Gan Qian, your Uncle Master Situ is correct. This matter indeed seems caused by your actions, but in truth, for a planet to undergo such monumental change, it's not something your actions alone could cause. It's because the planet was indeed at a critical juncture of breaking and reforming, a special timing for Spiritual Energy Revival, and you coincidentally happened to be present."

Shang Daocheng also realized that his words might have left a shadow on the Dao Hearts of Lu Chen and Gan Qian, he quickly said, "Your masters are right. Such a grand event is not something your presence caused. Do not dwell on it; it should not affect your future cultivation."

Lu Chen and Gan Qian were indeed troubled by these occurrences, but hearing the solemn reminders of their masters, they nodded silently, "We understand, Master."

"After failing to extract the Spirit Mine, why didn't you return to report?" Shang Daocheng asked.

Lu Chen smiled bitterly, "The explosion of the Spirit Vein Cage Immortal Talisman was incredibly terrifying. We barely escaped but couldn't save the Divine Wind Treasure Ship, leaving it destroyed utterly with barely any remains. Without the Divine Wind Treasure Ship, we couldn't even send a message back."

Shang Daocheng, Situ Yao, and Huang Yuankui's expressions drastically changed.

The Divine Wind Treasure Ship was sect property of the Lingxiao Sect. Though they still had a few such flying treasure ships, losing one just to explore an unknown world was painful.

"What happened then?" Li Yang couldn't resist asking.

Listening to Lu Chen narrate the story so methodically was trying her patience, as did Shang Daocheng's interruptions, provoking her to urge faster.

Lu Chen said, "Once the great disaster on the Earth Plane subsided, we saw an entrance to a cave dwelling at the peak of the mountain that was drawn out by the talisman."

Everyone's eyes lit up.

The truly interesting part had arrived.

Lu Chen continued, "We entered the mountain for exploration and discovered it was a very rich top-grade Spirit Ore Mountain Range."

"A top-grade Spirit Ore Mountain Range?"

Everyone was visibly moved.

Lu Chen nodded, "Indeed."

He internally thought, in truth, it was an ultimate-grade Spirit Ore Mountain Range of tremendous scale, and if one sect controlled it, the vein alone could probably propel a Two-star Sect directly to One-star status.

But in the presence of other factions, he had to be reserved.

Even a top-grade Spirit Ore Mountain Range could arouse a Two-star Sect's full attention.

"Please continue," Li Yang urged him on.

Lu Chen said, "After entering, we unearthed a large amount of Spirit Stones; this mine's repository is enormous, with quite a number of top-grade Spirit Stones among them. Later, we accidentally triggered a formation, causing us eight to be scattered and trapped within it."

Situ Yao's expression changed, asking, "With your expertise in formations, you were still trapped? What kind of formation was it?"

Lu Chen replied, "The Nine-Nine Returning to One Array."

"What?"

Everyone's expressions shifted, Situ Yao exclaiming, "Are you certain it was the Nine-Nine Returning to One Array?"

Li Yang also wore a look of shock, deeply inhaling as she declared, "That's impossible. If it was the Nine-Nine Returning to One Array, you Foundation Establishment Cultivators wouldn't have been able to leave at all."

Chapter 1157:

Lu Chen smiled bitterly and said, "What Senior said is true. After the eight of us were trapped in the Nine-Nine Returning to One Array, we couldn't find an exit. I have some proficiency in formations and tried to break it, but the array is ever-changing. After escaping from one place, we immediately fell into another predicament, and so it goes in cycles, endlessly repeating."

Situ Yao asked with concern, "How did you all get out?"

Huang Yuankui said to Gan Qian with more curiosity, "You aren't interested in formations, and being trapped in the Nine-Nine Returning to One Array, you probably couldn't have escaped on your own?"

Gan Qian blushing replied, "I tried to force my way through with brute strength but after breaking through one phase, the next seemed to return to the original place. The more mistakes I made, the stronger the power of the mechanisms in the array became, putting me in constant danger. After barely

making it through three times, I dared not move recklessly and was trapped in a cave for a whole three months."

"Three months?" Ying Wujiu suddenly exclaimed, "Are you sure you were trapped there for three months?"

