

The Prodigies War

Chapter 1266: Stupa Brahma Land

After the big black bird's explanation, Lin Xun had learned that the Ancient Buddha Son might be more powerful than his clone, but the gap wouldn't be very wide!

"I'm going to Stupa Brahma Land." Lin Xun looked at the big black bird. "You wanna tag along?"

"Of course," said the big black bird without hesitation.

"Ancient Buddha Son addressed you as his Little Uncle, yet you're going to help me deal with him?" Lin Xun was puzzled.

The big black bird was silent for quite a while before saying, "It's just a matter of seniority. If it were possible, then I'd rather you eradicate the entire Earth Treasury Temple!"

Those final words were laced with deep resentment.

Lin Xun spoke no more of this matter.

He had learned from the big black bird that the reason why he was regarded as a heretic by Ancient Buddha Son was because he had obtained the Great Treasury Silent Scripture left by Saint Monk Duji and Black Phoenix Saint Queen, and of course that piece of Bodhi wood as well.

The big black bird was clearly on Saint Monk Duji's side!

Lin Xun suddenly remembered something. "By the way, didn't you steal the Spirit Refining Kettle from Underworld Son? Why did it end up back in his hands?"

The big black bird sighed, "Not like I wanted that to happen either, but that kettle has a terrifying restriction on it that prevents me from refining it into my own. What a pity that I couldn't keep it, right? But I got to keep some of the treasures sealed within it."

With a despicable laugh, the bird flapped its wings, and a jade bottle appeared in front of Lin Xun.

"This is a bottle of Dragon Essence Restoration Pills. There may be only three, but it's one of the top elixirs that have ever existed. Just consume one and you will instantly recover to your peak condition."

“Of course, the most miraculous thing about this is that it can aid in heavenly tribulations! Why do you think Underworld Son was able to easily step into the fourth longevity tribulation stage? Because he had the aid of these pills!”

Lin Xun was instantly tempted.

He picked up the jade bottle. As soon as his spirit sense entered it, he heard waves of a dragon’s roar, saw a colorful rain of light, and smelled a wonderful fragrance.

Upon closer inspection, it looked as if there were three small dragons meandering inside the bottle, lively and divine.

Those dragons were the three pills!

“Aside from this, what other treasures did you obtain?” asked Lin Xun.

The big black bird was instantly alert. “Kiddo, stop right there with your crooked idea. The other stuff isn’t of much use to you anyway.”

Apparently, the big black bird had struck gold with what he had found inside the Spirit Refining Kettle.

Lin Xun didn’t bother probing deeper and just concentrated on meditating.

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Three days later.

Lin Xun had completely recovered.

Furthermore, the cruel battle had allowed his cultivation to improve again, and he had already reached the peak of the third longevity tribulation King stage.

Kongzhe Mountain had long been covered in Lin Xun’s grand forbidden formation, which had displayed the power to suppress everything in the battle three days ago.

Before leaving, Lin Xun passed the small red-yellow flag that was also the controller of this formation to Ji Xingyao so that even without him at the helm, Unsolved Mystery Sword Alms wouldn’t be in danger of being attacked by other great powers.

Ji Xingyao, on behalf of Unsolved Mystery Sword Alms, gave Lin Xun three divine herbs as an expression of gratitude.

Lin Xun accepted them.

During his four years at the bottom of the Underworld River, his collection of divine herbs had been depleted to the point that their numbers could be counted with one hand.

Ji Xingyao really helped alleviate the shortage a little.

“Take care, everyone!” Lin Xun cupped his fist in goodbye on the way out.

“Take care!”

Ji Xingyao, Mo Tianhe, and the other disciples of the Unsolved Mystery Sword Alms all came to see him off with solemn expressions.

On this day, Lin Xun and the big black bird had set out to leave the Mythic Fire Realm for the Root Mountain Realm.

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Lin Xun was currently riding his treasure ship. The speed was neither fast nor slow.

“Toady and A’lu never showed up. I wonder why...” Lin Xun was a little worried.

The news of the battle several days ago had long been spread throughout the entire Upper Nine Realms. As long as one paid a little attention to what was going on, they would have known that he had been at Kongzhe Mountain.

But until now, there had been no signs of Toady and A’lu at all, which Lin Xun found quite abnormal.

“Good treasure!” exclaimed the big black bird who was pacing around when it saw the scarlet divine sword in Lin Xun’s hand. Its eyes immediately shone with a thieving glow.

This sword was as red as the color of blood. Its blade was shiny and translucent, clearly displaying a blood-red, eerie river within it. In the river were skeletons upon skeletons, looking extremely off-putting.

This was the legendary Yuantu Sword!

During the duel with Underworld Son, Lin Xun had taken it away from him, making it a trophy.

“This sword is a true innate Saint Weapon born in the Underworld River. In the ancient era, it was notorious for its ferocity and had taken the heads of an unknown number of Saints!” The big black bird’s gaze was demented as it snuck closer, its saliva almost flowing out. “The most divine thing is that it was able to do that without gaining any karma! Can I...touch it?”

When saying that, the bird had extended its claw towards the Yuantu Sword.

With a whoosh, Lin Xun snatched up the sword and slapped the big black bird's claw away. "Be careful or your claws might be chopped off!"

The big black bird resentfully cursed and said, "It's just a broken sword with layers of seals covering it. You can't utilize its full power without becoming a Saint first!"

Of course Lin Xun knew this.

Just now, he had already checked and found a total of nine seals on the sword, all of them obscure and horrifying. They were like chains of the great dao that confined the sword's power.

With his current cultivation, Lin Xun could only open at most three seals.

However, he did not intend to do so. This was the Supreme Realm where the existence of Saints and above were not allowed. If these seals were lifted and revealed the Saint breath on the sword, then it would be a misfortune rather than a blessing.

Still, the might of the sword in this state could already rival the Broken Blade. The Yuantu Sword was certainly an extremely powerful killing weapon.

"Ohh, this bronze shield is quite interesting!" The big black bird's eyes were glued when Lin Xun took out a tattered, blood-stained bronze shield.

This treasure had also come from Underworld Son. It had protected him when he had been pursued by Lin Xun, and had not suffered a single scratch from even the Impermanence Slash of the Broken Blade.

"You recognize it?" Lin Xun asked without letting any of his thoughts show.

