

Prodigies 2391

Chapter 2391 Great Purge

Smiling, Bai Yujing lifted his ancient sword and swung it downward.

Shua!

A streak of sword qi cut through the air like a rainbow, engulfing the heavens and earth. Within a thousand miles, the swirling snow instantly vaporized into mist.

The strike was simple, devoid of any dazzling brilliance, yet it carried the terrifying might of a celestial being, as if capable of splitting mountains and rivers with ease.

Lin Xun remained motionless. With a casual flick of his finger, a sword emerged.

Though lightly executed, it was imbued with such boundless sword intent and power that it shattered Bai Yujing's sword qi inch by inch and disintegrated it into the void.

"Impressive swordsmanship!"

Bai Yujing took a deep breath. Then, with a flick of his sleeve, he walked nine steps forward.

With each step, his aura surged dramatically, and the ancient sword in his grasp grew more fearsome.

By the ninth step, his might pierced the nine heavens, while the sword intent engulfed the vast landscapes.

"Go!"

The ancient sword shot forth, slashing through the void.

It was like a ray of divine light tearing through the eternal night, descending upon the mortal world.

Lin Xun narrowed his eyes slightly. He also launched a sword strike.

Sword of Birth and Destruction!

In that moment, the sword intent unfolded a vision of cosmic cycles—endless creation and destruction, the rise and fall of all existence.

With an earth-shaking roar, Bai Yujing's strike collapsed before it could reach within ten feet of Lin Xun.

Bai Yujing frowned. "Why are you holding back? If you wish to protect my dignity, then fight with your true strength."

Lin Xun was silent for a moment before nodding, "Very well."

With a sweep of his sleeve, a river of sword qi surged forth, vast as the galaxy, with an abyss looming within its depths.

The sun, moon, stars, mountains, rivers, and everything were annihilated in that moment.

Bai Yujing's pupils contracted sharply.

Letting out a long, thunderous roar, his tall, imposing figure ignited, burning with boundless radiance.

In his grip, the ancient sword blazed with blood-red flames. It slashed out in fury.

Wrath of the Sword Immortal!

This was the ultimate manifestation of Bai Yujing's lifelong sword dao.

As soon as Bai Yujing's sword slashed forth, the vast mountains and rivers surrounding the Omega Sword Sect trembled violently, showing signs of crumbling and sinking. All things seemed to be on the verge of collapse.

Alarming and terrifying sounds echoed across the land.

Unfortunately, despite its earth-shattering power that was enough to astonish the ages, this strike ultimately failed to withstand Lin Xun's attack. It shattered into nothingness, dissipating into the void.

Rumble!

A torrential eruption of sword qi followed, like a raging vortex of the great dao. In the blink of an eye, Bai Yujing was left bloodstained, riddled with wounds, and his hair was disheveled. He had sustained grave injuries.

However, from beginning to end, he never took a single step back!

The sight left all the figures of the Omega Sword Sect crying out in horror. Their faces were drained of color, ashen with despair.

"Move aside." Lin Xun's voice rang out from afar.

Bai Yujing was only at the second realm Emperor Stage. Though his swordsmanship was extraordinary, it was ultimately not enough.

"What is a sword? The sharpest killing weapon in the world. What is the way of the sword? Rather break than bend, unyielding, unwavering and eternal."

In the distance, Bai Yujing took a deep breath, his eyes firm, "My sword dao does not allow the word 'retreat.'"

Lin Xun nodded. "Fine, as you wish."

At this moment, he finally stepped forward. A boundless, terrifying aura surged from him.

It was as if a brilliant sun had risen in the snow-filled sky, its radiance illuminating the vast expanse of the universe!

Rumble—

The nearby void trembled, collapsing under the pressure.

Within the vast mountain range where the Omega Sword Sect stood, countless restriction and defensive arrays shattered one after another, unable to withstand the sheer force. Torrents of divine light rained down in all directions.

Panic-stricken screams and desperate roars rang out in succession.

All of this was just caused by the overwhelming aura emanating from Lin Xun!

"Suppress!"

Bai Yujing's expression changed subtly. Wielding his ancient sword, he unleashed his full strength and charged forward to meet the attack head-on.

However, within moments, he was forced back, again and again. No matter how fiercely he fought, no matter how many techniques he unleashed, he was overpowered by Lin Xun at every turn.

He was like a mantis trying to stop a chariot.

Until, Lin Xun finally halted his steps.

Bai Yujing stood there, his body torn and bloodied, gasping for breath. His figure swayed, on the verge of collapse.

He looked at Lin Xun in shock, as if he only now realized the huge gap between them.

“This battle is over.”

Lin Xun glanced at Bai Yujing, then turned and left with Su Bai.

“You’re leaving?”

Bai Yujing was stunned, but as he turned to look at the Omega Sword Sect, his body froze. He stood dazed as though struck by lightning.

The mountain gate had long since collapsed into ruins. The once majestic Omega Sword Sect lay in tatters, as if swept away by a landslide.

Countless disciples screamed in terror amidst the wreckage.

As for the high-ranking members, including Sect Leader Cang Huanzi, they had met a tragic end. They lay scattered across the land, their eyes wide with resentment and despair.

The thousand-mile stretch of beautiful landscape had been turned to scorched earth!

Bai Yujing trembled, finally understanding why Lin Xun had left. During their battle, while he was desperately resisting, the Omega Sword Sect had already been razed to the ground!

Bai Yujing suddenly felt his strength draining away. Sitting helplessly in the void, gasping for air, he remembered Lin Xun’s words at the Great Emperor Pass.

Only cut off the main evil, only destroy the lineage, and do not harm others!

Lin Xun had done exactly that.

“Karma cycles endlessly; retribution is inevitable...” Bai Yujing murmured.

On this day, the wind howled and snow fell relentlessly.

On this day, Lin Xun single-handedly reduced the Omega Sword Sect to rubble.

On this day, the news reverberated across the world, shaking it to its core.

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The fall of the Omega Sword Sect marked the beginning of a reshuffling that would slowly unfold across the world, spreading panic and fear through the other factions of the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

Two days later.

Once again, news came out that the mountain gate of Heaven Axis Holy Land, another sect as powerful as the Omega Sword Sect in terms of foundation and strength, had collapsed. Its long-standing inheritance was severed and its foundation shattered.

It was said that Lin Xun had appeared without warning, obliterating all opposition in an instant. He was tyrannical and invincible!

Five days later.

The news of the destruction of Spirit Treasure Holy Land sent shockwaves through the already turbulent world, intensifying the chaos even more.

Countless cultivators were shaken, as if they were witnessing a great purge. The ancient orthodoxies of the Ancient Wasteland Domain, unshakable pillars in the past, were now gradually being wiped out, reduced to dust among the ruins.

Seven days later, the Mysterious Metropolis Sect was obliterated.

Ten days later, Thousand Beast Spirit Mountain was destroyed.

In less than half a month, one colossus after another crumbled, plunging the world into complete chaos.

Furthermore, with each blow, the name of Lin Xun echoed through the Ancient Wasteland Domain, like a devastating storm, shaking the hearts and minds of all.

It wasn't until later, when Lin Xun arrived at a certain sect, that he found it completely deserted and its people gone.

Clearly, as sects fell one after another, other forces realized that Lin Xun showed no mercy and would spare no one.

Thus, many even abandoned their own sects and fled in advance.

A month later.

In the Ancient Wasteland Domain, all the sects that had been hostile to Lin Xun had collapsed, reduced to nothing but fleeting memories.

From that moment, Lin Xun singlehandedly overturned the world's order, bringing an end to the old era and ushering in a brand new one.

In every generation, talented individuals rose, and the same was true for the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

The fall of these giants meant that in the future, new sects and factions would emerge to claim the territories and resources they once controlled.

For this, countless forces were secretly grateful to Lin Xun. Without his disruption of the world's order and the chaos that followed, they would never have had the chance to rise.

The world was shifting, caught in endless turbulence.

Having accomplished his mission, Lin Xun took Su Bai to the Sacred Cangwu Tree.

Chapter 2392 The World of Cangwu, The Woman in Green

Cangwu Mountain.

With the resurgence of aeth qi concentrations, the world had undergone a drastic transformation. Cangwu Mountain had expanded to dozens of times its original size.

On this day, Lin Xun and Su Bai arrived.

Surveying the landscape, one could see the ancient, towering Cangwu Mountain shrouded in thick mist, veiling its peaks in mystery.

"Strange." Lin Xun murmured, raising an eyebrow. He immediately noticed a peculiar, obscure restriction force enveloping the entire mountain, making it impossible for ordinary cultivators to even approach.

Even Emperors who mistakenly ventured too close would likely find themselves lost within its depths!

Quickly, Lin Xun's expression shifted to surprise as he observed the restriction array more closely. The intricate dao runes all over Cangwu Mountain was unmistakably the work of his Red Flame Dao Body.

"No wonder I couldn't sense the Red Flame Dao Body's aura. It must have encountered trouble after entering this mountain."

Deep in thought, Lin Xun placed Su Bai into his treasure and advanced toward Cangwu Mountain.

With a mere wave of his sleeve, the mist parted and revealed a path leading inside.

He stepped forward.

Cangwu Mountain was vast and undulating, its ridges stretching into the distance. Midway up the mountain stood an ancient tree, its trunk and branches resembling polished bronze, gleaming with a metallic luster. Its bare limbs extended high into the depths of the sky.

Years ago, Lin Xun had seen this tree during the Dao Lantern Festival. Back then, cultivators of the West Infinity World called it the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree.

Now, he knew that this tree was actually the Sacred Cangwu Tree!

However, it was just an empty husk with its origin root spirits missing.

Before long, Lin Xun sensed the aura of the Red Flame Dao Body. It had entered the Cangwu Sacred Tree.

“Squeezing Mount Xumi into a mustard seed! A world within a world! There’s a hidden secret realm inside the Sacred Cangwu Tree.” Realization dawned on Lin Xun.

Without hesitation, he moved forward. In a flash, he landed atop the Sacred Cangwu Tree.

Suddenly, a strange fluctuation rippled through space, as if the stars themselves were shifting. In the blink of an eye, Lin Xun found himself standing within an endless, dark starry expanse.

Before him, countless secret realms unfolded, layered like the branches of a colossal tree, intertwining and extending into the depths of the starry sky, stretching beyond sight.

Lin Xun's expression changed. Inside the sacred tree turned out to be a boundless world, 'encompassing all heavens and connecting all realms'.

Shua!

Suddenly, in a distant secret realm, a figure emerged. It was the Red Flame Dao Body gazing at Lin Xun's Black Water Dao Body from afar.

In an instant, the memories and experiences of the two bodies merged.

A moment later, Lin Xun's Black Water Dao Body fully grasped everything the Red Flame Dao Body had experienced in this strange world.

It turned out that when the Red Flame Dao Body first arrived here, it sealed off the entire mountain with restriction power to prevent the origin root spirits of the Sacred Cangwu Tree from escaping.

Upon entering the Sacred Cangwu Tree, it was transported into this 'starry sky world' and encountered an incredibly powerful opponent.

It was a woman in a green dress. She was strikingly beautiful and her origin was mysterious.

What was most astonishing was that she was also a supreme Emperor, and her cultivation was also restricted to the third realm Emperor Stage.

The Red Flame Dao Body had clashed multiple times with her, and it was stunned by her strength.

Fortunately, in terms of cultivation and combat techniques, the woman in green was slightly inferior. This allowed the Red Flame Dao Body to maintain the upper hand in their battles.

Unfortunately, what made her truly troublesome was the unfathomable array of Emperor-grade treasures she wielded, allowing her to escape danger time and time again.

Over the past six months, the Red Flame Dao Body had fought her several times, but each time, she managed to evade capture.

Later, through their exchanges during battle, the Red Flame Dao Body realized that the woman was not from the Ancient Wasteland Domain nor was she from the Ancient Nebula Road. She came from the other side of the cosmos!

This revelation was unbelievable. A supreme Emperor from the other side of the cosmos, and a woman at that.

After all, the Ancient Nebula Road was still enveloped in taboo law power, blocking all paths to the other side of the cosmos.

Despite that, the woman in green had somehow traversed the starry sky and appeared in the Ancient Wasteland Domain. She was anything but ordinary.

However, although her true name and origin remained unknown, and the method by which she crossed the cosmos was still a mystery, the Red Flame Dao Body was certain of one thing: She came for the origin root spirits of the Sacred Cangwu Tree. Furthermore, she had already subdued this treasure!