Gan Qian hastily replied, "Yes, Senior. By the way, the time flow in Earth Space is much faster than here. A day here might be three days there."

Ying Wujiu nodded, "That makes sense. Since your Lingxiao Sect disciples entered that Earth Space, only a little more than two months have passed altogether."

Li Yang asked, "How did you manage to escape then?"

Gan Qian said to Lu Chen, "It was Brother Lu who brought me out."

Everyone turned their gaze to Lu Chen.

Situ Yao joyfully said, "You broke the Nine-Nine Returning to One Array?"

Lu Chen shook his head with a bitter smile, "I don't have such abilities. I met two Earth cultivators, and they freed me from the constraints of the array."

"Oh?"

Everyone's eyes lit up, and Li Yang curiously asked, "Given that Earth's spiritual energy has just revived, the cultivators there shouldn't be strong. Yet they had people capable of escaping the Nine-Nine Returning to One Array?"

Lu Chen nodded, "Yes. The person is named Yang Fei. After we were trapped, he found us following the tremendous changes brought by White Jade City. He must be a genius on Earth, blessed with luck. He

and his wife also were trapped in the Nine-Nine Returning to One Array, but he acquired the inheritance of someone named Li Er, who is the creator of the array..."

"Li Er?" Shang Daocheng couldn't help but speak, frowning as though in contemplation.

Some other Core Formation Masters also furrowed their brows, pondering.

Chu Kuangge shook his head and said, "This name doesn't seem like one associated with any prominent figures in the long history of the Cultivation World."

Everyone nodded in agreement.

Ying Wujiu said, "Therefore, this Earth space isn't a Cave Mansion World established by some powerful predecessor from the Cultivation World, but rather an independently discovered Plane World."

"It should be."

"However, it's odd that this person understands the Nine-Nine Returning to One Array."

"Indeed, legend has it that the Nine-Nine Returning to One Array was created by the Ancient Taoist Ancestor Three Pure Saints. Even the most basic array has immense power, and non-experts in formations find it extremely challenging to break through with brute strength alone. How could someone in the Earth Plane leave such an array?"

"This person named Li Er might not have originally been named Li Er, it could just be an alias."

"That's possible."

After some discussion, Li Yang said, "Please continue your story."

Lu Chen continued speaking.

He mixed truth with lies and described how Yang Fei and Qin Yanyang rescued the members of the Lingxiao Sect. He concluded, "This person has gained Li Er's inheritance, is a Foundation Establishment Cultivator, and possesses a magic treasure of vast power. Even within the Foundation Establishment realm, he can achieve short-range continuous teleportation. Thus, none of us in the Lingxiao Sect were able to defeat him."

"What kind of magic treasure did he use?" Li Yang asked curiously.

"A silver-white long whip. When wielded, it can seize a person's soul and render them soulless instantly," Lu Chen said.

Everyone's eyes gleamed with a trace of greed.

Li Yang was surprised, "Doesn't it resemble my Glazed Soul-Seizing Banner in operation?"

Lu Chen shook his head, "This magic treasure should be more powerful than the Glazed Soul-Seizing Banner. Later, when Xiang Yuncong used the banner against Yang Fei, he was suppressed on the spot."

Li Yang's eyes flickered with a trace of murderous intent as he stared at Lu Chen, "Although Yang Fei and his wife saved the members of the Lingxiao Sect, why did things turn hostile?"

Lu Chen sighed with a bitter smile, "Although Yang Fei was kind to us, the Lingxiao Sect clearly wanted to claim the massive spirit ore resources of White Jade City for ourselves after discovering it. We informed him that he and his wife could be recommended to join the Lingxiao Sect and receive spiritual stones and cultivation resources as compensation. However, Yang Fei claimed that White Jade City was wealth personally left to him by Li Er, exclusively his, and told us not to covet its resources."

Situ Yao snorted coldly, "A mere Foundation Establishment cultivator wanting to guard such vast mineral resources? Foolishness."