"The blood stains are obviously that of Saints. Look here, see this layer of dense dao runes branded on it? Although they are damaged, the aura is still so hair-raisingly powerful." The big black bird's eyes were burning, and it looked like it just wanted to rob the shield. "If I'm not wrong, Saint Shield!"

Lin Xun uttered a sound of acknowledgement before putting the treasured shield away. There was not an expression on his face, but his heart was bursting with joy and contentment.

It was completely unexpected that the two pieces of loot obtained from Underworld Son were both Saint Treasures, and on top of that, the origin of the Yuantu Sword was extremely astonishing!

This harvest was no less than a great opportunistic fortune!

He then lamented, “Underworld Son really possesses so many treasures. As expected of a favorite child of Heaven who carries great luck.”

The big black bird deeply agreed with this. “That’s for sure. I know very well that there’s still a lot of good stuff sealed inside his Spirit Refining Kettle. Next time, let’s team up and loot him again!”

Lin Xun nodded as he appreciated this idea very much.

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Each realm in the Upper Nine Realms was like a boundless world.

It wasn’t until half a month later that Lin Xun’s group crossed the Abysmal Water Realm, the Thunder Jolt Realm, and the Wood Wind Realm and arrived at the Root Mountain Realm.

One conclusion Lin Xun had drawn along the way was that the weather and scenery in each realm was different.

For example, there were oceans, lakes, and rivers everywhere in the Abysmal Water Realm. It was like a world of water.

Meanwhile, the Thunder Jolt Realm was covered in thunder all year round, filling its sky and earth with a destructive aura.

According to the big black bird, if one wasn’t afraid to die, then they could hone their cultivation in the Thunder Jolt Realm as it was much easier to perceive the aura of the longevity tribulation there than in any other realm.

Of course, the prerequisite was that they could survive the omnipresent thunder.

The Root Mountain Realm that Lin Xun had just arrived at was another scene entirely. The forest of mountain ranges seemed to connect heaven and earth, winding and undulating into infinity.

There were mountains everywhere, either majestic, lofty, perilous, or jagged. They existed in thousands of shapes and sizes with different charisma. It was a truly spectacular sight!

“Did you hear? A big event is happening in Stupa Brahma Land, and there’s a high possibility that a heaven-defying fortune will emerge. Many powerful cultivators have already started setting out.”

This was the conversation that Lin Xun happened to catch on the way. It was a group of cultivators who seemed to be heading somewhere.

“Really? That’s an extremely dangerous forbidden land. Countless powerful characters have entered it over the years, but how many of them have been able to return alive?”

“Who knows? Anyway, I heard that some scary figures in the top thirty of the Genius Gold Rankings were notified and have already traveled there.”

“Like who?”

“Chi Lingxiao, Holy Maiden Lin Xue...”

“Heavens! Those are all famous, dominating figures!”

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The sound of the conversation faded as those cultivators gradually traveled away.

Lin Xun and the big black bird came out of the shadows and glanced at each other with a frown.

There was actually a big change happening in Stupa Brahma Land, which was something they hadn’t anticipated before.

“Whatever it is, let’s go and take a look,” said the big black bird.

The two immediately set out.

Along the way, they came across many cultivators, and all of them were discussing the topic concerning Stupa Brahma Land.

Most of them had clearly heard the same rumor: it was very likely that an ancient ‘Great Emperor War Scripture’ was going to be born there!

Great Emperor War Scripture, just four words was enough to make one’s mind spin.

Two days later, Lin Xun stepped into the territory of Stupa Brahma Land following the lead of the big black bird.

This was a place of great perils, where the earth was covered in bare mountains. Not an inch of grass could be seen, and the air was oozing with a murderous aura.

The howling whirlwinds here could mince anyone below the King stage with their terrifying power.

Moreover, the deeper one traveled, the heavier the murderous aura filling the air was. It felt so depressing that one found it hard to breathe.

“AAHHH!”

A miserable scream suddenly echoed in the distance.

Lin Xun immediately looked in that direction and saw a longevity tribulation King being swept up into the sky by a black wind.

And then, the man was torn apart in a blink of an eye, his flesh and blood minced to powder and vanishing within that demonic wind!

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1267: Tragic Death City?

“That’s the Calamity Tribulation Wind!” The big black bird gasped. “It’s a kind of ominous wind that can blow apart even the souls of Saints. Truly terrifying.”

Lin Xun also grew serious. It was no wonder that Stupa Brahma Land was regarded as a land of great perils. It was indeed terrifying.

The duo continued on their journey on constant alert.

Whooo~

The Calamity Tribulation Wind was like a patch of black mist dancing wildly around this land, making the hearts of travelers flinch.

Luckily, it was detectable and could be circumvented early. Otherwise, no one would be able to enter this place.

Graaarr~

Not long after, on a barren mountain where not an inch of grass grew, a mournful roar resounded.

From afar, one could see a towering figure tens of thousands of feet tall atop the mountain. It had scarlet eyes that were larger than a lake, a head that topped the sky, and a body covered in rolling blood mist.

Just a single roar of this creature made the qi and blood of Lin Xun and the big black bird churn.

“That’s a Sky Demon remnant soul!” shrieked the big black bird.

The Sky Demon was an extremely bizarre and horrifying species that roamed the void.

Ancient texts had recorded that when a cultivator underwent Saint tribulation, they would be subjected to an attack from the extra-terrestrial Sky Demons, and a single slip would cause the destruction of their soul!

And to think that Stupa Brahma Land had a Sky Demon's remnant soul!

Its incomparable height was hidden in the rolling blood mist, emitting a chilling and ferocious aura that made the entire region tremble.

However, upon closer inspection, one would see that on this Sky Demon remnant soul was a glittering golden talisman filled with a Buddhist breath stuck upon it.

"Om, Ma, Ni, Pad, Me, Hum! This is the famous six-syllabled Sanskrit Mantra of Buddhism!" the big black bird's eyes almost popped out when it recognized what the talisman was. "This talisman must have been left by a Saint Monk, or else it wouldn't have been able to suppress that evil creature!"

"In that case, Stupa Brahma Land very likely has some relation to Buddhist cultivators?" Lin Xun's gaze flickered.