He knew this because she had attempted to leave this starry sky world several times. However, every time, she was intercepted by the Red Flame Dao Body, preventing her from fleeing.

This was the reason the Red Flame Dao Body had remained here all this time.

As Lin Xun's Black Water Dao Body absorbed this knowledge, vivid scenes and details of the battles between the Red Flame Dao Body and the woman in green over the past six months surfaced in its mind-sea.

The woman was indeed extraordinary. She wore a flowing green dress, had fair skin and delicate features, resembling a fairy from a painting.

A mysterious natural golden dao rune shimmered between her eyebrows.

She wielded three unfathomable treasures.

The first one was a golden lock engraved on both sides with mysterious great dao inscriptions, and with three white jade chains extending beneath it.

Once activated, these chains would unleash nine black divine chains, tightly binding the target's body and spirit. Even their mind and willpower would be shackled, leaving them completely immobilized.

At the start of the battle, Lin Xun's Red Flame Dao Body had nearly been caught off guard by this treasure. It only narrowly avoided its suppression by exerting its full strength.

The second treasure was a jade hairpin that was inserted into the hair bun of the woman in green dress. Six inches long and as thick as a chopstick, it bore two ancient seal characters 'Void Escape.'

This artifact radiated a five-colored divine light that completely concealed the woman's aura, making it impossible to track her with spirit sense, or even the All-Seeing Eye.

Over the past six months, she had repeatedly relied on this treasure to evade Lin Xun's pursuit, escaping capture time and time again.

The third treasure was a purple flying sword, which was incomparably sharp and capable of transcending spatial constraints. Its terrifying lethal power allowed it to shatter ordinary Emperor-grade weapons in an instant.

It was with the help of these three mysterious treasures that the woman in green was able to make up for her inferior combat power, slipping away from danger again and again.

"She possesses a cultivation of the Supreme Emperor Stage, and every treasure she carries is rare and extraordinary. This woman...she must have an extraordinary background."

Lin Xun's Black Water Dao Body couldn't help but shift expressions.

Then, it murmured, "But with the two of us together, if she dares to appear again, we should be able to capture her. Once that happens, her true origins will be revealed."

The Red Flame Dao Body remained silent. There was no need for words. They could already sense each other's thoughts.

Shua!

The next moment, the two dao bodies merged into one. According to Lin Xun's plan, when the woman in green reappeared, they would unleash their combined power and catch her off guard.

However, just then, in a distant secret realm, a clear and melodious voice rang out like heavenly music, "So, these two are just clones."

Lin Xun's pupils shrank. He abruptly turned toward the source of the voice.

A shower of light descended, outlining a slender and graceful figure. She wore a flowing green dress, her long hair tied in a high bun with a jade hairpin slanting through it.

She had bright, piercing eyes, pearly white teeth, and exquisitely delicate features. A golden dao rune shimmered between her flawless brows. As she stepped forward, she seemed like a celestial fairy descending upon the mortal world. Her every movement was enshrouded in divine dao radiance, adding a mysterious and dreamlike beauty.

However, her gaze toward Lin Xun was icy and indifferent.

"Since you've seen through the truth, why did you still choose to show yourself? Are you not afraid of being captured by me?" Lin Xun asked calmly. He had guessed that it was the miraculous power of the Void Escape Jade Hairpin concealing her presence, preventing him from detecting her in the first moments.

“Captured?” A trace of disdain flickered in the woman’s eyes. “For the past six months, you and I have fought here countless times, but have you ever succeeded in capturing me? Even if you have an additional clone this time, it will be just as futile.”

Her tone was calm and composed, filled with confidence.

“We’ll know once I try?” Lin Xun’s voice was indifferent as he made his move.

“Wait.”

In the distance, the woman in green suddenly spoke, “I know you seek the origin root spirits of the Sacred Cangwu Tree. I can give them to you, but in exchange, you must remove the array sealing this place and let me leave.”

“A transaction?” Lin Xun mused.

“I’m asking if you agree.” The woman in green said with a frown, her tone carrying a trace of reluctance.

Lin Xun replied calmly, “Fine, but I have additional conditions.”

“Don’t push your luck.”

The green-clad woman’s eyes turned cold. “If I weren’t trying to avoid wasting my trump cards on someone like you, do you think I would be proposing this deal?”

Lin Xun chuckled, “Then let’s not trade. We’ll simply see who prevails in the end.” His tone was casual but unyielding.

The woman in green was stunned for a moment. Her beautiful, flawless face flickered with uncertainty before she finally said aloud, “Fine, what are your other conditions?”

Lin Xun said plainly, "Tell me your origin, your identity...and most importantly, how did you get here from the other side of the cosmos?"

A look of relief flashed across the woman's face. Clearly, Lin Xun's demands were of little concern to her.

"My surname is Yuan, my given name is Qingheng. I am indeed from the other side of the cosmos, and I am a direct descendant of the Immortal Imperial Yuan Clan."

Her voice was calm, but when she spoke of the Immortal Imperial Yuan Clan, there was an unmistakable hint of pride.

Unfortunately for her, Lin Xun had no idea what kind of power or prestige this so-called Immortal Imperial Yuan Clan held.

Therefore, he remained completely unfazed.

Yuan Qingheng was slightly taken aback by Lin Xun's indifference. Then, she chuckled to herself. This native of the Ancient Nebula Road likely doesn't even understand what an Immortal Imperial Clan is. I'm just...playing the lute to a cow.

Lin Xun was unaware of the subtle thoughts in Yuan Qingheng's mind, and even if he did, he wouldn't have cared at all.

He simply reminded her, "Miss, you still haven't told me how you got here."

Chapter 2393 The Secrets of the Eternal True Realm

After a moment of thought, Yuan Qingheng flipped her hand, revealing a slender, fair palm.

Buzz

A delicate silver shuttle emerged. Its edges were restrained, but both ends gleamed with a sword-like sharpness. Strange inscriptions coiled along its surface like twisting earthworms.

As the silver shuttle floated into view, strands of immortal aura dispersed into a mist of shimmering radiance—mysterious and ethereal.

Lin Xun's pupils contracted sharply. Just from a single glance, the aura exuding from the treasure made him feel a chilling, lethal threat!

"This is a replica of our clan's immortal artifact. It's called the Cosmic Light Flying Shuttle. Imbued with the origin power of immortal law, it not only allows one to descend upon this world, but also makes traversing to other realms and planes as easy as breathing."

Noticing the subtle shift in Lin Xun's expression, Yuan Qingheng couldn't help but smile with a hint of pride. "The Ancient Nebula Road is merely one of the Great Thousand Worlds. For countless years, it has been shrouded by the eighth grade Earth-Rank lightning law controlled by the Luo Clan. But if I wish to come here, even that can't stop me."

Lin Xun gleaned many details from her comments.

The Ancient Nebula Road was just one of the Great Thousand Worlds!

Furthermore, the taboo law power wielded by the Luo Clan was known as the lightning law, an eighth grade power of the Earth Rank!

This revelation made Lin Xun realize that the law and order born from heaven and earth were divided into various ranks and grades.

"Miss, could you tell me about the Great Thousand Worlds?" Lin Xun asked.

Yuan Qingheng frowned. "You sure ask a lot of questions."

Lin Xun chuckled, "It's not every day I meet a distinguished figure from the other side of the cosmos, so I can't help being curious. But don't worry, it's just a casual chat. Who knows...maybe we'll become friends."

A playful glint flashed in Yuan Qingheng's beautiful eyes as she sneered, "Friends? You're bold."

"This has nothing to do with boldness." Lin Xun replied with a smile.

He could already tell that Yuan Qingheng was no ordinary person. Even on the other side of the cosmos, her identity must be extraordinary.

Because of this, Lin Xun had no intention of letting her leave so easily. He was very curious about the world on the other side of the cosmos.

"Enough nonsense. I'll only answer three more questions," Yuan Qingheng said bluntly.

Lin Xun thought for a moment, then nodded in agreement.

The first question was about the Great Thousand Worlds.

Yuan Qingheng didn't seem surprised and began explaining calmly.

In the eyes of Yuan Qingheng and other cultivators from the other side of the cosmos, their homeland was known as the Eternal True Realm, a place hailed as the land of eternity and immortality.

Outside the Eternal True Realm stretched a vast expanse of starry sky and countless cosmic planes. These myriad realms were collectively known as the Great Thousand Worlds.

The Ancient Nebula Road was merely one among them.

According to Yuan Qingheng, if the Great Thousand Worlds were ranked by the strength of their forces, the Ancient Nebula Road could barely secure a spot in the top one hundred.

After learning this, Lin Xun's heart stirred. He realized how narrow his understanding had been.

The vast Ancient Nebula Road was ranked only within the top hundred among the Great Thousand Worlds.

The Eternal True Realm that they called the other side of the cosmos was a place that stood supreme over the Great Thousand Worlds!

“Long ago, the Ancient Nebula Road gave birth to countless mighty figures who shook the cosmos. During what you call the beginning of the primeval era, it was ranked among the top three of the Great Thousand Worlds, and it even claimed first place more than once.”

Yuan Qingheng continued, “But then, a calamity struck the origin law power of the Ancient Nebula Road, causing its foundation to collapse and fall into ruin. From that moment on, the Ancestor Stage became the ultimate limit of the cultivation path in this world and the legacy of the path of immortality ceased to exist.”

“What kind of calamity?” Lin Xun’s brows furrowed.

A cunning glint flashed in Yuan Qingheng’s eyes. “Is that your second question?”

Lin Xun realized this woman had no intention of answering honestly. After a brief pause, he said, “That kind of thing won’t be a secret. I’ll find out eventually.”

He then asked his second question: “How is origin law power divided into grades?”

Yuan Qingheng was stunned for a moment, and then realization dawned on her. “You’re a supreme Emperor, but you still don’t know how the law power of heaven and earth are classified? Has Ancient Nebula Road...really fallen to such a state?”

Lin Xun met her gaze without flinching. “Even if it’s fallen, aren’t you still trapped here?”

Yuan Qingheng snorted coldly, “I simply don’t want to waste the cards in my hand.”

As she spoke, she tossed a jade slip to Lin Xun. "This records the division of the origin law power."

Lin Xun quickly glanced at the jade slip, and a surge of emotions stirred in his heart.

It turned out that in the Eternal True Realm, the understanding of law power had reached an almost incomprehensible level, and a complete classification system had been established.

The power of law and order was born from the origin of primal chaos. It was condensed from the origin great dao, the force that maintained the operation of a world and could be considered the origin law of the world.

This power was divided into three ranks and nine grades according to its strength.

The three ranks were: Earth, Heaven and Divine.

Each rank was further divided into nine grades.

Generally speaking, the power of the Earth Rank was already formidable. In the Eternal True Realm, many immortal imperial clans controlled more than one type of Earth Rank power.

For example, the taboo law power currently enveloping the Ancient Nebula Road was an eighth grade Earth Rank lightning law controlled by the Luo Clan from the other side of the cosmos.

As for the Heaven Rank, it was considered the peak, generally controlled only by the most powerful giants.

The Divine Rank law power was incredibly rare.

Even in the Eternal True Realm, only the Eternal Divine Clans who stood at the very pinnacle of existence and reigned over all other clans wielded such power.

After learning this, Lin Xun was more bewildered.

The law power controlled by the Luo Clan was only at the eighth grade of the Earth Rank, yet it could already enshroud the Ancient Nebula Road and pose a threat to all living beings in the world.

How terrifying must a Heaven Rank law power be?

And a Divine Rank law power...just how incredible was it?

And what about the Eternal Divine Clans? What kind of terrifying existence were they?!

The only thing Lin Xun was certain of was that Immortal Imperial Clans were already colossi capable of ruling over the Ancient Nebula Road.

As for the Eternal Divine Clans, even the Immortal Imperial Clans likely had to look up to them!

"Eternal True Realm, the Great Thousand Worlds, the law power of the three ranks and nine grades... It seems the other side of the cosmos is far vaster and more powerful than I ever imagined..." Lin Xun sighed inwardly.

Just then, Yuan Qingheng suddenly asked, "I'm curious...how did you manage to ascend to the Supreme Emperor Stage? After all, without the blessing of the origin law power of this starry sky, it's said that the Ancient Nebula Road should no longer be able to produce a supreme Emperor."

"You want to know? Sure, just answer a few more of my questions and I'll tell you," Lin Xun replied with a smile.