Lu Chen hastily added, "What you said is true, Master. We told him the same at the time, but he refused to listen and became very angry. Some of us even spoke rashly, and the situation escalated. On the spot, Ye Wuya and Brother Li Yue were seized of their souls by that person's silver whip magic treasure, and

when some other brothers fought him, he was notably familiar with our cultivation techniques. None of us were his match."

Situ Yao couldn't help but say, "Since this person received the inheritance of the creator of the Nine-Nine Returning to One Array, he likely gained a godly perspective through the array, foreseeing your secrets and techniques in advance."

Lu Chen admired, "Master, you're right. This person indeed relied on the unique power of the Nine-Nine Returning to One Array to understand our attack methods, and with the surprise of his magic treasure, we were caught off guard. Even though there were eight of us, we weren't their match."

Gan Qian couldn't help but supplement, "Brother Lu, you didn't mention the ancient divine beast they had with them."

"Right," Lu Chen said. "The couple also had a creature resembling one of the ten ancient divine beasts recorded in the 'Compendium of Mountain and Sea Anomalies,' the Heaven-devouring Divine Beast."

"What?"

"Heaven-devouring Divine Beast?"

"Really?"

Everyone was shocked, and Shang Daocheng's expression was full of concern as he sharply eyed Lu Chen.

Lu Chen and Gan Qian didn't conceal anything about this matter and didn't fear the crowd's scrutiny. They both nodded and said, "Yes, according to the descriptions in the 'Compendium of Mountain and Sea Anomalies,' that beast is indeed the Heaven-devouring Beast. It's merely a young cub, but even as a cub, its combat power isn't weak. I could only temporarily constrain it using the Dragon Suppressing Talisman."

Several Core Formation Masters' expressions grew more and more excited.

Shang Daocheng inquired, "So, out of our eight disciples from the Lingxiao Sect, it was just the two of you who managed to escape?"

Lu Chen and Gan Qian nodded in unison, as this response had been prearranged between them.

Shang Daocheng said sternly, "Are the other six dead?"

Ying Wujiu, Chu Kuangge, and members from the three major cultivation clans also asked, "Did something happen to our people as well?"

Lu Chen and Gan Qian suddenly looked ashamed and sad, nodding, "Yes, later a group that went next also suffered heavy losses, even losing the Spirit Ship to Yang Fei. If not for Bai Yu and Jin Ling fighting back and reclaiming the Spirit Boat for our escape, no one might have returned to inform the sect."

Chapter 1158:

"Are they all dead?" Several Core Formation Masters were deeply moved, and Ying Wujiu immediately asked.

Lu Chen shook his head and said, "Rest assured, seniors. Although some of the fellow disciples have fallen, and others have been captured after their divine souls were taken by a special magic treasure, more than ten have scattered and are not seriously harmed."

Gan Qian followed up, saying, "Indeed, afterward, they repeatedly attacked White Jade City. However, the young man had set up a Mountain Protection Array there, and relying on the Heaven-devouring Beast and that special magic treasure, along with being able to teleport multiple times consecutively, everyone's combined attacks on him returned fruitless."

Hearing this, everyone breathed a sigh of relief.

Although some disciples were lost, as long as it wasn't complete annihilation, it's not a major issue.

This kind of exploration into new Cave Heaven Blessed Lands or Plane Worlds typically results in heavy initial losses, which is the norm.

Lu Chen continued, "Junior Brother Gan Qian and I realized that we couldn't handle Yang Fei with just our people, so we thought to return and report, hoping more people would be dispatched."

Everyone nodded in agreement, and Ying Wujiu said, "That is how it should be."

"But since the Divine Wind Treasure Ship of our Lingxiao Sect was damaged, and the spirit ship carrying the second batch to go was seized by Yang Fei, we cannot enter the teleportation channel without a spirit ship." Lu Chen said.

Several Core Formation Masters nodded in silence.

Indeed, although this teleportation channel allows Foundation Establishment cultivators to pass through, without a spirit ship or a spirit boat equipped with a powerful protective array as a vehicle, any Foundation Establishment cultivator entering this channel would be torn to shreds by chaotic space currents.

"We knew that if we didn't return to report for a long time, more people would surely be sent to investigate, so Junior Brother Gan Qian and I stayed near the teleportation channel entrance. As expected, we eventually encountered Fellow Daoists Bai Yu and Jin Ling." Lu Chen said.