"Naturally. Ancient Buddha Son's original self obtained that heaven-defying fortune right here in this land and completely made up for the shortcomings of his cultivation path," said the big black bird casually before lamenting. "It's a pity that this six-syllabled Sanskrit talisman can't be taken, otherwise, it would be an amazing weapon, letting anyone deliver an all-out strike at the power of the Saint stage."

The two then continued onward. Before long, Lin Xun's eyes were fixed on a huge city in the sky!

"What is that?" he asked.

The city was massive. It was a piece of land suspended in the sky, emitting a divine glow with walls that looked like they were cast in dazzling gold. Just a glance from afar was mind-blowing.

"Huh?" The big black bird was also surprised. "How could there be such a sacred-looking city in this eerie and menacing place?"

"Let's check it out."

The duo headed toward the city.

Upon approaching, they saw that the city in the sky looked like the legendary City of Gods. It was truly glorious and sacred. Its brilliant luster dyed the sky and earth in a layer of golden hue.

All around the city, auspicious clouds converged and sprinkled fine rain, holy rainbows and light streaks. It was simply out of this world.

In front of this city, any human would look like an insignificant ant. It was just that huge!

Lin Xun and the big black bird were both dumbstruck.

Their journey to Stupa Brahma Land had been dangerous and bizarre, with terrifying dangers lurking at every turn, such as the Calamity Tribulation Wind, the Sky Demon remnant soul, and many more.

But now, they saw a sacred city floating in the sky that was so majestic, holy, and brilliant. How could one not be shocked by the contrast?

“Someone’s there!” Lin Xun quickly noticed that there were many cultivators standing near the sacred city, surveying and scrutinizing it.

He and the big black bird approached very quietly until they could overhear their conversation.

“I’ve never ever before heard of such a sacred city in this Stupa Brahma Land.”

“That’s exactly the case because this city only appeared here yesterday. It’s just too strange.”

“Why don’t you all enter to investigate but choose to stay here instead?”

“You must have just arrived, right? Let me tell you, its holy vibe is just but an illusion. This city is far more terrifying than you could ever imagine!”

Listening in on the others, Lin Xun and the big black bird learned that the sacred city had just only appeared yesterday.

“No wonder there have been so many cultivators risking their lives to come here lately. There really is a big event happening in Stupa Brahma Land,” Lin Xun pondered.

“No way, this city is so holy. How terrifying can it be?” someone couldn’t help but wonder.

Boom!

Their words were still echoing when there was suddenly a deafening noise in the sky, and the city's sacred haze all turned into a bizarre ink-black fog.

The auspicious clouds, the drizzle, the divine rainbows and light streams had all dissolved in the black fog!

The most frightening thing was that the majestic city of divine gold color had completely turned pitch-black as well!

At the same time, a burst of hair-raising screams resounded from the lofty city.

Looking closely, one could vaguely see tattered and decayed corpses walking around the city, with many figures swaying in the drifting black fog.

"Oh heavens!" someone shouted in fright, feeling cold sweat dripping down.

Several powerful cultivators gulped hard, and shivers ran through their spines.

The originally sacred and splendid city had transformed into a ghostly domain filled with uncanny images!

The sinister atmosphere that was blowing out from it had completely changed the appearance of the region. Even Lin Xu and the big black bird felt their blood run cold.

It was extremely bizarre!

"Look over there." The big black bird's eyes suddenly glowed when it looked at the top of the city's gate.

There was a line of words there that said: 'Land of Tragic Death. Do not enter!'

Each word was dripping with blood and especially eye-catching in the drifting fog, striking fear into everyone's heart!

The big black bird suddenly remembered a rumor and told Lin Xun, "Legend has it that at the beginning of the ancient era, there was a city called Tragic Death where the resentful souls were sent to. Any soul who had died innocently for whatever reason during their lifetime would be trapped in Tragic Death City and would not be allowed to reincarnate for all eternity.

"As far as I can tell, even if this city isn't the Tragic Death City in the legends, it must still have a close connection!"

Lin Xun's heart was shaken. *Tragic Death City?*

He looked up at the words dripping with blood on the gate of the distant city and thought to himself that the bird's speculation might just be right.

"There must be a great mystery hidden in that city. Are there any fellow cultivators who are willing to explore it with me?" someone suddenly spoke loudly.

However, the crowd only looked at each other, and no one responded.

Someone kindly reminded the inviter, "My friend, from yesterday until now, dozens of powerful groups have entered the city, but without exception, no one has ever come out."

This one sentence made everyone including the newly arrived cultivators shudder.

When they looked at the floating city again, their gazes had all changed!

"Come with me. This city is a place of great evil to others, but to us both, it's a land filled with treasures!" the big black bird suddenly transmitted its voice and led Lin Xun toward the distance.

The city in the sky was extremely huge and vast. Impressively, it had a total of thirty-six gates in all directions!

Without exception, above every gate had signs with 'Land of Tragic Death. Do not enter' in characters dripping with blood.

Soon, the big black bird and Lin Xun found a sparsely populated city gate.

"The city is full of trapped resentful souls. After you enter, you only need to use the method in the Great Treasury Silent Scripture to easily transcend them." The big black bird tried to suppress the excitement in its voice. "This is a good deed of immense merit, and it's highly likely that you'll receive unimaginable benefits."

Only upon hearing this did Lin Xun realize, and he was looking forward to the action.

"I still have some Buddhist treasures that I scavenged from Ancient Buddha Son's clone, so even if we run into troubles, we should be able to escape safely," said the bird.

"Then let's go."

"Go!"

The two flew up toward the selected gate like two lightning bolts.

"Look at that, someone's seeking to die again," someone in the vicinity mocked.

“If they are ready to throw away their lives for the sake of fortunes, then they’ll have no one else to blame.”

Many people joined in and laughed at Lin Xun and the big black bird. Obviously, they were not optimistic about the two.

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In the city, the drifting black fog blotted out the sky.

“Look at these buildings, they clearly have existed for a very long time, you can just smell the breath of time on them. It’s proof that this city has existed for very long.” The big black bird’s eyes shone brightly as it surveyed everything on the way.

They were walking on a spacious street with houses lining up on both sides. However, they all looked old and outdated, and some had even collapsed into ruins.

Lin Xun noticed that all of these houses were built with foreign black stones, and on some of the walls, vague images of totems, flowers, birds, insects, fish, ancestral sacrifices still remained.