Yuan Qingheng was stunned for a moment, then let out a soft chuckle, "Even if you refuse to tell me, I'll still find out eventually."

You want to bargain with me?

No way!

Lin Xun didn't care and simply asked his third question directly, "What is the status of the Luo Clan in the Eternal True Realm?"

Yuan Qingheng thought for a moment before replying, "In the eyes of ordinary forces, the Luo Clan from the other side of the cosmos is like a towering giant. The power under their command spans across universes. They are beyond reach.

"If we compare them to other Immortal Imperial Clans, they would be considered...mid-tier. Not among the weakest, but not among the strongest either. They can't compare to top-tier clans, but the average Immortal Imperial Clans certainly can't compare to them."

At this point, a thought seemed to surface in Yuan Qingheng's mind. She added, "In truth, the Luo Clan once stood at the very peak. They were considered the strongest among the Immortal Imperial Clans, their power unmatched. But everything changed with the disappearance of the Omega Lord. Since then, the clan has steadily declined."

She gave Lin Xun a meaningful look, "Of course, to your Ancient Nebula Road, a force like the Luo Clan is no different from the gods above."

Lin Xun remained calm and unshaken. "And how do they compare to the Yuan Clan behind you?"

Yuan Qingheng's moist lips curved into a faint smile. "That's your fourth question, but I suppose I'll tell you. In the past, the Luo Clan might have been able to compete with my Yuan Clan, but now...there's no point in comparing them anymore."

Lin Xun suddenly realized that the Immortal Imperial Yuan Clan must be one of the most powerful, top-tier forces among all Immortal Imperial Clans.

Otherwise, Yuan Qingheng would not have spoken with such certainty.

It was no wonder she carried herself with such pride and confidence from the very beginning. Even in her predicament, her pride never wavered.

Lin Xun suddenly asked, “Do you know the immortal clans behind the treasures, the Spear of Many Changes, Axe of Creation, God Executing Sword, and the World Destroying Halberd?”[1]

Back when he was in Nirvana of Transcendence, before becoming an Emperor, during the great tribulation, three men and one woman descended from the boundless starry sky and each wielded supreme, earth-shaking power.

It was the manifestation of the Lord of Fangchun Mountain’s will that defeated the four and revealed to Lin Xun that they were backed by four terrifying immortal clans.

Yuan Qingheng’s eyes narrowed imperceptibly, as if genuinely surprised. “You actually know about four who command Heaven-rank law...”

But then she seemed to come to her senses and sneered, “You have too many questions. This is already the fifth one.”

Lin Xun laughed, “I can tell that those four immortal clans are extremely powerful. Even you seem reluctant to speak arrogantly about them.”

“You think I’ll fall for such a childish provocation?” Yuan Qingheng glared at Lin Xun.

Lin Xun said calmly, “But at least, I already know that the four immortal clans command Heaven Rank law power, and based on what you’ve said, their foundations must surpass even that of the Luo Clan, and perhaps even your Yuan Clan.”

“Keep provoking me and see if I will say another word to you.”

Yuan Qingheng folded her arms, her starlike eyes full of disdain, as if saying: Nice try, your little tricks won’t work on me

Lin Xun let out a sigh, "Forget it, since Miss is so cautious and guarded, let's end our conversation here. Hand over the origin root spirits of the Sacred Cangwu Tree, and I'll let you go."

Chapter 2394 Returning with Treasures

Yuan Qingheng hadn't expected Lin Xun to let her go so readily after trying to extract more information from her.

She stood stunned for a moment, then she raised her hand, and a bronze box covered in intricate dao runes emerged, floating toward Lin Xun through the air.

"This box is also a decent Emperor-grade treasure. It can encompass the four seas and store rare treasures from all directions. I'll give it to you as well."

Lin Xun activated his cultivation to open the bronze box and probed its contents with his spirit sense. Inside, he saw a sacred tree with a bronze-like luster rooted within. Its branches were vigorous and sharp like blades. It was the origin root spirit of the Sacred Cangwu Tree.

He took it out, stored it away, then returned the bronze box with a flick of his sleeve. "Since this was an exchange, I won't take advantage of you."

Yuan Qingheng was slightly taken aback, then snorted coldly, "Fine, keep your principles."

Lin Xun smiled and said nothing more. Without another word, he turned and left this starry sky world.

Yuan Qingheng followed silently behind.

When they reached the summit of Cangwu Mountain, Lin Xun waved his sleeve, lifting the restriction formation shrouding the world.

Yuan Qingheng looked visibly relieved and said, "I didn't expect you to be someone who honors his word. As for the conflict between us earlier...I'll let bygones be bygones."

With that, she soared away, her clothes fluttering in the wind.

Lin Xun remained where he was, watching her leave. He did not try to stop her from beginning to end. Deep down, he knew that if she truly wished to escape, he had no way of retaining her.

From a distance, Yuan Qingheng suddenly turned and her beautiful eyes fixed on Lin Xun. "By the way, what's your name?"

"Lin Daoyuan," Lin Xun replied.

Yuan Qingheng nodded and said nothing more. She vanished in a flash of light and left no trace behind.

Lin Xun stood in silence for a moment, then looked toward the Sacred Cangwu Tree atop Cangwu Mountain. In the end, he gave up the thought of taking it away.

After all, it was merely an empty shell now. In time, it would likely wither and fade from the world.

"It's time to return to the lower world." Without hesitation, Lin Xun turned and left.

Along the way, his thoughts returned again and again to Yuan Qingheng's words.

The Eternal True Realm, the Great Thousand Worlds, law power, Immortal Imperial Clans... All that new information would take a long time for him to fully comprehend.

"Granny Xing."

Somewhere in the vast starry sky, Yuan Qingheng spoke within her sea of consciousness, "Why did you tell me to hold back earlier? Is that guy called Lin Daoyuan really that formidable?"

In her mind-sea, a silver flying shuttle floated silently, casting down a soft immortal glow like rain. From within it, a gentle voice rang warm and kind, "Miss, that young man's cultivation is extraordinary. Even if you used all your trump cards, you might succeed in capturing him, but it would come at a steep price. Since there's no deep-seated enmity between you two, it's best to back down."

Yuan Qingheng paused in surprise, then asked, "What if you took action?"

The kind voice responded calmly, "Miss, don't forget what you just witnessed. Those were merely two of his clones, yet they could go head-to-head with you. For a supreme Emperor to refine his clones to such a level...his true body must be far more terrifying than you imagine."

Yuan Qingheng snorted coldly, a trace of unwillingness flickering in her beautiful eyes. "If I really fought with all my strength, even if it were his true body, I'm confident I could bring him down. But you're right, since there's no grudge between us, it's not worth it."

The voice spoke again, "In my humble opinion, anyone who can reach the Supreme Emperor Stage in a place like the Ancient Nebula Road is far from ordinary. If the opportunity ever arises, keeping someone like him at your side, having him serve you, might one day help you forge your own immortal legacy."

Yuan Qingheng frowned, falling into a moment of thought.

After a while, she shook her head, "Granny Xing, someone like him is too stubborn. There's no way he would ever willingly serve another. Besides, I can't stand him. If I ever meet him again, I'm definitely beating him up first to vent my frustration."

Granny Xing smiled wryly.

In the Eternal True Realm, the young lady was the treasured pearl of the Yuan Clan. Even some patriarchs of the great clans had to treat her with courtesy.

Perhaps it was precisely because of this noble status that, although she was extremely intelligent and had profound cultivation, she had yet to experience true hardship.

However, this kind of tempering might not be a bad thing for her.

After all, the true purpose of this trip was to refine her dao heart. Aside from life and death, nothing else was worth worrying about.

“Granny Xing, where are we heading next?” Yuan Qingheng asked.

Granny Xing answered, “This Ancient Nebula Road, home to the four great dao dominions, once reigned supreme in the Great Thousand Worlds. A long time ago, some legendary figures here were so powerful that even in the Eternal True Realm, they were considered unfathomable, and even the mighty Immortal Imperial Clans dared not take them lightly.”

Granny Xing continued, her tone tinged with melancholy, “But with the disappearance of the Fortune Dominion and the All-Wonder Dominion, and the catastrophe that befall the Kunlun and the Return Dominions, the Ancient Nebula Road began to gradually fall into decline...”

Yuan Qingheng asked, “Were the four great dao dominions that remarkable?”

“They weren’t just remarkable.” Granny Xing replied, seemingly knowing a lot of secrets. “The four great dao dominions are some of the most mysterious and unfathomable places in existence. Even in the Eternal True Realm, few locations could compare to them.

“But that was long ago. Now, both the Kunlun and Return Dominions have long lost their origin power. If that wasn’t the case, then those old monsters in the Eternal True Realm would have already descended to fight over them.”

After a pause, Granny Xing added, “Miss, since we’ve come to the Ancient Nebula Road, why not pay a visit to the Return and Kunlun Dominions? According to what I know, the Omega Lord of the Luo Clan once suffered an invisible defeat in the Return Dominion. That’s also where the mountain gate of Fangchun Mountain is located...”

Yuan Qingheng asked, “Fangchun Mountain?”

“Yes, that Fangchun Mountain.” Granny Xing confirmed.

Yuan Qingheng’s eyes flashed with interest. “Then we absolutely must take a look. I’ve long been curious about what sort of power does this mysterious Fangchun Mountain possess that makes even the Immortal Imperial Clans view it as such a dangerous enemy.”

As they chatted, Yuan Qingheng's figure disappeared into the vast starry sky.

.....

Lower world.

Forbidden City, Mind Cleansing Peak.

Over half a year had passed since Lin Xun's two dao bodies had departed and returned.

During this period, Lin Xun had fought across the battlefields of the Great Emperor Pass and the eight domains, setting off countless storms.

While the major factions of the Ancient Wasteland Domain were toppled one by one, and the entire world was shaken to its core, Lin Xun had already returned quietly.

It was dusk.

Mind Cleansing Peak was bathed in the fiery light of the setting sun, divine brilliance flowing through the air.

Atop the mountain, Lin Xun's five dao bodies had rejoined as one. As their consciousnesses merged, Lin Xun became aware for the first time of the events that had unfolded in the lower domain over the past six months.

However, they were all trifles, and nothing to be concerned about.

Lin Xun released his disciples, Su Bai and Gu Xi, from the treasure and introduced them to everyone on Mind Cleansing Peak.

Then, the two remained behind afterward.

The lower world was undergoing unprecedented changes with every passing period. As a result, cultivating here was even more fruitful than in the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

Su Bai and Gu Xi both agreed without hesitation.

From that day on, Su Bai officially became an elder of the New Genesis Sect, responsible for discipline and enforcement. Gu Xi also joined the sect, but she did not take on any official role. Instead, she stayed by Su Bai's side, assisting him in handling various sect matters.

That very night, Lin Xun's Green Wood Dao Body set off and headed to the Green Lotus Secret Realm.

This was the place of origin of all Heavenly Dao.

Lin Xun's true body sat there in silent meditation.

Before him, the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron floated silently, releasing the radiant purple Phoenix Flame of Order that dispersed the oppressive pressure caused by the heaven's and earth's order.

Four years had passed.

During that time, Lin Xun would attempt to comprehend the profound mysteries of the origin of all Heavenly Daos from time to time. Every time, his understanding of the myriad daos continued to deepen, and the speed at which he grasped these mysteries also steadily increased.

To date, he had already grasped more than five hundred new dao laws!

The core power of the origin of all Heavenly Daos is still steadily being released and dispersed. At this pace, it'll take at least several hundred years before it's completely depleted.

Unfortunately, the remaining complete great dao power here is already scarce and it will only continue to diminish as time goes by. In less than ten years, it may vanish entirely and it would be impossible to comprehend complete great dao power...

A sense of urgency welled up within Lin Xun.

He had to move faster.

“Huh?”

Just then, as if he had sensed something, Lin Xun stood up, put away the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron and exited the secret realm.

Outside the secret realm, Green Wood Dao Body was already waiting.

The primordial spirit of Lin Xun’s true body instantly connected with the Green Wood Dao Body and he understood all that it had experienced over the past few years.

Soon after, he retrieved the origin root spirits of the Sacred Cangwu Tree from the Green Wood Dao Body and stored it away.

Now, he had gathered all the godly materials he needed, such as the origin root spirits of the four sacred trees: Cangwu, Fusang, Jianmu and Kunwu; the absolute breath water; clear and turbid soul star sand; primal chaos soil; and the mythical five-colored dirt.