Li Yang and Chu Kuangge turned a bit more solemn. The former stared at Lu Chen and said, "Why did you not stop them?"

Lu Chen said, "To answer senior, indeed we attempted to stop them, trying to explain the situation, but Bai Yu was very arrogant and overconfident, saying he carried a powerful magic treasure. Knowing that Earth's strongest cultivator was only at the Foundation Establishment stage, he believed he could remain undefeated and was determined to achieve something on his trip and bring back good news."

Li Yang and Chu Kuangge fell silent.

This was indeed Bai Yu's nature.

The others also nodded one after another.

From Bai Yu's perspective, since he had learned that Earth's strongest was only a Foundation Establishment cultivator, owning the protective Mixed Element Bell indeed allowed him to remain undefeated.

Moreover, having been sent with a special task given by Li Yang, Bai Yu, having reached Earth, couldn't have left without meeting Yang Fei.

If he could defeat Yang Fei, he not only could make a name among the Foundation Establishment cultivators traveling to Earth but would also accomplish a great feat, retrieving the Glazed Soul-Seizing Banner stolen by Yang Fei from Xiang Yuncong, achieving multiple purposes at once.

Thus, anyone standing in Bai Yu's shoes at that time would not have listened to Lu Chen and Gan Qian's persuasion and would certainly have gone to eliminate or suppress that young man named Yang Fei.

Seeing that everyone believed his explanation, Lu Chen secretly breathed a sigh of relief and said, "As expected, seniors, fellows Bai Yu and Jin Ling also suffered defeat. Junior Brother Gan Qian and I hid in the shadows and seized the opportunity to snatch the spirit boat and returned hastily, just to inform you seniors of the truth there."

Li Yang frowned deeply, staring at Lu Chen, "With the Mixed Element Bell in possession, how could Bai Yu and Jin Ling be so easily subdued by this person? How dare you deceive me?"

Lu Chen hurriedly said, "Senior, please don't be angry. How dare I deceive you in such a major matter? Besides, there are several of your Flame Moon Sect disciples alive over there. If you don't believe it, you can send someone to inquire and find out. I wouldn't dare deceive you in such matters."

Li Yang also thought this made sense, but for some reason, he felt that the situation wasn't as simple as Lu Chen described.

Situ Yao had long been displeased with Li Yang and others treating their disciples like criminals for interrogation, and at this moment, he stared at Li Yang, rebuking, "Li Yang, what do you mean? Does my disciple need to deceive you in such matters?"

Chu Kuangge quickly mediated, saying, "Brother Situ, please calm down. My junior sister didn't mean that, she's just too concerned about the safety of those disciples. Nonetheless, it is indeed puzzling since holding the Mixed Element Bell should make Bai Yu undefeatable within the same realm, and Yang Fei, only at the Foundation Establishment level, even with some soul-capturing magic treasure, shouldn't be able to break the Bell's defense."

Ying Wujiu also nodded and said, "Indeed, with the Mixed Element Bell in hand, one should remain undefeated within the same realm."

Shang Daocheng, Situ Yao, and Huang Yuankui all frowned slightly, feeling that the matter was indeed perplexing.

Lu Chen hurriedly said, "The reason the Mixed Element Bell's defense was breached is that Yang Fei and his wife practiced the Combined Attack Technique, their combined strike possessing power nearly equaling that of a Core Formation expert. Moreover, there was the Heaven-devouring Divine Beast; the special sound waves from its roar were truly terrifying. We were hiding far away yet couldn't bear it. Although Bai Yu and Jin Ling were sheltered inside the Bell, and the waves couldn't directly affect them, the attack effect from the waves still backlashed on Bai Yu. With dozens of continuous attacks, Senior Brother Bai Yu eventually found the Mixed Element Bell turning transparent, unable to support anymore; the defense collapsed, and Yang Fei used his special magic treasure to capture both Bai Yu and Jin Ling's souls and even took the Mixed Element Bell."

Gan Qian added, "Junior Brother Lu Chen and I took the opportunity to charge out and steal the spirit boat while he was seizing the bell."