But very soon, his attention was taken away by the icy atmosphere of the city. The air was filled with a savage aura that was close to materializing, leaving a tingling sensation on his skin.

Deep in the dark fog on the road ahead, mournful screams echoed like the cries of vengeful ghosts, tearing the eardrums.

The atmosphere was oppressive to the core!

Buzz~

Lin Xun operated the Great Treasury Silent Scripture. Immediately, a stream of peaceful and solemn Buddhist light flowed around him, sweeping away all discomfort and pressure.

It works!

Lin Xun’s spirit was lifted.

At the same time, the big black bird threw the Fearless Demon-Subduing Pestle to Lin Xun, while it held up a dark bowl.

These two treasures were looted from Ancient Buddha Son’s clone. Even the clone himself was being suppressed inside the black wok on the big black bird’s back.

Boom!

The duo hadn't traveled long when a violent turbulence rang out from the black mist.

Then, figures were seen charging out with a ferocious roar and a blazing murderous aura, as if a group of evil spirits from hell were infesting the area.

Looking closely, they weren't evil spirits, but weren't that much different from one. They were all broken and rotten corpses, some missing half of the body, some having holes through their skulls, some having torn chests, some running in a frenzy with only the lower half of their body left...

"Look at that! A group of resentful spirits who have been trapped here for who knows how many years, waiting for us to transcend them!" The big black bird wasn't scared at all and instead was quite happy, flapping its wings and laughing like crazy.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1268: Ghost King Xuan Kong

Boom!

Seemingly attracted by the big black bird's maniacal laughter, a corpse without an arm rushed up. Its blade flashed like lightning and its energy tore a big crack in the air.

The blade's energy was laced with a seething and vicious death aura that emitted the howling of ghosts.

Caught off guard, the big black bird's wing was nearly struck by a wave of blade energy!

Lin Xun was inwardly shocked. The one-armed corpse must have been an extremely powerful figure in their lifetime. The aura of their blade alone stung his eyes.

This was simply too terrifying, considering the fact that Lin Xun was currently at the third longevity stage yet he still felt threatened by a dismembered corpse that had been dead for countless years!

"Doh!"

Embarrassed and angry, the big black bird shouted a Buddhist chant. The black bowl it had been holding instantly flew up and spun in the air, splashing down with a rain of transcension Buddhist light.

The one-arm corpse wanted to dodge but failed. It let out a mournful shriek upon being burned by the dense Buddhist light.

The power of Buddhism really can restrain such undead!

Lin Xun's heart burst with relief.

"Kill!" He no longer hesitated and charged out with the Fearless Demon-Subduing Pestle in his hand.

The pestle glowed, and strings of dense and bright Buddhist symbols poured out from it like a wave.

At the same time, the sound of Buddhist chanting echoed!

Wei Tuo Subdue Demon Art![1]

This art was an inheritance recorded in the Great Treasury Silent Scripture. It required a heart that sought to destroy evil and protect the world and supreme perseverance to trigger the power of the Buddha. As a result, the might it generated was vast and terrifying.

Bang!

Before a corpse with a ruptured chest could reach Lin Xun, it was smashed by the pestle and sent flying back, exploding in mid-air.

Right then, a near-transparent figure burst out from the corpse's mind sea and bowed to Lin Xun. "Thank you for transcending me, fellow daoist!"

As soon as the words sounded, the figure turned into a wisp of pure and transparent qi.

"That's an alpha qi, a marvelous merit bestowed by this city. Quickly consume it!" the big black bird shouted to Lin Xun.

Buzz!

The alpha qi entered Lin Xun as soon as he grabbed it. He instantly felt his ears and eyes clearing up, and his state of mind and spirit also received an invisible fortification.

The most unbelievable thing was that even his cultivation had improved by a tiny bit, which was still amazing!

Lin Xun's eyes lit up. *The thieving bird is right. This city may be a place of great evil to others, but it's a blessing to us!*

Boom!

Not being delayed by his thoughts, Lin Xun struck again and without holding back this time. He was fully shrouded in a boundless glow, appearing solemn like a real Buddha who had descended the mortal world with infinite might.

In his hands, the Fearless Demon-Subduing Pestle was as nimble and domineering as a dragon. Its movement rolled up endless Buddhist light, dispersing the heavy black fog in the vicinity.

Bang bang bang~

One rotten corpse after another, no matter how berserk they were, suffered painful purification under the Buddhist light.

They had been dead for eras and left with only extremely terrifying strength that could threaten supreme figures at the longevity tribulation king stage.

But now, they were as fragile as paper!

This was what it meant when they said everything had its bane. And after all, the Great Treasury Silent Scripture was something that Saint Monk Duji and Black Phoenix Saint Queen had put their blood and sweat into researching. It had taken them countless years to create.

The profound mysteries it contained far exceeded that of the Earth Treasury Temple's core heritage that was the Great Earth Treasury Scripture.

Being utilized by Lin Xun, the Great Treasury Silent Scripture displayed an innate power that cleansed and transcended many dead things.

"After countless years of wandering without consciousness, I'm finally awake and released from this torture. I thank you so, fellow daoist."

"Waaaah! Heaven has finally opened its eyes!"

"Thank you for your kindness, fellow daoist."

Every opponent that Lin Xun transcended drifted away feeling liberated before they disappeared, leaving behind a wisp of alpha qi.

And as Lin Xun refined every wisp, his mind, spirit, and cultivation were silently tempered and improved. It happened at a slow speed, but it was still much faster than closed-door cultivation!

On the other side, the big black bird was also striking with all its might and a heart full of joy just like Lin Xun.

A while later, the duo finished transcending the batch of fifty-six corpses.

Lin Xun was left with a feeling that he still hadn't gotten enough. He could tell that if it could have continued, then his near-peak cultivation would be fulfilled in less than two hours!

Moreover, his state of mind and spirit would see significant changes as well!

"Wonderful, so wonderful I have no words to describe it!" exclaimed the big black bird, brimming with joy.

The city shrouded in black fog was menacing and ominous, but in the eyes of the duo, it was a land littered with fortunes!

"Let's go to the city center. I have a strong feeling it's hiding something big." The big black bird flapped its wings and sped into the depths of the black fog.

Lin Xun closely followed it.