With everything in place, he could now begin condensing a seedling of the Primal Chaos Tree.

If successful, he would have the chance to comprehend the laws of chaos!

He would never forget that throughout the history of the Ancient Nebula Road, only a few had ever succeeded in nurturing a seedling of the Primal Chaos Tree!

Being able to nurture a Primal Chaos Tree Seedling within one's True Self Emperor World was far more than just grasping the laws of chaos. It would stabilize one's cultivation, temper one's dao laws, and allow their True Self Emperor World to radiate with the true power of primal chaos!

However, after a moment of reflection, Lin Xun made his decision. "Forget it, I'll wait until I can no longer comprehend the complete mysteries of the origin of all Heavenly Daos, then I'll begin condensing the Primal Chaos Tree Seedling..."

His priorities were clear.

He could condense a Primal Chaos Tree Seedling at any time in the future, but his chance to comprehend the complete mysteries of the origin of all Heavenly Daos was once in a lifetime, and time was running out...

Without delay, he sent out a divine thought and the Green Wood Dao Body headed back to Mind Cleansing Peak. Lin Xun planned to leave only one dao body to guard Mind Cleansing Peak, while the rest, along with his true body, would return to the place of origin of all Heavenly Daos for closed-door cultivation!

Chapter 2395 Thirteen Years Later

In the end, the Black Water Dao Body remained on Mind Cleansing Peak.

Meanwhile, his four other dao bodies, Green Wood, White Metal, Yellow Earth and Red Flame, joined Lin Xun in entering closed-door cultivation at the place of origin of all Heavenly Daos.

Flowers bloomed and withered, and time flowed silently by.

As the days passed, the aeth qi concentrations of the lower world grew increasingly rich and abundant. Mountains, rivers, lakes, and forests were rejuvenated, transformed by the nourishing aeth qi.

Countless secret realms and blessed lands were unearthed one after another, sparking fierce competition among cultivators. Blood was shed in battle after battle.

Even the most desolate regions began to flourish, blossoming into lands of beauty and grace.

What was most astonishing of all was the steady expansion of the All Dao Realm and its territory growing continuously.

Among all these changes, the Forbidden City experienced the most dramatic transformation.

This All Dao Holy Land was the heart of the aeth qi concentration revival. Nearly every so often, an earthshaking dao blessing would emerge from within, stirring up awe across the land.

Unfortunately, not even the most powerful forces in the Forbidden City dared to covet these blessings, let alone ordinary cultivators. No matter how tempted they were, no one dared to act recklessly.

The reason was very simple. All these newly appeared dao blessings were considered off-limits and reserved solely for the New Genesis Sect. To compete for them was to challenge the New Genesis Sect directly!

Who would dare to do that?

That would be the same as courting death!

After all, the legendary feats of Lin Xun across the Ancient Wasteland Domain, Great Emperor Pass, and the eight domains had long been passed down to the lower world, causing uproar throughout the cultivation world.

Because of this, Lin Xun was revered as the greatest Emperor of the Ancient Wasteland Domain!

With such a figure presiding over the New Genesis Sect, naturally no one dared to provoke them.

In truth, even if Lin Xun did not get involved, the current strength and foundation of the New Genesis Sect alone were enough to place it among the top-tier forces of the world.

Especially in recent years, the sect had recruited wave after wave of disciples, and among them, many gifted geniuses had emerged, leading the tides of this great era.

As the saying went, the New Genesis Sect gathered all the finest talents under heavens!

With the passage of time, the cultivation levels of its disciples continued to rise, constantly setting new records across the land.

It could even be said that the rise of the New Genesis Sect had long become unstoppable, and sooner or later, it would reign as the true overlord of the lower realm!

The only thing that brought a sense of relief and reassurance to the rest of the lower world was that the New Genesis Sect remained rooted in the Forbidden City, never meddling in outside affairs.

This gave other major forces room to grow, expand their domains and flourish.

After all, the present All Dao Realm was as vast as a world of its own.

Beyond the Forbidden City, many sacred mountains, blessed lands, and hidden secret realms continued to emerge, each brimming with countless opportunities and fortunes that major forces scramble to seize.

Lin Xun had long since stopped concerning himself with the affairs of the outside world.

Even the Black Water Dao Body that was guarding Mind Cleansing Peak only appeared when dealing with matters of great importance.

Most of the time, it stayed in seclusion and remained indifferent to the affairs of the world.

However, while Lin Xun's true body and other dao bodies were immersed in closed-door cultivation, the Black Water Dao Body had not been idle. It had been constantly deducing and unraveling the secrets of one thing.

A heavily sealed bronze box.

This was the item that Xuan Shangchen, the head of the Xuan Clan, had received from Mister Lu and passed it on to Lin Xun.

According to Mister Lu, the box contained a treasure left by Lin Xun's mother, Luo Qingxun. If Lin Xun could unlock it within a hundred years, he would be able to find Luo Qingxun.

However, if he failed to do so within a hundred years, he must completely destroy the box!

When Lin Xun first received the bronze box, he had already guessed that it was an extremely important trial. He never believed Mister Lu intended to deliberately make things difficult for him.

Now, over a decade had passed since Lin Xun received the box, but his understanding of the sealing power on the bronze box remained under ten percent.

In truth, the seal was composed of tens of thousands of layers of interwoven restriction forces. It was clearly a formation personally set up by Mister Lu. Even with Lin Xun's current mastery of dao runes, deducing and unraveling the seal was an incredibly arduous task.

However, based on his calculations, he was confident that he would be able to fully break the seal within a hundred years.

While the Black Water Dao Body continued to focus on comprehending and deciphering the bronze box, in the Green Lotus Secret Realm, Lin Xun and his four dao bodies were seizing every moment to study the profound mysteries of the origin of all Heavenly Daos.

One year passed.

Then three.

Five—

There was no sense of time passing in the mountains and the cold seasons went unnoticed. For cultivators, during closed-door cultivation, time passed in the blink of an eye.

Nine years after Lin Xun's Black Water and Red Flame Dao Bodies returned from the Ancient Wasteland Domain, which also marked the thirteenth year of Lin Xun's closed-door cultivation, on that very day...

At the place of origin of all Heavenly Daos, Lin Xun and the four dao bodies simultaneously awakened from their enlightenment. As their gazes met, a faint trace of sorrow flickered in their eyes.

Originally, based on Lin Xun's initial estimation, he should have been able to continue comprehending for at least another ten years. Unexpectedly, by the ninth year, the core power in the origin of All Heavenly Daos no longer contained the profound secrets of complete great daos. What remained were only incomplete daos and fragmented traces.

If he were to continue cultivating with those flawed daos, the insights he gained would ultimately be limited, and he might not be able to refine them to their fullest potential.

"Never mind, it's time to leave." Lin Xun's true body murmured as he rose to his feet.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

The four dao bodies instantly merged back into his true body.

Lin Xun retrieved the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron and departed.

His true body had been in closed-door cultivation for thirteen years, and the four dao bodies had joined him for nine of those years. Over this time, they had grasped over five thousand new dao laws.

Though the number seemed immense, these five thousand dao laws differed greatly in nature. Some could be considered minor paths, while others were true great daos.

Even among the great daos and the minor paths, there were notable differences and distinctions.

Regardless of their nature, these great dao mysteries formed part of the essential truths behind all phenomena, and once gathered, they would one day lead to a transformation in one's cultivation.

For example, when breaking through and undergoing Ancestor Reversion, the accumulated dao laws could become invaluable capital for attaining the dao!

In fact, throughout the current starry sky, there was likely no one among Lin Xun's peers who could rival him in the sheer number of daos he had grasped.

After all, he had comprehended over five thousand daos, each one complete and each one unveiling the most primordial and fundamental mysteries of existence.

This alone was enough to shake both the past and present.

"The Many Daos Chessboard given by Chess Man also bears the aura of the origin of all Heavenly Daos. if I continue to study it, I'll surely gain even deeper insight into the primordial mysteries of the great dao ..."

As Lin Xun left the place of origin of all Heavenly Daos, he walked through various secret realms with his hands behind his back, thinking quietly to himself.

"Next, it's time to condense a seedling of the Primal Chaos Tree..."

While he pondered, he arrived at the secret realm where Toady was cultivating in isolation.

After all these years, A'lu had successfully broken through and ascended to the Emperor Stage in one go. During his Emperor tribulation, he had awakened his innate bloodline power, and his physical strength had skyrocketed to monstrous levels, leaving his peers far behind.

Only Toady had yet to show any signs of breakthrough after all these years.

“Big Brother.” Toady greeted Lin Xun the moment he arrived, his face clouded with frustration. With a long sigh, he said, “It’s still no use. I can’t sense the opportunity to become an Emperor at all.”

His cultivation had already reached the pinnacle of the quasi-Emperor Stage, but the opportunity to become an Emperor had yet to come. Seeing A’lu, Little Silver, Little Sky, and A’hu all achieve breakthroughs left him feeling increasingly agitated and discouraged.

“What’s the rush? The longer you temper yourself, the greater your dao will be when you finally break through.”

Lin Xun smiled and patted Toady on the shoulder. “Don’t forget, back when we first met, you said that you were a one-of-a-kind existence, and that’s why your father named you Jin Duyi. Since you’re truly unique, then your chance to become an Emperor will naturally be different from everyone else’s.”

Toady sneered, “Big Brother, there’s no need to comfort me. I’ve seen many storms, so how would I not understand the ways of cultivation? Don’t worry, no matter how many years it takes, no matter what I face, I will never give up on becoming an Emperor.”

Lin Xun nodded. “So do you plan to continue your cultivation here or leave?”

“Leave!” Toady replied without hesitation, “Staying in secluded cultivation isn’t helping anymore. I plan to go into the world and search for my opportunity. Maybe I’ll find the key to my breakthrough out there and become an Emperor.”

“That’s a good idea.”

Lin Xun left the secret realm with Toady.

Along the way, he summoned A’hu, A’lu, Little Silver, and Little Sky who were all exploring various secret realms. Together, they departed the Green Lotus Secret Realm.

On the summit of Mind Cleansing Peak Lin Xun hosted a banquet. He drank and chatted with Toady and the others, and told them his next plan.

After condensing the seedling of the Primal Chaos Tree, he intended to leave the lower world and return to the Kunlun Dominion. After that...it was very likely he wouldn't return for a long time.

Once he finished explaining his plans, he asked Toady and the others about theirs.

"I want to travel the outside world and search for an opportunity to become an Emperor." Toady said, and Lin Xun already knew this.

Lin Xun turned to A'hu and the others.

"I'll go with whatever you decide." A'hu said with a smile, "I'm all alone now anyway."

"Same here," Little Silver said without a thought.

"I'm with Little Silver." Little Sky added in her usual soft, shy tone, her large watery eyes full of innocence.

"I..."

Before A'lu could speak, Lin Xun smiled and cut him off, "Alright, no need to say it. I know you're thinking the same as the others."

A'lu scratched his head and laughed.

"In that case...you should all stay in the lower realm for now."

Lin Xun paused for a moment and continued, "With the ongoing revival of aeth qi concentrations, this world will eventually transform into a divine land comparable to the Central Plain State in the Great

Primordial Chaos World. If you cultivate here, your chances of breakthrough will be far greater than most other Emperors. But if you follow me now, it may do more harm than good.”

A’hu didn’t object, or perhaps she had already anticipated such an arrangement from Lin Xun, so she nodded in agreement without hesitation.

Chapter 2396 Great Thousand Battle Domain

A’lu, Little Silver, and the others stood still, clearly reluctant.

“Big Brother, except for Toady, all of us have already become Emperors.” A’lu said, “Why can’t we follow you into battle?”

“That’s right, Master.” Little Silver and Little Sky echoed, their eyes full of longing as they looked at Lin Xun.

Lin Xun also felt a trace of reluctance in his heart, but he still shook his head and said, “If you really want to help me, then stay here and watch over the New Genesis Sect. When I return in the future, I don’t want to see anything that has gone wrong.”

A’hu added with a smile, “The path of the great dao is long, and everyone must walk on their own. Since you’ve made this decision, I trust you’ve thought it through. So, guys...just listen to him.”

Lin Xun smiled and said, “Besides, I’m not leaving just yet.”

Realizing that Lin Xun had made up his mind, Little Silver, Little Sky, and the others couldn’t help but feel sad and disappointed.

Sensing the change in atmosphere, Lin Xun quickly shifted the conversation to lighten the mood and keep it from turning too somber.

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The next day.