"But they chased us for a long time. Luckily, Yang Fei and his wife, having just fought Bai Yu and Jin Ling, were greatly exhausted, and since they had already harvested much, they seemed uninterested in this spirit boat, hence didn't persist in chasing us. Otherwise, we might not have successfully escaped." Lu Chen continued.

Situ Yao and Huang Yuankui both remembered crucial matters their disciples had intended to report privately. Now, hearing Lu Chen's complete account, Huang Yuankui informed everyone, "Ladies and

gentlemen, the situation explained by the two disciples from our Lingxiao Sect is clear; if you wish to rescue your disciples and clansfolk, you'll need to send more ahead to respond."

"If interested in Earth's cultivation resources, then find a way to send more people over. Since dueling isn't working, let's rely on numbers; our few families don't have a small number of Foundation Establishment cultivators, and we don't believe they can be stopped by that native." Situ Yao said.

"Exactly, considering there's a top-grade spirit ore there and with Spiritual Energy Revival, it presents an excellent trial ground for our factions. It must be occupied." Ying Wujiu stated.

Others also nodded in agreement, with no doubts on claiming this new world, Earth, as their own, as it seemed only a matter of time.

In a world with only Foundation Establishment cultivators standing guard, if they could arrive in person, one person's strength would be enough to suppress it.

"Two juniors, your two disciples managed to escape back to report, which indeed counts as a meritorious service. But about the other six disciples of our Lingxiao Sect, bring them here; I need to inquire in detail." Shang Daocheng instructed Situ Yao and Huang Yuankui, then turned and walked away.

Situ Yao and Huang Yuankui understood well, immediately instructing their respective disciples, "Follow me."

With that, the two took Lu Chen and Gan Qian to meet Shang Daocheng who was waiting at a distance.

Ying Wujiu, Chu Kuangge, Li Yang, Feng Changgong, and two other Fake Pill level experts eyed the departing group with suspicion, each feeling that something was fishy, convinced that those two juniors from the Lingxiao Sect were definitely withholding some information.

Chapter 1159:

"Humph, these two youngsters must still be hiding something. That world called Earth, besides having a top-grade spiritual ore mountain range, probably has even richer cultivation resources."

Feng Changgong couldn't help but say.

He Huan, the fake pill expert from the He Family, nodded and said, "Yes, these two juniors must be concealing something."

Zhong Wei, the fake pill expert from the Zhong Family, lowered his voice and said, "Keep it down, regardless of what they are hiding, at least we already understand the general situation of the Earth world. Everyone, should we gather more Foundation Establishment cultivators to go to the Earth world next?"

Ying Wujiu, Li Yang, and Chu Kuangge exchanged glances. Li Yang said in a deep voice, "Of course, we must send more Foundation Establishment disciples; our men cannot be sacrificed in vain in that small plane world, otherwise, won't it be a laughingstock for others outside, mocking the cultivation forces of the Southern Domain?"

Ying Wujiu nodded, "Indeed, firstly to avenge the fallen disciples and seek justice, and secondly to defend the honor of the cultivation world of our Southern Domain. Plus, we must act quickly, otherwise, once the news about the new plane world spreads to other external cultivation forces, they will definitely step in."

"Yes, this matter should be resolved swiftly." Feng Changgong nodded in agreement.

"Everyone, send a communication to your respective sects or families, let the Foundation Establishment disciples all come, this time we must capture this world called Earth." Chu Kuangge proposed.

Everyone nodded.

They each reported the situation back through the special communication talismans of their sects or families, just waiting for the disciples from their families or sects to come.

After the discussion, they looked into the distance.

There, five people from the Lingxiao Sect were whispering to each other.

Separated by hundreds of meters, everyone could naturally hear what the other side was saying, but soon they realized that a small barrier was set up there, blocking any perception from the outside.

Shang Daocheng, Situ Yao, and Huang Yuankui seemed to have heard some news, their expressions changed drastically.

Situ Yao and Huang Yuankui appeared to scold their respective disciples a few times, the two juniors looked terrified and anxious.

Li Yang snorted coldly, "These two juniors indeed are hiding something."