Neither of them noticed that for every corpse being transcended, the mysterious totem pictures on the buildings would fade a little...

On the way, the duo encountered one batch of corpses after another that kept charging out toward them from the fog.

It was as if the undead in the entire city had been attracted over.

However, Lin Xun and the big black bird only rejoiced at this occurrence. They didn't hesitate to go on a cleansing spree and deploy Buddhist arts without a care.

An hour later.

Lin Xun could sense that his cultivation had reached the current peak!

If this kept up, he suspected that it wouldn't be long until he welcomed his fourth longevity tribulation!

However, Lin Xun decided against this, so he started collecting the alpha qi wisps one by one and sealing them inside the Nameless Pagoda.

He was saving them for the future, where he would choose the right moment to borrow their aid to break through the stages!

Suddenly, Lin Xun frowned as he noticed something. “Why do I feel that these corpses are getting stronger and stronger?”

The big black bird joyfully added, “But did you also notice that the stronger they are, the more alpha qi we obtain after transcending them?”

Stunned, Lin Xun nodded upon realizing that this was true.

Right at this moment, somewhere distant in the black fog, a chilling-cold voice rumbled—
“Go kill those two outsiders!”

Every word struck like thunder!

Lin Xun and the big black bird glanced at each other, instantly becoming cautious.

“This place actually has corpses that possess intelligence. This fellow is undoubtedly powerful, so keep your guard up,” said the big black bird solemnly as it didn’t dare to be careless at all.

Rumble!

The distant black fog suddenly parted to two sides, revealing a sight that made both Lin Xun and the big black bird feel their scalps go numb.

The distant streets, buildings, and even the air were filled with nothing but rotten corpses. They blotted out the sky and earth and were infinite!

“How about we take a detour?” The big black bird gulped hard as its feathers all stood on end. There were just too many corpses, it felt like they had encountered a grand army.

Taking a detour was a natural decision at this point. But before the duo could do so, they were shocked to see that they had been completely surrounded by fast approaching corpses!

There was not a single path to retreat, let alone taking detours!

Lin Xun’s heart sank, his expression grave.

The enemies weren’t scary, but their numbers were. In this kind of situation when they were vastly outnumbered, it would be a disaster if they ran out of energy during the fight.

“We continue toward the city center! These things are obviously under the control of that voice just now. If we kill that fellow, then maybe it will solve our predicament!” Lin Xun quickly made a decision.

The big black bird nodded. This was indeed their only option when there was no way back.

Boom!

The battle erupted as Lin Xun and the big black bird entered the corpse army like two sharp blades, forcefully cleaving a path forward.

However, despite the increasing numbers of alpha qi wisps they obtained, they weren't fighting with happy hearts at all like before. Now, a weight was on their minds.

If they couldn't escape the current predicament, then they wouldn't be alive to enjoy any of these fortunes!

The duo transcended the corpses that came at them in waves without rest. From a bird's eye view, one would see an opening that had been torn in those waves.

"We must keep up our pace or else we'll be trapped in one place, unable to move an inch forward!" shouted the big black bird.

Those rotten corpses were fearless. Transcending one and another would immediately take its spot, posing great resistance and hindrance to the duo.

Lin Xun's eyes flashed coldly as he started exerting all of his energy!

In an instant, his speed increased significantly, leaving a field of shattered corpses as they didn't vanish as quickly.

After a corpse was transcended, an illusory figure emerged and advised Lin Xun, "Fellow daoist, there is an altar in the center of the city left by an ancient Battle Emperor, but it's currently occupied by a 'Ghost King.' That Ghost King is operating the siege against you, so you must kill it to put a stop to this!"

"Many thanks!" said Lin Xun without turning back from charging forward.

The big black bird was right behind him.

"Fellow daoists, that Ghost King was a Big Saint before his death. His name is Xuan Kong. His soul has remained indestructible after he died and has been trapped here for countless eras. He has already regained intelligence and now wants to use his corpse to continue realizing his dao and rebuild his cultivation path. His battle prowess is extremely terrifying, please be careful!"

"Fellow daoists, Ghost King Xuan Kong already knows that you're coming. I hope you'll leave quickly, or else your lives will be in danger!"

On the way, occasionally there would be a transcended soul that gave the duo advice and reminders, letting them learn about the owner of the voice.

It was a Big Saint who had become a Ghost King after his death and ruled over this place while seeking to continue his dao with his corpse!

Just thinking about this made one's heart tremble.

“No matter what, we have to deal with this Ghost King Xuan Kong!” The big black bird gritted its beak.

The duo charged bravely. Their injuries gradually increased until they were covered in them. The fighting had been tragic.

The corpses were simply endless. It was impossible to get rid of them all!

“Look! That should be the altar the Battle Emperor left behind!” shouted the bird emotionally after who knew how long. “Keep pushing harder! We're so close to getting out of this!”

Lin Xun raised his eyes to look and felt a boost to his tired spirit.

1. was called Wei Tuo Subdue Demon Force previously Wei

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1269: Teacher of Ghost King

In the distance, a thousand-foot-high altar stood. It was made entirely of green jade that looked crystalline and holy.

That was the altar left behind by an ancient Battle Emperor and the center of this city.

But before Lin Xun and the big black bird could celebrate, they saw a towering figure standing there.

The person had black clothes, violet hair that flowed like a waterfall, sharp and tough facial features, and an outstanding bearing.

However, his eyes were filled with a hair-raising air of death.

No thinking was needed to identify him.

Ghost King Xuan Kong!

His aura was simply too powerful. Even from a long distance away, he already gave Lin Xun and the big black bird an overwhelming pressure that made them feel like they were suffocating.

“This is not good! This fellow is going to become a Saint soon!” The big black bird froze upon this realization and shouted, “Retreat, retreat!”

Lin Xun also felt a chill run through his heart, realizing that both he and the big black bird had far underestimated how horrifying Ghost King Xuan Kong really was!

They were like ants trying to look up at a dragon in the sky facing him. What did they have to fight against him?

“Run!”

The two turned around and fled without hesitation.

Lin Xun finally understood why all the cultivators who had entered this city since its appearance had never returned.

Just the presence of Ghost King Xuan Kong alone was enough to make anyone despair.