Lin Xun returned to the Green Lotus Secret Realm and began to condense the seedling of the Primal Chaos Tree.

Meanwhile, Toady left alone to travel the outside world. Among all of Lin Xun's companions, he was the only one who had yet to become an Emperor. After years of closed-door cultivation without success, he came to understand that enlightenment would not come by waiting alone.

Under A'hu's orders, A'lu followed him in secret, protecting him from the shadows.

In the lower world today, aside from the Forbidden City, all other regions were undergoing constant upheaval. It was a time of great turbulence, with battles and conflicts breaking out everywhere.

Although Toady was only one step away from the Emperor Stage, he was not yet a true Emperor. With A'lu watching over him, he would be safe even if he encountered danger.

Little Silver and Little Sky remained on Mind Cleansing Peak with A'hu, assuming the positions of supreme elders within the New Genesis Sect.

In truth, their responsibilities were light, almost leisurely.

However, everyone knew that so long as they remained, even if Lin Xun departed, the New Genesis Sect would still possess the strength to command awe across the world!

A year later.

On the shores of the East Sea.

Yuan Qingheng, dressed in flowing green robes with her black hair tied up in a graceful bun, wandered leisurely through a bustling city. Her clear eyes sparkled with curiosity as she looked around.

Along the way, countless onlookers were left stunned by her breathtaking beauty and graceful bearing. Unfortunately, just as they blinked, she had already vanished from sight.

She was as swift as a startled swan.

"I didn't expect Lin Daoyuan to be a successor of Fangchun Mountain and so well-known in the All Dao Realm." As Yuan Qingheng strolled along the bustling street, she spoke inwardly, "Granny Xing, before I leave, I'd like to see him one more time."

"Miss, do you intend to keep him by your side? That won't be easy. You yourself said he's a successor of Fangchun Mountain." Granny Xing's voice echoed gently in her mind-sea.

"I don't intend to recruit him. I just want to guide him toward a clear path. Let's call it...a gesture of good karma." With her fair, slender hands clasped behind her back and a figure as graceful as a painting, Yuan Qingheng walked among the crowd. Despite that, there was not a hint of worldliness in her bearing.

"Good karma? That's fine, but remember to not get too involved with him. In the Eternal True Realm, many Immortal Imperial Clans still see Fangchun Mountain as a sworn enemy." Granny Xing reminded her after a pause.

Yuan Qingheng nodded. "Granny Xing, don't you think Lin Daoyuan's rise is fascinating? From his early fame in the Ziyao Empire to becoming a supreme Emperor in just over a hundred years...it's nothing short of astonishing."

"You're not wrong, Miss. Even though the aeth qi concentration in this world is recovering, it still can't be compared with the Eternal True Realm. it's like comparing a pond to an ocean." Granny Xing agreed. "Even in the Eternal True Realm, reaching the Emperor Stage in such a short time is a rare feat. Typically, only the Immortal Imperial Clans who control Heaven Rank law power can nurture such talents."

"For Lin Daoyuan to rise to such heights in this 'pond'...it proves that Fangchun Mountain's foundation is anything but ordinary."

"I dare to say that Lin Daoyuan might be the only one in Ancient Nebula Road who has achieved this level of cultivation."

Yuan Qingheng said, "That's exactly why I'm curious. If someone like him were to enter the Eternal True Realm, what kind of storm could he stir up?"

"What do you plan to do, Miss?" asked Granny Xing.

"Guide him," Yuan Qingheng replied casually.

Seven days later.

Forbidden City.

At the foot of Mind Cleansing Peak, Yuan Qingheng appeared alone.

Her gaze swept across the disciples guarding the mountain gate, before rising to the summit above.

At almost the same time, the Black Water Dao Body who had been silently meditating atop the peak opened its eyes and stood up.

The next moment, it appeared before the mountain gate, looking at Yuan Qingheng with a hint of puzzlement. "I didn't expect Miss Yuan to pay a personal visit. May I ask what brings you here?"

"Must I have a reason to visit?"

Yuan Qingheng replied, her beautiful eyes as clear as autumn water. She glanced at Lin Xun and continued, "Don't worry. I'll be returning to the Eternal True Realm soon. Before I leave, I simply want to speak with you."

“You’re always welcome.” Lin Xun said warmly, “There are many things I’ve been meaning to ask. Please come in.”

As he spoke, he turned and led the way.

Yuan Qingheng nodded and followed.

Along the way, many disciples of the New Genesis Sect were left stunned—not only by Yuan Qingheng’s breathtaking beauty, but also by her status.

She was personally received and guided by their patriarch.

Lin Xun offered no explanation, while Yuan Qingheng remained poised and calm.

This kind of scene was nothing to her. Even in the Eternal True Realm, she maintained the same calmness when facing high-ranking figures from Immortal Imperial Clans.

At the mountain summit.

The sea of clouds billowed, and the mountain breeze drifted gently.

Beneath an ancient tree, Lin Xun and Yuan Qingheng sat across from each other. A tea set and delicate plates of food sat on the table between them.

“This place is not bad. It sits at the origin core of all Heavenly Dao. Within a hundred years, it will surely become one of the world’s finest blessed lands.” Yuan Qingheng surveyed her surroundings, her voice as pleasant as the murmuring of a mountain stream.

“Thank you for the compliment, Miss Yuan.”

Lin Xun smiled and poured her a cup of tea. "But compared to the Eternal True Realm, this small world still has a long way to go."

Yuan Qingheng looked at him intently and asked, "Fellow Daoist, have you ever thought about going to the Eternal True Realm?"

Lin Xun nodded with a light smile, "It's been on my mind for a long time, but worldly entanglements have held me back from taking action."

Yuan Qingheng's beauty was a kind of noble grace that emanated deep within her. Even as she sat opposite, she seemed distant, almost ethereal, like she didn't belong to the mortal world.

When facing her, even Lin Xun had to admit she was extraordinary. The quiet self-confidence she carried was something that even many Emperors could not match.

"Then fellow daoist, do you know how to get there?" Yuan Qingheng asked.

Lin Xun raised his brows before shaking his head. "I don't for now."

"That means I arrived at the right time." Yuan Qingheng smiled, her fair and beautiful face illuminated by the bright sky exuded a breathtaking beauty.

Lin Xun was puzzled. "What do you mean?"

Yuan Qingheng replied, "I came here to guide you on how to reach the Eternal True Realm."

"Tell me more." Lin Xun's interest was piqued.

Next, Yuan Qingheng explained everything.

It turned out that there were two ways to reach the Eternal True Realm, whether from the Ancient Nebula Road or other cosmic planes in the universe.

The first way was to be received by someone.

Specifically, the major forces in the Eternal True Realm would take action to bring experts from other worlds and planes into the Eternal True Realm.

However, generally speaking, nearly all factions in the Eternal True Realm would be reluctant to do this.

Because the method of receiving required an extremely high price, even colossal entities like the Immortal Imperial Clans would not do it lightly.

According to Yuan Qingheng, the price to bring outsiders into the Eternal True Realm was even greater than cultivating an Emperor!

Unless there was an extremely special reason, no force would choose this path.

The second way was to venture onto the Great Thousand Battle Domain and carve a path to the Eternal True Realm from there!

The so-called Great Thousand Battle Domain was a vast cosmic plane lying between the Eternal True Realm and the Great Thousand Worlds, stretching across the starry sky like a dangerous road.

Countless obstacles and unpredictable dangers lay along the way.

Over endless years, all the giants and authorities from different universes had to face this trial if they wished to enter the Eternal True Realm.

Unfortunately, only one in a thousand could emerge from the Great Thousand Battle Domain unscathed!

The reason for this was very simple.

The perils within the vast Great Thousand Battle Domain were enough to challenge even the strongest Emperor-level cultivators!

Over the boundless years, countless corpses of great Emperors had been buried along this path, and each checkpoint in the Great Thousand Battle Domain had been stained by the crimson blood of the Emperors.

Anyone below the Emperor Stage was simply not qualified to step onto the Great Thousand Battle Domain.

The dangers in the Great Thousand Battle Domain alone could easily claim the lives of anyone beneath the Emperor Stage!

Thus, the Great Thousand Battle Domain earned its infamous reputation as the Trail of Emperor's Blood. Those who survived could enter the Eternal True Realm and seek the way to immortality and eternity.

Of course, for those who failed, they would ultimately become nothing but corroded bones scattered across the vast battlefield!

After learning this, Lin Xun froze for a moment.

This was the first time he had learned that going to the Eternal True Realm involved such a dangerous trial.

It was clear now that even without the taboo law power covering the Ancient Nebula Road, crossing the starry sky to the other side of the cosmos, the Eternal True Realm, was no simple feat!

Suddenly, Lin Xun thought of his eldest senior brother, third senior sister and others from Fangchun Mountain who had left years ago.

They...had they also faced the dangers of the Great Thousand Battle Domain?

He also remembered the cultivators who had swarmed to the other side of the cosmos when the taboo law power faded.

Among them were Emperors, but many others were below the Emperor Stage. If they had ventured into the Great Thousand Battle Domain...

It was very likely they would face a life-or-death situation and their chances of survival were slim!

Chapter 2397 Primal Chaos Tree!

Yuan Qingheng sat back leisurely, sipping her tea.

She had anticipated Lin Xun's reaction. In fact, anyone who had never set foot into the Eternal True Realm would likely feel some pressure upon hearing about the Great Thousand Battle Domain.

Some might even abandon the idea entirely!

Even an Emperor Ancestor would think twice before taking action.

After all, the Great Thousand Battle Domain was truly too dangerous.

After a moment of silence, Lin Xun raised his eyes to look at Yuan Qingheng. She set down her teacup and asked, "What's on your mind?"

"One must venture into the Great Thousand Battle Domain to enter the Eternal True Realm?" asked Lin Xun.

Yuan Qingheng nodded. "If someone's cultivation surpasses the Emperor Ancestor Stage, crossing the Great Thousand Battle Domain would be nothing to them."

"Who created this trial?" Lin Xun asked.

Yuan Qingheng was taken aback by the question. She paused, then replied, "It's been like this since ancient times."

"With the power of those colossi in the Eternal True Realm, would they be able to destroy the Great Thousand Battle Domain?"

Yuan Qingheng was caught off guard again, seemingly unsure of how to answer.

However, Lin Xun smiled and added, "I'm just speculating. If the Great Thousand Battle Domain was erased, the barrier would disappear. In that case, anyone could freely enter the Eternal True Realm, wouldn't they?"

"How is that possible?"

Yuan Qingheng's clear eyes narrowed. "If that happened, the major forces in the Eternal True Realm would likely face challenges from forces across different cosmic planes in the Great Thousand Worlds, which would definitely lead to countless disasters. The Eternal True Realm would be thrown into chaos."

Lin Xun's lips curved into a half-smile. "Perhaps, it's precisely because of what you just said that the Great Thousand Battle Domain has existed as a natural barrier since ancient times. It blocks the path of countless cultivators and prevents many disasters for the major forces in the Eternal True Realm."

Yuan Qingheng fell silent.

She had never considered this perspective before.

"Setting a threshold to block all dangers that might encroach upon their interests...perhaps this is the true purpose behind the Great Thousand Battle Domain's existence." Lin Xun said thoughtfully. "Anyone who dares to break through that threshold is equivalent to declaring war on the entire Eternal True Realm. Perhaps that's exactly why the Great Thousand Battle Domain has survived since ancient times."

Yuan Qingheng couldn't help but ask, "If what you said is true, then in your opinion, what kind of power would it take to break this threshold?"

Lin Xun replied calmly, "I wouldn't dare guess, but at the very least...one would need the power to stand against the entire Eternal True Realm."

Yuan Qingheng burst out laughing, "Fellow Daoist, there has never been anyone in history capable of opposing the entire Eternal True Realm. Not in the past, not now, and not in the future. That's simply impossible."

What kind of joke was this?

The Eternal True Realm stood high above all others in the Great Thousand Worlds. It was a symbol of eternity and immortality, home to countless Immortal Imperial Clans.

Furthermore, above those Immortal Imperial Clans were the Eternal Divine Clans!

Who could possibly defy them?

If such a person truly existed, then how could the Eternal True Realm still call itself 'eternal'?

Therefore, in Yuan Qingheng's eyes, Lin Xun's words were nothing more than an unrealistic fantasy that would never happen.

Lin Xun simply smiled and said no more. It hadn't happened yet, but did that mean it never would?

It was hard to say!