"Hmph, even if they are hiding something, our people will soon come, and by then, once we control the Earth plane, no secret will remain hidden." Ying Wujiu snorted.

Everyone nodded.

They felt it was quite ridiculous for those few from the Lingxiao Sect to hide some matters, even appearing juvenile.

After all, it's a matter that can only be hidden temporarily, what's the point of hiding it now?

Even if they wanted to use a time difference for information, weren't the Flame Moon Sect, Great Dao Sect, and other three major cultivation families always guarding here? Could the Lingxiao Sect secretly transport some treasures out from the Earth world?

Inside the anti-spying barrier set up by Shang Daocheng, the three Core Formation Masters were stunned by the news brought back by Lu Chen and Gan Qian.

Lu Chen and Gan Qian did not hide anything about their experiences after going to Earth this time, they recounted everything completely, and they said they returned because Yang Fei asked them to come find the Lingxiao Sect for collaboration, otherwise, they would not have come back.

The three Core Formation Masters from the Lingxiao Sect were both shocked and angry, and ultimately found it utterly laughable.

A Foundation Establishment stage junior from Earth actually wants to collaborate with the Lingxiao Sect?

Quite a big mouth he has.

The Lingxiao Sect is a two-star sect, Earth has just experienced a spiritual energy revival, and that kid is merely mid-stage Foundation Establishment, yet he dares to dream of collaborating with the Lingxiao Sect?

Haha!

Fair cooperation is based on equal strength; what qualifications does a Foundation Establishment cultivator have to negotiate cooperation with the Lingxiao Sect?

To be blunt, if all cultivators from Earth came to submit to the Lingxiao Sect, becoming subordinate forces of the Lingxiao Sect would be more reasonable.

Moreover, even wishing to become a subordinate force of a major sect like the Lingxiao Sect requires having certain utility value or being able to contribute a quota of 'protection fee.'

Otherwise, if you are dependent on the Lingxiao Sect, the Lingxiao Sect will have the responsibility to protect you, and without benefits, why should the Lingxiao Sect protect you?

Shang Daocheng glared at Gan Qian and Lu Chen, exasperated at their failure to live up to his expectations, saying sternly, "I just wondered why the people from other sects and families suffered heavy casualties, while you two came back unscathed; turns out you were held by that kid from the start

and surrendered to him. Humph, this matter absolutely must not be spread, otherwise, the Lingxiao Sect cannot afford to lose such face. Also, any disciples you bring to the Earth space shall be severely punished by the sect."

Situ Yao and Huang Yuankui looked at their beloved disciples, somewhat unable to bear it, but the senior brother had spoken, and they also knew that the few Lingxiao Sect disciples surviving on Earth by compromising, surrendering to Yang Fei, and assisting Yang Fei against the other major cultivation forces indeed committed a great sin, and not nullifying their cultivation to exile them from the sect was already an act of extraordinary leniency.

Anticipating the anger of their three seniors, Lu Chen and Gan Qian were not surprised; Lu Chen hurriedly signaled to Gan Qian with his eyes.

Gan Qian caught on, and nervously but bravely said to his master, Huang Yuankui, "Master, the genetic liquid medicine developed by Yang Fei is indeed a divine item, my spirit root talent has been enhanced in grade, it is now a top-grade single spirit root."

With this statement, Shang Daocheng, Situ Yao, and Huang Yuankui were taken aback, their anger turning into shock.

"What, your spirit root's aptitude has been upgraded?"

"How is this possible?"

In disbelief, Shang Daocheng extended his right hand, and a spiritual measuring device appeared out of thin air in his palm.

Situ Yao and Huang Yuankui quickly gathered around to look.

"This... this... how could this be?" Huang Yuankui, seeing the measurement displayed on the spiritual measuring device for Gan Qian's spirit root aptitude, was dumbfounded, left inarticulate.

Shang Daocheng and Situ Yao might not have been familiar with Gan Qian's previous spirit root aptitude, but seeing Huang Yuankui's reaction, they understood the result. Shang Daocheng suppressed his inner shock and asked, "Junior Brother Huang, what was your disciple's previous spirit root aptitude?"