“In my lifetime, this king conquered worlds and fought against Saints from all nine domains, killing countless enemies and earning the title of Big Saint Xuan Kong!”

As a horrifyingly icy voice rumbled, the whole region abruptly fell into a bizarre silence. The rotten corpses all came to a stop and knelt down in unison, as if showing their submission.

At the same time, Lin Xun and the big black bird were horrified to find that they were imprisoned by a powerful force. They were suspended in the air like fish frozen in ice.

No matter how hard they struggled, it was futile!

Their faces became unsightly as their hearts sank to the bottom. Only now did they see for themselves how terrifying Ghost King Xuan Kong was!

On the crystalline, ancient jade altar, the towering Ghost King stood straight like a sky-piercing lance with an invincible aura.

“Reflecting back on my life, I’m certain that I had never killed the innocent and inflicted harm upon the world, only to end up here for nothing. Why such injustice?”

The voice was so bone-chilling that even heaven and earth went dead silent.

“When the other eight domains invaded, I was the first to step up and fight their Saints to defend the Ancient Wasteland Domain, spilling endless blood and suffering more scars than I could count. All that just to be reduced to a corpse that is neither human nor ghost, with only the remnants of my thoughts still holding on. How can I not loathe when the heavens are so cruel?”

In his voice was indescribable resentment and hatred, sending chills through everyone’s heart.

The expressions of Lin Xun and the big black bird flickered as it took them by surprise to learn that Ghost King Xuan Kong had been an inspiring and tragic man during his life, and had fought to defend the Ancient Wasteland Domain against the invasion of the other eight!

“Right and wrong no longer mean anything. But I can’t die no matter how much I want to, and can’t live the way I want to, having been trapped here for ages since! Can you imagine the torment?!”

Ghost King Xuan Kong’s long, violet hair danced wildly. A dull and dead air swirled in his eyes. From his entire being, a violent aura started spreading.

Clearly, he was extremely unstable!

“If you want to be relieved from your torment...” The big black bird was staking everything as it shouted, “Then why don’t you just let this bird transcend you?!”

Ghost King Xuan Kong’s face was ice-cold, and his eyes were like two dead swirls as he stared at the big black bird. “Transcend me? This king had stepped into the peak of the Big Saint stage during his lifetime. No one in this world below the Saint stage is qualified to transcend this king!”

These words were spoken with utter conceit.

The big black bird chided, “You indeed suffer misfortunes, but why are you venting your hatred on us? You were a Big Saint revered by all in your lifetime, but look at you now, what have you become?”

Ghost King Xuan Kong threw his head back and laughed resoundingly, but his voice once again became ruthlessly indifferent, “After being struck by the disaster that had me trapped here, I am no longer that person. No need to say all that and try to make me let you off, for I shall not spare anyone who enters this city!”

As these words echoed, a chilling murderous intent spread out from him.

Lin Xun and the big black bird tensed up.

“Wait!” shouted Lin Xun.

However, Ghost King Xuan Kong had turned into a violet streak that shot toward him.

“That’s a nice hide you have there. When I rebuild my Saint path, I will use your face to dominate the world!”

As the Ghost King’s icy and hideous laughter echoed, the violet streak entered Lin Xun, seeking to take away his dao seed and exterminate his soul!

Unable to move at all, Lin Xun could only watch as it happened.

Boom!

He immediately felt a violent and ferocious power run amok inside him. His vision went black, and he almost lost consciousness.

“What an astonishing spirit; it has transformed into three that hold the laws of the past, present, and future respectively. Remarkable!” an exclamation echoed in Lin Xun’s mind sea.

Almost immediately after, Little Silver, who had been reserving its strength and ready to attack, froze as the violet streak wrapped it up.

“God Devourer Insect King! Who would have thought that I’d be able to see this notorious ancient insect with my own eyes after death?” Ghost King Xuan Kong marveled before suddenly exclaiming in shock, “What a strong origin aeth artery, is this something you were born with? But why have I never seen it before?”

Lin Xun’s heart trembled violently as dread took over him. He felt as if all of his secrets had been seen through by the old ghost.

Before long, Lin Xun felt the place that housed his dao seed being enveloped in a chilling and vicious energy.

“What kind of dao seed is this? It’s more powerful and divine than that of all Supreme Kings I’ve killed in the past two days!” shrieked Ghost King Xuan Kong again.

He knew he had lost his composure, but was unable to control his emotions. After all, what kind of heavenly talents had he not seen before as a Big Saint who had roamed the world? Yet, he had never seen any of the secrets on this young man, which was simply unbelievable!

“Spirit, natural talents, dao seed... Both their quality and level can be called perfect. Even people who were born Saint heirs are inferior to you. Truly amazing.”

Ghost King Xuan Kong was experiencing quite a surprise. He had originally planned to kill Lin Xun right away, but now that it looked like he had discovered a mysterious treasure trove, he was in no hurry at all.

“Truly unbelievable. If you become a Saint, then you would be able to dominate everyone in the same cultivation stage and earn the most supreme title!”

Ghost King Xuan Kong was not stingy with his praise, but it only sent more chills through Lin Xun’s heart, making him feel like a fish on a chopping block that could be slaughtered and devoured anytime by this old devil.

“Huh? This...”

The Ghost King was suddenly triggered by something to the point he was about to lose control, and Lin Xun keenly caught this.

Ghost King Xuan Kong was staring at the Nameless Pagoda!

His face was flickering with shock, amazement, excitement, and many other emotions. In just a blink, it was as if he had turned into a different person, completely lost in a daze!

Seizing this opportunity, Lin Xun used his spirit energy to activate the pagoda.

In the Supreme Realm, using a Saint Treasure would result in the cultivator being instantly erased. This had been clear to Lin Xun back in the Burning Immortal Realm.

But at this moment, he couldn't care less. Moreover, he was using the pagoda entirely within himself and not in the outside world.

Whoosh!

The Nameless Pagoda lit up with a golden luster, and then, a mysterious, golden streak of light swept out from its octagonal body toward Ghost King Xuan Kong.

Lin Xun was incredibly nervous as he had activated the pagoda with the readiness to throw his life away.

But to his shock, the violet light that was Ghost King Xuan Kong remained foolishly still and was instantly shrouded by the golden streak.

The shock continued when Lin Xun saw that the golden streak failed to capture the Ghost King and put him into the pagoda...