"Well, I've had my tea and said what I came to say. It's time for me to leave." Yuan Qingheng rose to her feet, her green robe fluttering. Her elegant figure appeared indistinct in the drifting mist, adding an ethereal charm to her beauty.

Lin Xun also stood up and said, "Leaving so soon? There's still so much I want to ask you..."

Yuan Qingheng snorted lightly, "Everything you want to know is in the Eternal True Realm. Why don't you go see it for yourself? I won't fall for your tricks again and let you pull more answers out of me."

Lin Xun chuckled and clasped his hands in a cupped fist salute. "In that case, I wish you a safe journey and a safe return home."

After a brief pause, Yuan Qingheng tossed him a light green sachet. "Inside is a green sparrow that knows everything about the Great Thousand Battle Domain. I'm giving it to you."

Lin Xun caught the sachet. It was embroidered with a strange inscription of the character 'Yuan.' In his hand, it felt as light as a feather and gave off a faint and refreshing aroma that soothed the mind.

"Thank you, Miss Yuan."

Lin Xun did not decline the gift. Since he intended to travel to the other side of the cosmos one day, having this treasure would no doubt spare him a lot of trouble along the way.

Yuan Qingheng hesitated for a moment before speaking, "This sachet was sewn by my grandmother. You must take good care of it. If we meet again in the Eternal True Realm, you must return it to me."

Lin Xun was stunned for a moment.

However, Yuan Qingheng had already turned away, her figure drifting into the sea of clouds like a divine green arc.

She vanished from sight, leaving behind only the faint fragrance of the sachet in his hand.

After a long moment, Lin Xun put the sachet away. He could vaguely sense that her purpose in coming here was to urge him to go to the Eternal True Realm.

As for why, Lin Xun couldn't say for sure.

"Parted with a sachet in hand, and now the beauty is gone. Yet Little Martial Uncle, you stand here dazed as if lost in thought. Could it be that you can't bear the kindness of such a fair maiden?" A'hu had appeared at some point, her bright eyes curving like crescent moons as she smiled mischievously.

Lin Xun snapped out of his thoughts, then chuckled, "She and I were almost enemies once. How could I have any other thoughts about her?"

A'hu let out a soft "oh" and said, "Since ancient times, there's never been a shortage of love born from conflict. Besides, that girl is elegant like an orchid, and her beauty and bearing are as ethereal as a fairy. And she radiates a noble aura from deep within. She is clearly someone of extraordinary background. What man wouldn't be drawn to her? It's nothing to be embarrassed about..."

Lin Xun shot her a look. "You're just stirring up trouble again. Also, didn't I tell you to stop calling me Little Martial Uncle?"

A'hu chuckled, her laughter crisp and sweet.

In terms of appearance, A'hu was in no way inferior to Yuan Qingheng. She had both the ethereal beauty of a fairy and the allure of a temptress. Her unique charm had long captivated countless men in the New Genesis Sect, leaving them in a state of helpless and obsessive admiration.

Even some older cultivators didn't dare to look at A'hu directly in the eye, lest their dao hearts be shaken.

Thankfully, A'hu rarely showed herself, so the New Genesis Sect was not affected.

Otherwise, with her beauty, she could have brought disaster to an entire realm.

"A'hu, how about I, your little Martial Uncle, help you find a cultivation partner?" Lin Xun suddenly asked.

A’hu blinked her bright eyes. “Sure, I don’t ask for much, just someone who can barely compare to you.”

Lin Xun said in a serious tone, “That might be a bit of a challenge, but I imagine the Eternal True Realm will have some good-looking talents.”

A’hu stared at him blankly. “Are you being serious right now?”

Lin Xun smiled. “When it comes to your happiness, how could I not be?”

A’hu rolled her eyes. “Instead of worrying about me, you should think carefully about how to handle Miss Jingxuan and Miss Xia Zhi! Oh and let’s not forget the maiden who just gifted you a sachet. I’m really curious to see how you plan to juggle them all, Little Martial Uncle.”

Lin Xun became speechless at this.

Just as he was about to speak again, A’hu had already turned and walked away with a smile.

He shook his head with a faint smile, then turned and returned to his residence.

.....

Time flew by and three years passed in the blink of an eye.

On this day, in an Origin World in the Green Lotus Secret Realm—Boom!

A deafening roar echoed like the first sound of the creation of the world. Heaven and earth quaked violently, and all living things trembled.

In the distance, a tall figure soared into the sky.

Behind him, a phantom of a divine tree slowly emerged, its trunk reaching the heavens and its branches stretching across the firmament, connecting the sky and the earth. Radiant light like primal chaos poured down, weaving endless visions across the world!

Furthermore, Lin Xun, standing before the sacred tree, was like a god, the center of the endless visions!

The earth-shaking rumble was caused by this grand and boundless manifestation.

After some time, the phantom of the sacred tree slowly faded. Silence returned to the world.

Lin Xun hovered midair, joy lighting up his face.

Success!

After four years of intense meditation, he had finally condensed a sapling of the Primal Chaos Tree!

At this moment, in his True Self Emperor World, a lush, foot-tall tree now stood proudly, its trunk no thicker than a newborn's arms and its branches bearing only a few translucent jade-green leaf buds.

Despite that, the small tree, from top to bottom, was suffused with swirling primal chaos qi, intertwining into mysterious and obscure law powers, constantly drifting and flowing.

With the presence of this single tree, his entire True Self Emperor World had changed. The mountains, rivers, lakes, seas, sun, moon, stars, every blade of grass and every tree...all pulsed with a living rhythm, as if imbued with spirit and life.

This was the sapling of the Primal Chaos Tree!

It was condensed from the origin root spirits of the four sacred trees, mythical five-colored dirt, primal chaos soil, and other godly materials.

It was a treasure rarely seen through the ages, something even Emperor Ancestors had only dreamed of. Throughout history and across the vast starry sky, only a handful have been able to condense such a divine treasure!

To possess it was equivalent to holding the key to comprehending the laws of chaos. As the sapling grew, more and more laws of chaos would emerge.

What was most miraculous was that this sapling could fortify Lin Xun's cultivation and strengthen his great dao foundation.

As his cultivation level improved, the Primal Chaos Tree Seedling would also grow alongside him. The primal chaos qi it emitted during its growth would also be fed back into his True Self Emperor World, further refining and elevating Lin Xun's cultivation!

It was a perfect cycle of mutual nourishment. In particular, when the Primal Chaos Tree fully matured one day, it could even imbue Lin Xun's True Self Emperor World with the foundation of primal chaos, giving rise to all living beings.

Of course, what Lin Xun looked forward to the most was the chance to grasp a complete law of chaos!

"It took four years to sprout a seed and grow it into a sapling. Now, this tree has finally merged with my cultivation, and one day, it will blot out the sun and sky!"

Lin Xun took a deep breath, his eyes deep and profound. "And now, it's time to leave..."

Chapter 2398 The Lin Family Has a Son

Originally, Lin Xun had planned to set off as soon as he condensed the seedling of the Primal Chaos Tree. However, just as he was about to leave, an unexpected event stopped him in his tracks.

That day, fine cracks appeared on the surface of the golden dragon cocoon!

Crack... Crack...

When Lin Xun carefully retrieved the golden dragon cocoon, he heard faint rustling sounds as fragments etched with strange dao runes began to fall away.

As each piece dropped, it dissolved like melting snow, vanishing into the air.

However, Lin Xun no longer paid any attention to that.

His hands were clenched tight.

His body went rigid.

His eyes widened as he stared at the golden dragon cocoon that was constantly undergoing transformation.

His state of mind that was always as calm as ice and as unshakable as a mountain, even in the face of death, began to waver.

A surge of tension, nervousness, excitement, and unease—emotions that he had never experienced so fiercely rushed through his chest like a sudden storm, stretching him taut like a drawn bowstring.

Creak... Creak...

The faint sounds of cracking continued, and time seemed to slow to a crawl.

Then, finally, Lin Xun saw a familiar figure.

She lay there quietly, bathed in a soft and radiant golden glow. Her long black hair spilled like a waterfall, and her flawless, serene face shimmered with a quiet beauty.

Zhao Jingxuan!

After all these years, the moment he saw the woman he loved most again, Lin Xun felt like his heart stopped. His emotions surged wildly, unstoppable.

Lin Xun opened his mouth, wanting to speak, but the next moment he froze.

As if struck by lightning.

His mind went blank, his gaze locked onto Zhao Jingxuan's arms.

Nestled there was a naked infant, staring up at him with wide, clear eyes full of curiosity.

The baby's tiny feet curled softly, his skin fair and delicate. Although only a newborn, his features were already striking, especially his eyes, which were a mirror of his mother's, Zhao Jingxuan.

His little nose and pursed mouth bore a great resemblance to Lin Xun.

Boom!

Lin Xun felt as if his mind had exploded. His entire body trembled. How could he not understand that this little one was the son he had longed for and worried about for so many years?

However, never had Lin Xun imagined that this moment would arrive so suddenly, so unexpectedly. It completely took him by surprise.

For a moment, he stood there, dazed.

"Yeeyaa!" A baby's voice rang out, soft, high-pitched and full of energy.

At the same time, a gentle laugh followed, "Look at your silly father, he's completely speechless."

Lin Xun finally snapped out of his daze. Taking a few deep breaths, he looked again. The golden dragon cocoon had vanished and Zhao Jingxuan was now standing.

She wore a flowing jade robe adorned with a subtle cloud pattern. Her jet-black hair was casually tied back with a red cord, and her slender figure radiated a gentle, mature beauty. In her snow-white arms, she cradled the baby tenderly.

Her eyes were soft, filled with deep affection as she gazed at Lin Xun.

After so many long years, the moment she awakened, the first person she saw was the one she had missed day and night. Her heart stirred with a flood of emotions.

“Jingxuan.”

Lin Xun could no longer hold back. He stepped forward and wrapped his arms around Zhao Jingxuan, but he was careful of the baby nestled in her embrace.

Zhao Jingxuan let out a light laugh, then lowered her gaze to the baby and said, “Say Father.”

The baby squinted his dark eyes and called out in a clear, crisp voice, “Father.”

Lin Xun was completely stunned. “He...he can talk already?”

Zhao Jingxuan blinked, a glimmer of pride shining in her eyes. “Don’t you know whose child this is? How could he be like ordinary children?”

In a mother’s eyes, her child was always the most extraordinary in the world.

Lin Xun couldn’t help but smile. He reached out carefully and stroked the baby’s soft, tender cheek. An indescribable warmth bloomed in his heart.

“Father, Mother is right. From the moment I was born, I’ve retained all the memories and everything I experienced and understood when I was in the golden dragon cocoon all these years.”

The baby continued in a clear voice, “Though my mother and I hadn’t yet fully awakened then, we were able to communicate through our consciousness. I’ve long grasped the mysteries of the dao and the wonders of all things in the world. So you better not treat me like some clueless baby.”

As he spoke, he widened his eyes seriously.

However, with his chubby cheeks, delicate features, and soft baby voice, it made him even more adorable.

With emotions tumbling in his chest, Lin Xun gently picked up the baby with both hands, held him close and tried to sense and connect with him.

After a while, Lin Xun had to admit that this child of his and Jingxuan’s was anything but ordinary.

He was far too extraordinary. Within his tiny body was a complete Origin Aeth Artery, the first stage of the innate talent Grand Abyss Heaven Devourer, which was exactly as what Lin Xun had possessed as a child.

The blood coursing through his veins was imprinted with incomparably pure True Dragon blood—vast, profound, and shining brilliantly.

He was born with two heaven-defying innate powers!

Even his tendons, bones, skin, organs, meridians and acupoints pulsed with wonderful dao rhythm, radiating precious light!

“Dear, when this child was still in my womb, he was immersed in my clan’s True Dragon Pond and nurtured by the sacred source of the Ancestral Dragon. Later, the progenitor ancestor of our clan blessed him with extraordinary talents...”

Zhao Jingxuan continued softly, "Over the years, I communicated with him through consciousness, sharing the mysteries of the great dao and the wonders of all things. Although he's just been born, he's far from an ordinary child."

Lin Xun nodded, then pulled the baby gently into his arms, and said softly, "I don't care about all that. He's our child. Even if he's a monster, he's still our child."

"Father, I'm not a monster," said the baby in an innocent and soft voice.

Lin Xun chuckled, pressing his cheek against the baby's. "Jingxuan, have you given him a name yet?"