Huang Yuankui took a deep breath and said, "When he joined the sect, he had dual spirit root talent. If I remember correctly, it was earth and wood attributes for his spirit root aptitude."

Gan Qian said, "Master remembered correctly; I indeed had those two attributes in my dual spirit root talent."

Shang Daocheng, Situ Yao, and Huang Yuankui were utterly shocked, completely taken aback by Gan Qian's situation.

Seizing the moment, Lu Chen said, "The genetic liquid medicine developed by Yang Fei not only can upgrade the spirit root grade, but most importantly, it can allow people without spirit root aptitude to generate spirit root aptitude with a certain probability."

"What?"

The three Core Formation Masters spoke in unison, extremely astonished.

Facing the sharp gazes of the three masters, Lu Chen urgently said, "It's true and authentic, Gan Qian and I, among others, have witnessed it personally, it can't be false."

Gan Qian quickly nodded in agreement.

Chapter 1160:

Seeing the unwavering expressions of the two, not like lying, Shang Daocheng's eyes flashed with a sharp glint and he made a decisive decision, "How much of that genetic liquid medicine have you brought back?"

"There are two large bottles. According to probability, it should be enough to conduct experiments." Lu Chen understood what the First Senior Uncle meant and quickly replied.

Shang Daocheng, with a heavy expression, said, "Don't be eager to take them out. This matter is of great significance and is no longer something that the three of us can decide. Moreover, do not let people from other forces detect any clues."

Situ Yao and Huang Yuankui both nodded in agreement.

Huang Yuankui said, "First Senior Brother, I and Brother Situ will keep watch here. Please take the two disciples back to the Sect."

Shang Daocheng's mind raced like lightning, and he quickly shook his head, "No. According to the two nephews, to experiment whether this genetic liquid medicine is effective will take some time. However, now other forces are already gathering more Foundation Establishment disciples preparing to enter the Earth world again, so if our Lingxiao Sect wants to monopolize Earth and cooperate solely with Yang Fei, we must first help Earth defend its foundation."

Situ Yao's expression changed and he said, "Wouldn't that mean going to war with several other major forces? First Senior Brother, this matter is no small matter, we must be cautious."

Huang Yuankui also nodded, "Yes, the matter is significant, it would be best to let the sect's higher-ups know before making a decision."

Shang Daocheng decisively said, "We will act in two directions. I will take the genetic liquid medicine back to the sect to experiment and discuss with the seniors, while immediately asking the sect to dispatch more Foundation Establishment disciples here, led by Lu Chen and Gan Qian to Earth. Once there, cooperate with the people of Earth to protect their safety, but at the same time, do not generate too strong conflicts with people from other forces, try not to kill, and avoid exacerbating contradictions."

Hearing his words, Situ Yao and Huang Yuankui nodded, and Lu Chen and Gan Qian both felt this decision was the most balanced approach, both also secretly felt a sense of relief, finally not failing Yang Fei's trust, and it seemed there was hope for cooperation.

However, if the higher-ups of the Lingxiao Sect decide to cooperate with Yang Fei, wouldn't that mean becoming enemies with the Great Dao Sect, Flame Moon Sect, and the He Family, Feng Family, and Zhong Family, these five major cultivation forces?

Although the Lingxiao Sect is one of the three strongest forces in the Southern Domain, to fight against many with just one, there is absolutely no chance of success.

So in the end, what will this matter become?

Can the Lingxiao Sect solely enjoy the opportunity to cooperate with Earth?

Faced with the opportunity to upgrade a Two-star Sect to a One-star Sect, does the Lingxiao Sect's higher-ups have the courage to seize it?

Is this a good or bad thing for the Lingxiao Sect?

Lu Chen and Gan Qian started to worry.

In danger lies fortune.

Opportunities often come hand in hand with danger, whether it's a blessing or a curse, no one knows.

After all, this place is within the territory of the Lingxiao Sect, so it's the closest to the Lingxiao Sect headquarters.

After Shang Daocheng made his decision, using the barrier for cover, he directly took out the sect's communication talisman, passed the situation to the sect's higher-ups, and requested the sect to immediately dispatch more Foundation Establishment Cultivators over.