Lin Xun felt his heart turn cold.

Even the Nameless Pagoda can't suppress this old devil. What can I even do at this point?

Right at this moment, the violet light transformed into the image of Ghost King Xuan Kong, who fell to his knees with a plop, still being shrouded in the golden glow as he kowtowed to the pagoda!

And his resolute and cold face was dripping with tears!

“Master! This disciple is incompetent, being trapped here without any possibility of true life or death. I’ve caused the name of our sect to be tarnished. I...I’ve failed you!” The Ghost King wept like a student repenting his mistake, no longer exuding the cold and violent aura before.

Lin Xun was dumbfounded.

“Master! Did you send Junior Brother here? That’s why you let me see this tower today, right...?” Ghost King Xuan Kong choked, his voice teary as he prostrated himself on the ground.

He obviously respected and revered his ‘master’ to the core.

Lin Xun finally understood that the presence of the Nameless Pagoda in him had caused the Ghost King to misunderstand that he was his junior brother!

Judging from this, the pagoda had most likely been left by Ghost King Xuan Kong’s teacher!

“Master, I followed your teachings and traveled the world. Although my hands were stained with blood, my conscience was clear. Only after being trapped in that place did my temperament suddenly change and my mind become muddled...

“Did you know, Master? All these years, not a day has gone by that your disciple hasn’t had to live in torment. I’ve been praying every day that I could be relieved from this, but my wish has been nothing but far-fetched...

“If I could turn back time, I would rather have died in the conquest back then!”

The Ghost King rambled on, venting the bitterness that had been suppressed for boundless years in his heart to his father figure.

At the end of it, he even bawled his eyes out.

Lin Xun was surprised to see an existence that had reached the peak of the Big Saint stage in his lifetime disregarding his image and crying so heartily.

Suddenly, Ghost King Xuan Kong stood up and took a deep breath. “Master, I know that you are no longer here, but I understand what I have to do.”

He cupped his fist and bowed deeply, his face flashing with determination.

Lin Xun stiffened as his heart violently tightened up. *What is this old monster going to do?*

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1270: The Dao Endless Pagoda

Swoosh!

The aura of the Ghost King swept out from Lin Xun.

Lin Xun, who was tense and rigid, suddenly felt he gained a new lease of life. Everything that happened was like a nightmare.

"Lin Xun! Kid, did you not die?"

The anxious cry of the big black bird rang in Lin Xun's ears. He turned his head and was greeted by the black bird's nervous and concerned face.

"I'm fine." Lin Xun shook his head, his face a little stiff and pale.

"Fellow Daoist, please move out of the way."

Suddenly, Ghost King Xuan Kong appeared and stared at the big black bird.

Move out of the way?

The big black bird was taken aback at first before he cursed out loud, "I am already imprisoned here by you, so how can I move out of the way?"

Smash the pot once it is cracked!

"Please!"

Ghost King Xuan Kong ignored the big black bird and waved his sleeve. Instantly, a gust of black wind carried the black bird away from the area.

Lin Xun's dark eyes narrowed.

"Junior brother, don't worry, he will be fine."

Ghost King Xuan Kong turned to look at Lin Xun, his face as stern and unfaltering as before, but Lin Xun found his attitude much gentler towards him.

Ghost King Xuan Kong gestured to Lin Xun to take a seat in front of the thousands-foot-high altar. He no longer had the fierce and ferocious air around him.

His back was as straight as a spear. Despite sitting down, he still radiated the feeling of being as mighty and unshakeable as a towering mountain.

“Junior brother, if you hadn’t come in time, I likely would have stepped onto a path of no return and become a bloodthirsty, murderous demon.

“Fortunately, we are fated to meet here, which awakened me from endless hatred.”

Ghost King Xuan Kong’s eyes softened with a hint of optimism and calmness.

It was also at this moment that Lin Xun finally dared to believe that the majestic and strange man before him was indeed a pinnacle Big Saint who once shook the world!

“Elder, you...mistaken me for the wrong person.”

Lin Xun kept quiet for a moment and finally confessed. He knew that he could not deceive a veteran cultivator such as Ghost King Xuan Kong. And if he was exposed, the consequences would be much more serious, so it was better to be honest and confess.

“I won’t be mistaken,” Ghost King Xuan Kong stated calmly. “The Dao Endless Pagoda is a precious weapon of our sect. Since it is in your hands then you must have received recognition by Master.”

Dao Endless Pagoda!

Lin Xun’s heart pounded in his chest. He had never known about the origin of the Nameless Pagoda, but because he noticed the mysterious word ‘less’ engraved on the pagoda, he named it the Nameless Pagoda.

Only now did he know the real name of the pagoda—Dao Endless!

“But...” Lin Xun stuttered. “I only accidentally acquired the pagoda. I know nothing about the origin and background of it.”

Ghost King Xuan Kong Ghost King looked surprised “Have you not discovered the mystery hidden in the pagoda?”

Lin Xun shook his head.

To this day, he had only been able to manipulate the power of the first level of the Nameless Pagoda. As for the higher levels, they remained sealed by a forbidden power and inaccessible to him.

“Then how have you been using the pagoda?” Ghost King Xuan Kong asked inquisitively.

“Well...just to store some treasures,” Lin Xun answered honestly.

“...”

The kid actually uses the Dao Endless Pagoda as a storage place! If the senior and junior brothers of the sect heard of this, they definitely would go ballistic!

What a waste!

If Master knows about this, would he regret choosing this boy as the destined person?

At the thought of his master, Ghost King Xuan Kong sighed again, his emotions overwhelmed him and his mind raced.

He murmured, “Treading the starry path, strolling up Kunlun. Grabbing the sun and moon with a sleeve, holding the heavens in the palm. I come from the world of mortals, gently tapping on the gate of longevity. Using a magical technique to see one’s true nature, to bestow Dao onto the fated person...”

Lin Xun’s expression suddenly changed strangely. This verse was more than familiar to him!

Years ago, while he, Toady, and Zhao Jingxuan headed to the Fangchun ruins, they accidentally entered a passage of saint bones and discovered a secret realm.

It was in that secret realm that the verse appeared due to the presence of the Nameless Pagoda and was stored in the pagoda!

At that time, Toady analyzed that the verse contained an earthshaking secret that was very likely related to the mystery of reaching Kunlun Dominion!