"He only has a nickname, Baobao." Zhao Jingxuan said, "As for his proper name, that's something the father should decide."

Lin Xun immediately fell into thought.

At the same time, the baby, temporarily called Lin Baobao, looked nervous. His big, dark eyes darted around anxiously, as if he was worried that his father might give him an ugly name.

"He was born extraordinary, with exceptional talent and unmatched intelligence. In all the history of the world, he could be called a natural-born cultivator."

After a long pause, Lin Xun continued, "But these gifts are both a blessing and a burden. As he matures, they could easily affect his heart and character."

Zhao Jingxuan was stunned for a moment, then frowned. "He's our child. As long as we teach him properly, how could he go astray?"

"Father, I won't become a bad person," Lin Baobao said earnestly.

Lin Xun smiled, but his heart stirred uneasily. He couldn't help but think of his fourth senior brother, Ling Xuanzi. He was also a prodigy, once hailed as unrivalled through the ages, incomparably intelligent and blessed with peerless talent.

Unfortunately, the path his fourth senior brother had taken warped his heart and changed his character!

Lin Xun would never allow his own son to repeat the same mistake.

"Fine. Let me think about it carefully before deciding on a name for our child." Lin Xun pondered for a while but couldn't make up his mind. In the end, he decided to take a little more time.

"That's a good idea." Zhao Jingxuan nodded in agreement.

The two whispered to each other, sharing their thoughts and feelings. Hours passed before Lin Baobao finally drifted into a peaceful sleep in their arms.

It couldn't be helped. The little one had so much energy.

"Husband, have you missed me all these years?" Zhao Jingxuan asked, her voice low and soft, her starry eyes glowing with deep affection.

"There isn't a single day I haven't thought about you." Lin Xun replied with a smile. As he looked at their sleeping child, his heart swelled with love for him.

"Then don't you think you should make it up to me?" Zhao Jingxuan's graceful body leaned in closer, her breath as sweet as orchids in bloom.

Lin Xun paused, a little startled, then sighed deeply. "I know it's been hard on you and our child all these years."

As he spoke, he glanced down at Lin Baobao again, smiling warmly, "Now I understand what it means to be a father... It really is different..."

Zhao Jingxuan suddenly straightened up, fixing her gaze on Lin Xun. "Now that you have a child, you're ignoring me?"

Lin Xun blinked in surprise and explained quickly, "How could I? It's just that I just met our child, so I can't help but..."

Before he could finish, Zhao Jingxuan gently took the baby from his arms, saying, "You can look at him later. Now look at me properly."

She placed Lin Baobao into a treasure, and then loosened the red string binding her long black hair, her eyes locking with Lin Xun's.

In contrast to her younger self, Zhao Jingxuan now exuded a mature elegance. Her chest was full, her waist slim and delicate, and the simple jade robe could hardly conceal her tall, slender and mesmerizing figure.

"How do I look?" she asked.

Lin Xun nodded without hesitation. "Beautiful. Even the fairies in heaven would pale in comparison."

Zhao Jingxuan smirked, "You're not sincere."

Lin Xun frowned, sensing something off in Zhao Jingxuan's demeanor, and gently probed, "Jingxuan, are you mad?"

"Why would I be mad, you fool!" Zhao Jingxuan snapped, but her expression soon softened as she laughed. It was like a flower blooming after the rain.

Lin Xun smiled, confused.

Fool?

Seeing Lin Xun's puzzled face, Zhao Jingxuan couldn't help but sigh, "It seems you haven't missed me at all these years."

A sudden realization dawned on Lin Xun, as if a blockhead had finally had a breakthrough. He burst out laughing and swept Zhao Jingxuan up into his arms, and began striding away.

"What are you doing?" Zhao Jingxuan was a little flustered.

"What does it look like?" Lin Xun said mischievously. "Don't you want to do something?"

Zhao Jingxuan's fair face flushed bright red, becoming hot and burning. She buried her head in Lin Xun's chest, her body as soft and fragrant as warm jade.

"You jerk!" she spat.

"If I'm not a jerk, then I'm a fool."

"Really? So you know you're a fool..."

During the slightly intimate conversation, Lin Xun carried her off into the distance, disappearing into the horizon.

At the horizon, the fiery sunset bathed them in a warm glow, as if even the sky was blushing at the sight.

Chapter 2399 Matters Concerning Lin Fan's Growth

Half a month later.

Lin Xun, Zhao Jingxuan and their child, Lin Baobao, returned to Mind Cleansing Peak, immediately drawing countless eyes and attention.

“So cute!” A’hu exclaimed, pinching the little boy’s cheek. Her eyes lit up with joy and her voice softened with affection.

“Little Master, I am Little Silver! From now on, I’ll be your protector!” Little Silver crossed his arms and declared proudly.

Little Sky, standing beside him, nodded enthusiastically in agreement.

Over a decade had passed, and Shi Linlang had grown into a beautiful young lady. Dressed in a light blue gown, she looked graceful and fresh. Unable to resist, she stepped forward, scooped Lin Baobao into her arms, and planted a kiss on his forehead. “Little Brother Baobao is so good-looking!”

Everyone burst into laughter.

Lin Baobao had inherited the best traits from his parents. He had delicate, handsome features that naturally drew affection from everyone around him.

However, Lin Baobao wriggled in Shi Linlang’s embrace and cried out, “Miss, you’re squishing me.”

The crowd fell silent in shock, their expressions turning strange.

Shi Linlang’s face turned crimson as she hurriedly passed him to Zhao Jingxuan. “Little Brother Baobao just came into the world, why...why can he talk already?”

Lin Baobao said proudly, “Talking is nothing! I understood the principles of the great dao even before I was born. I’m far beyond you.”

Everyone’s jaws dropped and their eyes widened in disbelief.

Even a heaven-born holy child couldn’t compare to him!

Zhao Jingxuan flicked her finger against Lin Baobao's forehead and scolded gently, "Don't speak so rudely. Do it again and I'll punish you."

Lin Baobao quickly nodded with a pitiful look, "Big Sister, I was wrong. Please forgive me, otherwise, Mother will spank me."

Shi Linlang couldn't help but giggle. "How could I possibly argue with a little kid like you?"

Lin Baobao also laughed.

Swoosh!

The big black bird suddenly swooped in and studied Lin Baobao with sparkling eyes. "Little boy, I did a quick calculation and discovered that you and I are fated. If you agree to become my disciple...see this black pot? I'll give it to you!"

Lin Baobao glanced at the black pot strapped to the big black bird's back and rolled his eyes. "You're a big bad bird, you better keep that black pot on your own back."

The big black bird was flustered, "You're just like your father!"

Everyone couldn't help but burst into laughter.

From a distance, Lin Xun came over, followed by Su Bai and Gu Xi. Seeing this lively and heartwarming scene, a smile spread across his face.

In his heart was a deep reluctance to leave.

Originally, he had arranged everything and planned to depart after successfully condensing the sapling of the Primal Chaos Tree, but the birth of Lin Baobao had quietly changed that plan.

He now found himself unwilling to go at all.

.....

Five years passed in the blink of an eye.

On Mind Cleansing Peak.

A five-year-old boy lay sprawled in a flower bed with his eyes slightly closed. Beneath his head rested a mighty black tiger with striking stripes.

This once ferocious beast was now as docile as a house cat, and its gaze even held a hint of flattery, as if trying to please the little boy.

The little boy's name was Lin Fan.

The name had been chosen by his father Lin Xun.

Though born extraordinary, he was given the name 'Fan.' This was Lin Xun's hope. He wished that no matter how exceptional and talented his son became in the future, he would always remember that all living beings in the world were born unique. Ordinary or extraordinary were just labels. What mattered most was how one chose to understand this world, the heavens, the earth, and the myriad lives.

Fan—common, plain, and unremarkable.

The name was indeed ordinary.

Lin Fan had complained and grumbled about it more than once.

Even Zhao Jingxuan and their close families and friends had looked at Lin Xun in disbelief when they heard the name Lin Xun had chosen.

A child so gifted, with such rare talent, exceptional aptitude and intelligence, was rarely seen throughout the ages, but he was given the name 'Fan.' It seemed too mundane!

Despite that, Lin Xun never wavered.

His own name was simple too, but it carried the hopes of his mother, Luo Qingxun.

Now, for his own son, he also wanted him to understand what it meant for someone truly extraordinary to carry the name 'Fan.'

"Little Master, why don't you go and play?" Little Silver called from a distance.

"Are you talking about those silly games like pretend and tag with those kids? That's far too childish and boring for me," Lin Fan replied without even opening his eyes.

Little Silver was taken aback by the answer. "Then, what do you want to do?"

Over the past five years, Lin Fan had shown extraordinary intelligence and insight. Whatever he learned, he grasped instantly. His talent astonished everyone around him.

Telling him to play with other children his age...did seem a little out of place.

"I want to leave Mind Cleansing Peak, to see how vast the sky is, how deep the earth runs, how many daos exist, to witness the marvels of the universe, the rise and fall of world affairs, to see..."

He rambled on, growing more enthusiastic and hopeful the more he spoke. He suddenly jumped to his feet, glanced around sneakily, and then whispered, "Little Silver, can you secretly take me away?"

Little Silver instantly shook his head. "No way! You're still too young."

Lin Fan let out a long groan and collapsed back into the flower bed. "I'm already five, that's not young at all... Now I finally get why my father named me 'Fan,' because he wants me to live a boring, ordinary life..."

From a distance, Lin Xun couldn't help but raise an eyebrow at the scene. Turning to Zhao Jingxuan, he asked, "What do you think about sealing our son's talent with a secret method and then letting him train and cultivate on his own?"

Zhao Jingxuan, who was standing beside him, responded with concern, "Fan'er is only five years old. He may seem very smart, but he's still just a child. Isn't this the same as suppressing his growth?"

"A child?" Lin Xun chuckled. "He's no ordinary child. Besides, the sealing will be a test. As he experiences more, each trial will unlock a layer of the seal, allowing him to develop the strength that aligns with his experience. This way, he'll learn that true strength, whether innate or earned through cultivation, must be matched by a character that is worthy of it."

"You know as well as I do that on the path of the great dao, character is everything."

When Lin Xun said this, Zhao Jingxuan hesitated before speaking again, "But Fan'er will likely suffer a lot because of this."

"We've all suffered a lot." Lin Xun said with a smile, "Besides, don't underestimate this child. He must have known for a long time that not only his talent, but also his background is different from others."

Over the past five years, Lin Xun had been with Zhao Jingxuan and the child, and had long been watching every move of Lin Fan over the past five years.

Overall, Lin Fan's intelligence and maturity were too extraordinary for a child his age. Sometimes, his thoughts and insights often surpassed those of many adults.

What he called 'boredom' was sometimes more akin to disdain.

Lin Xun was well aware that without proper guidance, Lin Fan's character would likely become warped!

A child born extremely gifted and intelligent, and had a father who was the first supreme Emperor in one hundred thousand years and a mother who was a descendant of the True Dragon Clan.

He was surrounded by Emperor-level figures like A'hu, Little Silver, and Little Sky.

The entire New Genesis Sect treated him as a precious jewel, showering him with love and pampering.

In the past five years, he had faced little hardships or setbacks, meaning his character had yet to experience the necessary trials for growth and maturity.

"Even if it's just training, there's no need to seal his innate power, is there?" Zhao Jingxuan was still worried.

Lin Xun smiled reassuringly. "Don't worry."

With that, he appeared in front of Lin Fan. "Want to go out and train?"

Lin Fan stood up, lifting his little face to meet his father's gaze and said honestly, "It's not just about wanting to."

As he matured, a natural respect and awe for his father grew within him.

"How about I seal your innate power first and then let you go?" Lin Xun said.

Lin Fan smiled brightly and said, "I already guessed that my father would use some method to temper me, so I've already thought it through."

Lin Xun nodded, a wave of emotion swelling in his chest. To be able to think like this at just five years old...this child, in the future...he will likely become extraordinary.

“Go and comfort your mother.” Lin Xun said softly.

“Alright.” Lin Fan called out, running off happily. At that moment, he looked like a carefree child.

“If you don’t carve jade, it will never become something useful... I wish you were just an ordinary child, so you can live a simple and peaceful life.” Lin Xun sighed, “But since you were born this way, you’re destined to endure hardships that ordinary people can’t even imagine. Only through this will you be able to avoid losing your way.”

.....

On this day, Lin Xun used a secret method to seal Lin Fan’s innate abilities, layer by layer. He didn’t tell anyone about it except Zhao Jingxuan.