After finishing all this, he said to Situ Yao and Huang Yuankui, "Two Junior Brothers, you stay here as a garrison, I will be back soon."

Situ Yao and Huang Yuankui nodded.

With a wave of Shang Daocheng's hand, a layer of fog suddenly emerged within the small barrier, enveloping their bodies, making it impossible to see what was happening inside from the outside.

"Give me the things." Shang Daocheng said to Lu Chen and Gan Qian.

Lu Chen and Gan Qian each took out a large bottle of genetic liquid medicine and handed it to Shang Daocheng.

Shang Daocheng waved his hand, storing the two bottles of genetic liquid medicine into the storage bag, and then the barrier disappeared.

In the distance, Ying Wujiu, Li Yang, and Chu Kuangge suddenly looked up into the distance.

He Huan, Feng Changgong, and Zhong Wei also noticed something unusual, staring at the void ahead.

They saw a rushing torrent of air appear in that void, with someone speeding away.

Feng Changgong said, "Is Shang Daocheng leaving?"

Li Yang snorted coldly, "The people of the Lingxiao Sect really have something weird going on."

Ying Wujiu's expression changed several times, seeing the barrier dissipate, Situ Yao and Huang Yuankui, along with their disciples, came over looking as calm as usual.

Chu Kuangge said, "Haha, what secret were you Lingxiao Sect people discussing over there, that Shang Daocheng left in such a hurry?"

Li Yang couldn't help but say, "Are you two youngsters hiding something from us?"

He Huan said, "That's right, otherwise why bother with such secret discussions for so long?"

Situ Yao snorted coldly, "Our sect's internal matters don't need to be reported to you all."

Li Yang's gaze locked onto Lu Chen and Gan Qian, thought for a moment, and coldly said, "Even if you are hiding some secrets from us, it doesn't matter. Once our people arrive, they won't be able to keep things hidden. You two youngsters better think carefully, if you can't hide it, don't try to, otherwise, if you offend us, your future in the Southern Domain might be bleak."

Huang Yuankui angrily said, "Li Yang, what do you mean by that? Are you threatening my Lingxiao Sect's disciples?"

Situ Yao also angrily said, "Li Yang, you'd better watch your words, you represent the Flame Moon Sect, are you trying to make the Flame Moon Sect fall out with our Lingxiao Sect?"

Li Yang snorted lightly and said, "I'm just reminding your two Lingxiao Sect disciples."

"Mind your own disciples, our Lingxiao Sect's disciples are not for you to remark upon." Situ Yao replied sternly.

Li Yang's face darkened with anger, clenching her silver teeth, her chest heaving with rage, ultimately suppressing her inner fury.

It was her own carelessness.

If she had the Glazed Soul-Seizing Banner and the Mixed Element Bell, Situ Yao wouldn't dare confront her so brazenly.

If he dared, she would dare challenge him and teach him a lesson.

Chu Kuangge coughed and said, "Alright, alright, Brother Situ, my junior sister is in a bad mood, please don't take it to heart. Let's not hurt the harmony among our families."

Situ Yao snorted, "She's in a bad mood, that's her issue, our Lingxiao Sect people won't take her attitude."

Li Yang gave him a deep look, remembering this grudge in her heart.

Situ Yao, however, was unafraid.

According to his disciple, that Glazed Soul-Seizing Banner and Mixed Element Bell had already been seized by Earth's Yang Fei. With Yang Fei's temperament, it's unlikely he'd come to the Southern Domain's Cultivation World for now, much less return such treasures.

Without those two treasures, Li Yang's combat power among the Southern Domain's Core Formation Masters is nothing, he has no fear at all.

Lingxiao Sect's Main Peak.

Within the Purple Cloud Hall where the successive Sect Masters reside, the current Sect Master of the Lingxiao Sect, Jiang Yao, was in closed cultivation when suddenly his chest felt warm, and a flashing brilliant light kept flickering.

Jiang Yao opened his eyes, took off a jade token from his chest, and scanned his eyes over it, seeing a series of characters displayed on it, his pupils suddenly contracted.

A vast divine thought was released: "Two Junior Brothers, come to the hall for a meeting immediately!"