“Have you heard of this?” asked Ghost King Xuan Kong.

Lin Xun nodded.

Ghost King Xuan Kong was alighted with satisfaction. “Then it’s right. Master will give this verse to every disciple he chooses. Junior Brother, you were born in this age and so likely have never heard about our sect. But it doesn’t matter, I can tell you everything bit by bit.”

After a pause, a look of superiority and pride came to his face. “Our sect is called Fangchun. In ancient times, everyone in the world called it Fangchun Mountain!”

Fangchun Mountain!

Lin Xun’s heart tumbled again. He had been to Fangchun ruins and it was there that he acquired the verse and obtained the Sacred Combat Art inheritance!

“Our master, his dharma name...”

Ghost King Xuan Kong suddenly stopped talking and shook his head. Then, he explained, “Master’s dharma name is like the great dao. It can be understood by the mind, but its meaning cannot be conveyed. Junior brother, when you truly set foot into the Saint Stage, you will know the name of our Master.”

One’s dharma name was as unspeakable as the great dao!

What terrifying cultivation must one possess to have such majesty?

Lin Xun was stunned for a moment.

After a long time, he continued to listen to Ghost King Xuan Kong. “Our sect is different from others. Except for Master, all other sect members, no matter how early or late they join the sect, are regarded as senior and junior brothers.”

“Before me, there were forty-eight senior brothers and sisters. Some practiced meditation, some practiced Buddhism, some practiced spirituality, and some practiced swordsmanship...”

Ghost King Xuan Kong was suddenly filled with nostalgia, as though he was reminiscing about the period when he was training in the sect.

“It’s a pity that I was the most unworthy. In the years that I left the sect and traveled the world, my ability and state of mind were limited, and so I barely managed to reach the pinnacle of the Big Saint Stage...”

Lin Xun was flabbergasted. *The pinnacle of the Big Saint Stage! In the entire world, he is guaranteed to be one of the most powerful figures who could dominate one side of the universe!*

But when it came from the mouth of Ghost King Xuan Kong, he somehow felt ashamed...

This meant that the forty-eight senior brothers and sisters ranked before him had to possess even more terrifying cultivations!

“In short, I am ranked forty-ninth, and you are the fiftieth successor of Fangchun Mountain.”

Ghost King Xuan Kong suddenly wrinkled his brows, muttering, “The fiftieth? There are fifty great daos and only forty-nine of the fifty can be derived in the world... This...could there be a thread of karma in the unseen world?”

His expression morphed indefinitely, and he fell into silence.

Lin Xun felt like an outsider. It felt very surreal listening to these secrets...

He never thought that he would inadvertently become the successor of an ancient sect. This seemed too unbelievable and incredible.

He spaced out from astonishment for a moment, trying to digest everything.

“Elder, actually...” Lin Xun stuttered.

But before he could finish, he was interrupted by Ghost King Xuan Kong, “Junior brother, you and I are senior and junior brothers. You don’t need to be so stiff and constrained. Master often said that there is no first or last in comprehending the dao. We are of the same sect, so we are fellow-minded people.”

Lin Xun smiled bitterly in his heart, and said, “Senior Brother, I have something to tell you, when I was young, I was lucky enough to enter a Fangchun secret realm where I received the inheritance of the Sacred Combat Art, but...”

Ghost King Xuan Kong clapped his hands and laughed, “That's right, the Sacred Combat Art is indeed one of the strongest nine arts of our Fangchun Mountain.”

Immediately afterwards, his expression changed strangely. “I suddenly remembered that in the sect, there is only one other senior brother who is qualified to inherit the Sacred Combat Art besides you.”

“Who?” Lin Xun asked, raising his brows.

He thought back to the earth shaking scene he saw when he received the inheritance...

It was a dilapidated ruin. The sacred mountain had collapsed, the palace hall had been destroyed, and all ancient buildings had fallen into ruins.

It was supposed to be a blessed land, but after some unknown disaster, all it remained was scorched earth and scenes of ruins and rubble.

On the destroyed mountain were remnants of ancient writings: Setting Moon...Three Stars...

And in front of the ancient mountain gate stood a figure with its back facing all beings like a statue, while it stared silently and motionlessly at the dilapidated ruins.

Although its face was unclear, its aura was clearly as vast as the universe, surging into the sky with boundless terror. It seemed that if the figure wanted to, it could conquer the nine heavens, kill across the sky and earth, and encounter no rivals!

It was like...

A combat master!

But in the end, the figure sank to its knees in front of the dilapidated mountain gate and kowtowed three times without a word!

Then, thousands of lightning tribulations struck down like gods and demons descending upon the world from the heavens, crushing the dome of the sky with their mighty aura.

The powerful figure stood up, and a blast of fighting power erupted from him, roaring into the sky to kill. His majestic and domineering bearing was like a pillar of light illuminating all ages!

The scenes ended there, but Lin Xun still vividly remembered the fighting aura that was so terrifying that even divine beings would tremble before it.

Is that the senior brother that Ghost King Xuan Kong mentioned?

“He...”

Ghost King Xuan Kong opened his mouth but only a long sigh came out. “It’s an old story, so let’s not talk about it. In the future, when you become a Saint, you will understand the secrets of the past.”

Lin Xun inexplicably felt a little disappointed.

When he saw the dignified figure in the Fangchun ruins back then, his heart was already filled with admiration and awe.

He could imagine a gallant and invincible figure fighting all the way from the nine netherworlds to the nine heavens and leaving mountains of corpses and seas of blood behind him wherever he went. He was like an unrivaled fighting maniac!

If the sky blocked his path, he would tear it down. If the earth obstructed his way, he would smash it apart!

“Junior brother, the things of the past have long sunk with time. Unfortunately, I have limited time here. You just need to remember that as long as the Dao Endless Pagoda is

around, the inheritance of our Fangchun Sect will continue. And when you become a saint in the future, you will naturally understand what you should know.”

Ghost King Xuan Kong suddenly looked at Lin Xun and his eyes became crystal-clear. “As for now, can you let me have a look at your dao and arts?”

Lin Xun’s heart fluttered. He immediately cast aside the distracting thoughts in his mind because he knew that Senior Brother Xuan Kong wanted to test and advise him on his cultivation!

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