That night, Lin Xun, Zhao Jingxuan, and Lin Fan, the family of three shared a meal that Zhao Jingxuan had prepared with care.

As they ate, Lin Xun casually said, “Fan’er, your father is leaving soon and might not return for a long time.”

Lin Fan paused, but he was not reluctant or surprised. He thought for a moment before responding seriously, “I understand. With Father’s cultivation, you wouldn’t leave unless you had something important to do.”

He smiled brightly at Zhao Jingxuan. “Don’t worry, Mother. I’ll take care of you. From now on, I’ll protect you!”

Zhao Jingxuan’s eyes welled with tears as she gently rubbed Lin Fan’s head. “You’re so thoughtful, unlike your father, who’s leaving after only five years.”

Lin Xun felt a pang of guilt and embarrassment.

Lin Fan grinned mischievously, "Father, my mother doesn't want you to leave. Why not just take her with you?"

"You wish!"

Before Lin Xun could respond, Zhao Jingxuan reached out, grabbing Lin Fan's ear and twisting it. Lin Fan winced, gasping in pain.

No one knew their child better than their mother. How could she not see through the rascal's intentions? He was hoping they would leave and he would be free to do as he pleased without anyone holding him back.

"Father, help me!" Lin Fan wailed, his eyes welling up with tears.

Lin Xun couldn't help but laugh. No matter how clever Lin Fan was, he couldn't escape being punished by his parents.

"What are you laughing at?" Zhao Jingxuan shot Lin Xun a cold look. "You think once you leave, you'll be free to roam around without a care?"

Lin Xun's smile froze, and he turned to Lin Fan. The father and son exchanged a look of shared understanding.

Chapter 2400 Jun Fenglie

Lin Xun was preparing to leave.

The news was no longer a secret among his closest friends and family.

Everyone felt a deep reluctance at his departure.

However, they understood that had it not been for his son, Lin Fan, Lin Xun would likely have left five years ago.

“This is the key to open the Fangchun Secret Realm. If you encounter danger while I’m gone, take everyone of the New Genesis Sect and head to the Return Dominion.”

On the summit of Mind Cleansing Peak, Lin Xun handed the boundary key to A’hu, which was given to him by his fourth senior brother Ling Xuanzi.

A’hu put it away carefully.

“Inside are the Origin Dao Crystals I’ve collected over the years as well as treasures I no longer need. Uncle Zhong, I leave them in your care.” Lin Xun then handed a storage jade talisman to Lin Zhong.

“Young Master, don’t worry!” Lin Zhong solemnly reassured him.

Then, Lin Xun turned to Little Silver and Little Sky, handing them an array plate and array diagram. “This is the array plate and array diagram for operating the Heaven Slaughtering Dao Severing array. Little Silver and Little Sky, you two must manage it together. Keep in mind, this array is incredibly powerful. It can only be activated when this lower world reaches a state capable of handling the power of the Emperor Ancestor Stage.”

Before this, he had already instructed Array Spirit Little Five to redeploy a Heaven Slaughtering Dao Severing array on Mind Cleansing Peak.

With the array in place, it would be more than enough to protect Mind Cleansing Peak from any attacks by Emperor Ancestor figures.

Once all his arrangements were made, Lin Xun spent some quiet time with Jingxuan and their son.

“Fan’er, remember not to anger your mother when I’m gone. If you do, I will not forgive you.” Lin Xun looked at his son Lin Fan.

Lin Fan responded with a serious expression, “Father, as long as I’m here, no one in this world will dare to make Mother angry.”

Lin Xun nodded, but his heart ached with guilt as he noticed the sadness and disappointment in Zhao Jingxuan's eyes.

He glanced at Lin Fan, and the little boy tactfully turned away.

Then, he gently pulled Zhao Jingxuan into his arms and whispered, "Although I am leaving soon, I've left a wisp of my will behind. While it's just willpower, it also carries part of my memories and strength. If something difficult arises in the future, awaken my will and take Fan'er away to safety with you."

As he spoke, he handed her a token.

Zhao Jingxuan took it, her eyes brimming with tears, and she asked softly, "Then...when will you return?"

"It's hard to say." Lin Xun sighed.

The journey ahead was long, and his return was uncertain.

Zhao Jingxuan lifted her gaze to meet Lin Xun's handsome face. "Fan'er and I will always be waiting for you to come back."

Lin Xun nodded.

That day, Lin Xun left quietly by himself.

Aside from his family and closest friends, no one in the New Genesis Sect knew of his departure. The news was kept entirely secret.

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In the Forbidden City, Lin Xun walked alone, his steps leisurely.

The streets bustled with carriages and people, but no one noticed his presence.

In just a short time, he passed by Qinglu Academy, the Rune Master Association, and the original site of the stargazing platform, but they all now looked entirely different from before.

Leaving the Forbidden City behind, he wandered through mountains and rivers and trekked across vast lands. He passed through Haze City in the Southwest Province, where he first met Liu Qingyan when he was young.

Next, he passed through Donglin City, where he and Xia Zhi had parted ways long ago.

He walked past the site of the Blood Kill Camp and saw that the stone tablet in front of the camp, inscribed with 'The Violet Glory Flower is undefeated because of blood kill and the empire exists forever because of continued expeditions,' was still standing!

He passed through the Great Three Thousand Mountains and saw that Feiyun Village had long since disappeared due to the drastic changes brought about by the revival of aether qi concentrations. The land was now occupied by various monster-beast forces.

After standing there for a long moment, Lin Xun finally turned away. The past drifted away like smoke, impossible to reclaim.

Soon, Lin Xun arrived at a collapsed, dilapidated ruin that had long been abandoned. This was originally a mine prison. When he was young, he had spent his childhood here, accompanied by Mister Lu.

This place was filled with his earliest memories. The one responsible for the destruction of this place had already been dealt with by Lin Xun. Unfortunately, Mister Lu... His whereabouts remained unknown.

After a long pause, Lin Xun drew a deep breath, his dark eyes hardening with determination.

This time, I will end everything one and for all!

He flicked his hair.

The Dao Ruleless Bell hanging from it seemed to stir and asked, "Are you leaving?"

Lin Xun nodded, "Please guide me, Elder."

"Of course."

The Dao Ruleless Bell hummed before transforming into a streak of light and soaring into the sky. On this day, after more than twenty years since his return to the lower world, Lin Xun embarked on his journey once again!

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At Mind Cleansing Peak.

"Mother, Father's gone. Let's go back," Lin Fan said in his clear, crisp voice.

Zhao Jingxuan had been standing there for a long time, which made Lin Fan a little anxious.

"Fan'er."

"Huh?"

"Your father is gone. What about you? When will you begin your journey?"

"As for me..." Lin Fan glanced around, his eyes flickering. "How about today?"

Suddenly, a painful scream echoed. Zhao Jingxuan grabbed him by the ear, scolding fiercely, "Both the old and the young are heartless!"

From a distance, Little Silver and the others discreetly turned away, feeling slightly uneasy.

.....

Three days later.

Kunlun Dominion.

Walking along the Flying Immortal River, Lin Xun was familiar with the route and soon arrived at the area where Dao Subduer Cliff stood.

Leading the way, the Dao Ruleless Bell offset the raging storm that swept through heaven and earth, guiding Lin Xun safely to the foot of the Dao Subduer Cliff.

Hu— Hu— Hu—

The shattered great dao power swirled like ferocious black dragons, constantly tumbling through the void. Not much had changed since Lin Xun left all those years ago.

Lin Xun stepped forward and made his way up the cliff.

However, when he reached the summit, he was surprised to find Big Yellow lying alone, snoring loudly. Both his second senior brother and Xi were nowhere to be seen.

Lin Xun paused, taken aback.

When he left years ago, his second senior brother Zhong Qiu was sitting cross-legged there. Although seriously injured, he still possessed enough power to subdue Heavenly Emperor Shi.

Zhong Qiu had mentioned that it would take at least a hundred years to fully obliterate Heavenly Emperor Shi.

At that time, they were worried that Zhong Qiu would be disturbed while subduing Heavenly Emperor Shi, so Big Yellow and Xi stayed behind to protect him. But now...

Only Big Yellow remained!

"Kid, you finally came." Big Yellow, still half-asleep, lazily opened its eyes, mumbled and stretched.

"What happened?" Lin Xun asked anxiously.

Big Yellow yawned, nonchalantly replying, "Don't worry, everyone's fine. Just take a look at this first."

With a flick of its paw, a strange talisman flew into Lin Xun's hand.

Buzz—

As Lin Xun infused his power into the talisman, a curtain of light emerged.

The scene of Dao Subduer Cliff was projected onto the light screen. His second senior brother Zhong Qiu sat cross-legged, pale-faced, and with his eyes closed.

Big Yellow rested beside him, while Xi was sitting cross-legged on the other side. Everything appeared peaceful.

Then, a thunderous rumble split the sky, and an awe-inspiring figure suddenly emerged between heaven and earth. It was a man clad in verdant armor, a silver spear slung across his back. His long, snow-white hair was tied into a topknot, framing his incomparably handsome face.

His eyes crackled with strange golden lightning, within which visions of heaven collapsing, earth sinking, and the sun and the moon falling flickered. It was an utterly terrifying sight.

The moment he appeared, the raging torrent of shattered great dao fragments throughout heavens and earth were forcibly stilled, suppressed entirely by the sheer might of his presence.

This sight instantly startled Big Yellow, Xi, and Lin Xun's second senior brother, and all three adopted solemn expressions.

This was because they could sense that the man's body pulsed with wisps of terrifying immortal-like law power!

Unexpectedly, the white-haired, green-armored handsome man dropped to one knee in midair, bowed his head and cupped his fists respectfully toward Xi. "I am Jun Fenglie, a humble subordinate. I have come by order of the clan to escort the young lady home!"

His words left Xi, Second Senior Brother, and Big Yellow stunned. Xi especially was shaken. She sprang to her feet, her clear eyes fixed on the man as if she remembered something. In that moment, her aura shifted unpredictably.

"You...how did you find me?" she asked.

"When Miss embarked on the path of immortality, the lifebound true seal within you awakened, and the Divine Stele of the Ancestral Shrine responded to it. It was by following the aura that I was able to find your location."

The white-haired man called Jun Fenglie spoke in a deep voice. Throughout it all, he remained kneeling on one knee, head bowed and fists clasped, showing absolute respect.

It was hard to believe.

According to Lin Xun's speculation, a figure like him had likely already transcended the Ancestor Realm and carried an immortal dao foundation!

Despite that, at this moment, he was so humble, showing no effort to conceal his absolute respect for Xi.

"I understand..." Xi murmured, seemingly lost in thought.

"Miss, please set off immediately. The elders of the clan are waiting for your return," Jun Fenglie said in a deep voice.

"What if I refuse to go with you?" Xi asked.

Jun Fenglie was silent for a moment before answering, "When I was sent here, the clan instructed me to bring you back no matter what. Miss, I hope you won't make this difficult for me."

"So, if I refuse, you will take me away by force?" Xi continued to ask.

Jun Fenglie kept silent and didn't deny it.

Second Senior Brother Zhong Qiu opened his mouth to speak, but Xi shook her head, stopping him. "Not long ago, I had a feeling something would happen. Sure enough, it seems I was right..."

She turned to Jun Fenglie and commanded, "Kill the man beneath the mountain."

"Yes." Jun Fenglie nodded and rose. His towering, radiant figure was like that of an immortal celestial being, radiating terrifying and boundless power.

At that moment, Heavenly Emperor Shi, who was suppressed beneath the mountain, let out a defiant roar, "I am the sixth elder of the Immortal Luo Clan. If you kill me..."

Before he could finish, Jun Fenglie moved with lightning speed, unleashing a palm strike.

Boom!

A brilliant green palm appeared, blotting out the sun and the sky, carrying with it billions of immortal light, crashing down into the void. In the blink of an eye, Heavenly Emperor Shi, who had been trapped at the bottom of the mountain, was obliterated. Both his body and spirit were wiped out.

The pupils of Second Senior Brother and Big Yellow contracted sharply. For Second Senior Brother, Heavenly Emperor Shi wasn't considered powerful, but the only thing terrifying about him was the taboo law power he wielded.

Despite that, no matter what, Heavenly Emperor Shi was still an existence powerful enough to instill fear across the heavens and the starry sky, yet he was obliterated with a single palm strike in the blink of an eye.

Everyone was left in shock and awe!